

From: **The Children's Health Fund / Operation Assist**

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MEDIA ADVISORY/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

NATIONAL CHILD HEALTH ORGANIZATION **AT THE READY TO ASSIST IN GUSTAV ZONE**

**CHILDREN'S HEALTH FUND MEDICAL TEAMS AND COLUMBIA
UNIVERSITY'S MAILMAN CENTER FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS – VETERANS OF KATRINA AND RITA –
WORKING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE CRISIS RESPONSE IN GULF
REGION**

***MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS AND STATE-OF-THE-ART DISASTER RESPONSE
VEHICLES STANDING BY***

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH VETERANS OF HURRICANES KATRINA AND RITA ARE PREPARING TO RESPOND TO AREAS OF THE GULF REGION EXPECTED TO BE AFFECTED BY HURRICANE GUSTAV. THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH FUND (CHF) – A NATIONAL CHILD HEALTH CARE ORGANIZATION THAT HAS BEEN PROVIDING HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE IN THE GULF REGION SINCE KATRINA – OPERATES A FLEET OF 36-FOOT-LONG MOBILE MEDICAL UNITS – COMPLETE WITH EXAMINATION ROOMS, MEDICAL TRACKING TECHNOLOGY AND ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT. THE UNITS WILL DEPLOY FROM CHF SITES IN NEW ORLEANS, LA, BATON ROUGE, LA AND GULF PORT, MS. IF NECESSARY, CHF WILL DEPLOY ADDITIONAL DESIGNATED UNITS AS EMERGENCY RELIEF FROM ITS 22 PROJECTS NATIONWIDE.

IN ADDITION TO SUPPLYING ACCESS TO THE PREPARATION AND DEPLOYMENT EFFORT, **DR. IRWIN REDLENER**, CHF PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY'S NATIONAL CENTER FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CAN SPEAK ABOUT THE DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS, THE AREA'S STATE OF READINESS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF A NATURAL DISASTER.

MAJOR NATIONAL NEWS STORY/MEDIA-APPROPRIATE VISUALS
EXPERT COMMENTARY/ COVERAGE INVITED