

Contact: Gerrit Boyle 360-318-9913

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KIRKLAND, WA - <u>AmeriCares Purchases 2nd BLU-MED Deployable Field Hospital for China Earthquake Relief</u>

AmeriCares, a nonprofit international relief organization, delivered a second deployable field hospital to China's devastated Sichuan Province, where health concerns remain acute following last month's deadly 7.8-magnitude earthquake. This second field hospital will be delivered to Wenchuan County, which was the epicenter of the 7.8 earthquake. The new hospital will be located on the site of the former Xuankou Township Hospital, which received severe structural damage. Currently, medical personnel are working out of a collection of tents on the site, seeing anywhere between 80 - 200 patients a day.

The new hospital will include operating and emergency rooms, a laboratory, radiology unit and a patient ward. AmeriCares is working with local Chinese authorities to make the hospital fully operational by the middle of July.

The Xuankou field hospital follows the construction of an earlier field hospital in Qingchuan, an area where 250,000 residents lost their only hospital after the initial earthquake and major aftershocks. The field hospital in Qingchuan is fully operational.

About BLU-MED Response Systems

BLU-MED Response Systems is America's Leader in Deployable Medical Facilities. BLU-MED provides turn-key, portable solutions for deployable medical surge facilities, alternate command centers, temporary housing and base camp requirements. The company offers a full range of medical equipment packages and configuration options. BLU-MED support services include vendor managed inventory options, field deployment, and training & exercise services.

BLU-MED facilities can be sized and customized to meet a variety of state and local emergency management and public health response requirements. Modular options include medical surge wards, patient treatment, decontamination, immunization/drug distribution, negative pressure isolation, and field laboratory units. BLU-MED Response Systems is a division of Alaska Structures, Inc. For more information see http://www.blu-med.com

About AmeriCares

AmeriCares is a private, nonprofit international disaster relief and humanitarian aid organization, which delivers medicines, medical supplies and aid to people in crisis around the world. Since it was established in 1982, AmeriCares has distributed more than \$7.5 billion in humanitarian aid to 137 countries. For more information, log onto www.americares.org.