

The AFL-CIO is organizing a Medical Mission to Puerto Rico. They are looking for Union heroes.

Who do we need to go?

Doctors and RN's especially in the following areas: Peds, IM, CC, ED, Endo, General Practice. Fluent in Spanish is extremely helpful but not a requirement.

How long is the trip?

Two weeks. You can go for slightly less than two weeks, but not one week.

When do we leave?

The plane is leaving on Wednesday October 4 in the morning. We can get you a ride to the airport if needed. There may be another trip, but none is planned at the moment.

How do I get back?

Everyone will be issued a voucher for a return trip on United to Newark. You will have to book your return trip. Flights in and out are not running on schedule yet, so it is likely you will experience a delay when returning to the mainland.

The AFL-CIO is watching for the departure dates submitted by volunteers. They will be working with United to minimize difficulties. If there is an influx on one or more day out of Puerto Rico, they will do their best to make sure everyone gets back when on the dates needed

Who is coordinating?

AFL-CIO (American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations) is coordinating with sister Unions on the ground in Puerto Rico.

Where will we be housed?

Most of the work is in San Juan right now. You will be housed in the San Juan colosseum. There are sleeping cots, showers, some access to laundry, 3 meals per day (no dietary restrictions), Power and air conditioning in the colosseum.

What do I need to bring?

We will see a list from AFL-CIO. A short list includes: Towel, toiletries, warm weather clothes, sunblock and strong mosquito repellent. Also pack any equipment you need to do your work: stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs. TSA regulations apply to baggage.

HPAE. Putting care first.



How are communications from PR to the mainland?

Communication is scant. You will not be able to communicate back home on a daily basis.

Weather:

Upper 80's.

Are there restrictions?

Not a trip for folks with personal health care needs, food restrictions or mobility needs. They will not be able to make any accommodations for special needs you may have.

At this point looking for union members. If you have an RN or MD/DO who wants to go but isn't a union member, please let us know and we will see if there is extra space on this mission.

Deadline?

We would like to know by Sunday night, October 1, but the latest is Monday, October 2 early morning. We have to be able to get a passenger list to United.

Immunizations and Zika

The AFL-CIO referred everyone to use the CDC Health Information for Travelers to Puerto Rico <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/puerto-rico>.

Where will we be working?

Most people will be in San Juan at medical facilities and in the community.

How do I get the time off?

You must tell your manager immediately and get permission. We can send a letter to HR on your behalf to support your request to your manager and to protect you in case you are delayed in returning.

How do I volunteer?/Who do I contact to volunteer?

Complete the AFT Volunteer In-take Form online:
<https://leadernet.aft.org/webform/puerto-rico-volunteers>

HPAE members should also contact HPAE Staff Rep, Joel Brooks. Email jbrooks@hpaef.org or call 201-262-5005 ext. 154. Leave a voicemail. You will be called back