

Franciscan Health sends medical supplies to Ukraine

BY CHRONICLE STAFF

Franciscan Health officials sent almost 100,000 pounds of medical supplies to help treat the people of Ukraine injured in the war. The project involved a massive mobilization across Franciscan Health hospitals and clinics, working with the Illinois Division of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA).

Franciscan Health Dyer obstetrician/gynecologist Dr. Roman Puliaev initiated the drive. He connected with

UMANA, which was organizing a charter flight to take supplies to Poland for transportation over the border into Ukraine.

Puliaev, who graduated from Crimea Medical University and came to the U.S. in 2002, called Russia's invasion of Ukraine an indescribable tragedy.

"We never thought this kind of scale of war would happen after World War II," he said while sorting and boxing supplies with volunteers and other staff at the Dyer hospital.

Puliaev's efforts led to a system-

wide collection drive for equipment and material that was either excess stock or near expiration. In 48 hours, Franciscan Health's supply chain team filled three semi-trucks with supplies and equipment, everything from gloves, gauze and bandages to syringes, sterile irrigation fluid and even surgical equipment.

At Franciscan Health Olympia Fields Rev. Ted Ostrowski, chaplain, carried out Franciscan Health's enduring tradition of prayer and blessing as he prayed "for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine who are experiencing

the terrible blight of war with the catastrophe of losing their lives, homes, jobs, security and safety."

As he sprinkled holy water on the medical supplies enroute to Ukraine, he said, "We pray for the blessing of safe delivery of these supplies so they can help people they are intended to help and give them comfort."

UMANA chartered a plane to take the supplies to Warsaw, Poland. From there, the supplies were loaded onto trucks and delivered to Ukraine for its hospitals, field hospitals and front-lines.



Provided Photo

Franciscan Health Dyer OB/GYN Dr. Roman Puliaev, right, and Infection Preventionist Marnie Wright sort and organize medical supplies destined for Ukraine.



Provided photo

Franciscan Health Olympia Fields chaplain Rev. Ted Ostrowski blesses the medical supplies ready for shipment to Ukraine.

Franciscan Health named Breast Imaging Center of Excellence

PROVIDED NEWS

The Comprehensive Cancer Institute at Franciscan Health Olympia Fields has been designated a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology (ACR).

The ACR recognizes breast imaging centers that have earned accreditation in mammography, stereotactic breast biopsy and breast ultrasound,

including ultrasound-guided breast biopsy.

Peer-review evaluations, conducted in each breast imaging modality by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field, have determined that this facility has achieved high practice standards in image quality, personnel qualifications, facility equipment, quality control procedures and quality assurance programs.

"This distinction is further evidence of our commitment to deliver high-quality, comprehensive cancer diagnostics and treatments to Chicago's Southland," said Allan Spooner, president and CEO of Franciscan Health South Suburban Chicago Division. "It also underscores the outstanding care and dedication by our physicians, imaging professionals, nurses and staff who have collaborated to meet the rigorous standards for

this center of excellence designation in our community."

The ACR is a national professional organization serving more than 36,000 diagnostic/interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, nuclear medicine physicians, and medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health care services.