

DOCTORS OF THE WORLD USA TO OPEN FREE CLINIC FOR NEW YORK COMMUNITY DEVASTATED BY SANDY

Lease Signing for Rockaway Park Clinic in Queens Represents First Step in Bringing Free Quality Health Care to Survivors of 2012 Storm

New York, NY-- July 29, 2013--Doctors of the World USA, the American delegation of the international network dedicated to providing free health care access and equality, announced it has taken first steps in opening a health clinic in Rockaway Park, Queens to serve survivors of super-storm Sandy. The lease signing for the Clinic marks Doctors of the World USA's first domestic project and flagship presence in the United States. The clinic is expected to open its doors to patients in the community in the coming months.

"The Doctors of the World Rockaways Free Clinic is about more than helping the community recover from Sandy," said Henry E. Chang, Executive Director of Doctors of the World USA. "It's about ensuring that communities like this one are prepared for eventualities of all kinds, from personal health crises to major disasters. Today, we've taken a great first step down that long but essential path."

The Doctors of the World Rockaways Free Clinic (which will be located at 2-30 Beach 102nd St.) has a mission to provide primary medical services by experienced medical professionals to the community free of charge. The clinic will operate three days a week, with hours to accommodate working adults and families.

The Rockaways, a peninsula between Jamaica Bay and the Atlantic Ocean in Queens, was among the hardest hit areas by super-storm Sandy. In addition to six fatalities, the once-thriving beach community endured disruption of critical services and utilities, including electricity and public transport, for months after the storm.

One week after the storm made landfall, Doctors of the World activated their emergency response efforts, and have sustained their commitment to providing free healthcare services to the most vulnerable populations of the Rockaways through their *Treat, Connect and Restore* program. Today marks a new chapter in the recovery effort moving from emergent to preventative care and a commitment to long-term sustainable change.

About Doctors of the World:

Doctors of the World USA (MdM USA) is the US-based chapter of the international network of Médecins du Monde, dedicated to providing emergency and long-term health care to vulnerable populations around the world. Established in 2012, MdM USA works with communities both locally and globally, committed to improving access to quality medical services for populations suffering from poverty, disease, conflict, natural disasters and health disparities. MdM provides direct medical care under all circumstances, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age and political beliefs. Doctors of the World was founded in 1980 in Paris, France by 15 doctors seeking to address health care gaps and inequality. For more information please visit <http://www.doctorsoftheworld.org/>