

June 2023

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Note from Elizabeth (EJ) Ashbourne, PQMD Executive Director

Happy Summer!

PQMD staff is working full force ahead planning for our Education Forum, an opportunity for members to convene and discuss important topics, learn from each other and discover opportunities for collaboration. This members-only meeting, being held in beautiful Santa Barbara, California and hosted by Direct Relief, will include thought-provoking educational sessions, networking opportunities, fun dinners and time for socializing. We strongly recommend that members begin making their travel plans and booking their hotel rooms (more information below). I can't wait to see everyone there!



Aside from our Education Forum, I wanted to strongly suggest that you save the date for July 25th at 11am ET for a revealing and inspiring Pillar Talk: ESG and Sustainability Dialogue Decoded, a conversation between sustainability and ESG guru, Paula Luff, and long-time PQMD advocate and global development expert, Veronica Arroyave. If you, your colleagues, and partners are wanting to learn more about what investors are really looking for in corporate engagement, you can't miss this webinar! More information is included below and registration will be available soon.

This week, we also had a really interesting, inspiring and informative Pillar Talk entitled Context Matters: Response Perspectives from the Turkey & Syria Earthquakes, part of our larger series of webinars which the PQMD Community of Practice offers to address major trends, leading thinking, best practices and provocative issues in global health. Speakers from Americares, Project Hope, and International Rescue Committee, and chaired by Courtney Sunna from Astra Zeneca, discussed the complexity of responding to an emergency in fragile, conflict-affected, and vulnerable settings and how we as the global health community can more effectively respond and support populations in crisis. If you missed it, you can watch it [here](#).

I hope everyone is taking time for vacations and time with family. Stay healthy and safe!



PQMD Holding Members-Only Education Forum in October

PQMD members should mark your calendars and start booking your flights to join us for PQMD's 2023 Education Forum hosted by Direct Relief in Santa Barbara, California!

The Education Forum is PQMD's annual members-only networking meeting and serves as an opportunity for members to learn from each other by sharing experiences and insights, working together through challenges, and discovering opportunities for collaboration. The meeting will be composed of compelling panels, working groups, and networking sessions that provide members the opportunity to dive deep into pertinent topics such as climate & health, health system strengthening, supply chain, and resilience in access to medicine.

Arrival and Departure: Santa Barbara Airport

Hotel: Mar Monte Hotel, 1111 East Cabrillo Boulevard, Santa Barbara, California | [BOOK HERE](#).

Preliminary agenda:



The graphic is a dark teal background with white and orange text. At the top left is the PQMD logo (a stylized 'P' and 'Q' icon) followed by 'PQMD Partnership for Quality Medical Donations'. To the right is '2023' in large orange font. Below this is 'EDUCATION FORUM' in large orange font. The agenda is organized into three horizontal sections, one for each day: 17 Oct, 18 Oct, and 19 Oct. Each section lists the time of day (AFTERNOON or EVENING) and the specific activities for that day.

Date	Time	Activities
17 Oct	12:00-2:00 PM	Executive Committee Meeting
	AFTERNOON	New Member Meeting
	5:00 PM	Welcome Reception
18 Oct	EVENING	Sector Dinners
	8:30 AM-5:00 PM	Education Forum Direct Relief 6100 Wallace Becknell Road, Santa Barbara, CA
	EVENING	Member Dinner & Social
19 Oct	8:30 AM-5:00 PM	Education Forum Direct Relief 6100 Wallace Becknell Road, Santa Barbara, CA
	EVENING	Santa Barbara Social

Thank you to our Host Sponsor:  Direct Relief



PQMD is Hiring for an Office Manager/Administrative Assistant!

PQMD is looking to hire a new Office Manager/Administrative Assistant! We are seeking the right person to join our wonderful team to assist with general administration and office management, financial management (using Quick books), and event support.

The ideal candidate is in the Annapolis, MD area. They will currently work from home 4 days per week, but there is future possibility of coming into the office on a regular basis.

if you are interested or can pass it on to someone who might be interested in the position, learn [more](#) and submit your application.

Stay Informed!

Be sure to follow us on [LinkedIn](#) or one of our other social channels to get the latest, most up-to-date information on our Pillar Talks, courses, events, and resources.



COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



SAVE THE DATE!

PQMD Pillar Talk - ESG and the Sustainability Dialogue Decoded

July 25, 2023 | 11am-12pm EST

Join us for a revealing and inspiring conversation between sustainability and ESG guru, Paula Luff, and long-time PQMD advocate and global development expert, Verónica Arroyave. Paula and Veronica have been at the forefront of CSR, operationalizing sustainability strategies, multi-sector partnerships, and on the frontier of the global regulatory environment for decades.

This fireside chat will focus on what investors are really looking for in corporate engagement. The conversation will unpack and explain ESG terminology, ESG metrics, the intention behind them, and what it means for trends in sustainability.

More information and registration will be coming soon!



Context Matters: Response Perspectives from the Turkey and Syria Earthquakes

June 27, 2023 • 11:00 am EST



Dr. Mohammad Aljaseem
Health Coordinator Syria,
International Rescue
Committee



Adam Jacovou
Turkey Country Director,
Project HOPE



Michelle Thompson
Associate Director of
Emergency Response,
Americares Syria



Moderator: Courtney Sunna
Director Global Community
Investment and YHP,
AstraZeneca

RECORDING NOW AVAILABLE

On June 27th, PQMD held a thought-provoking Pillar Talk on the response perspectives from Turkey and Syria earthquakes. If you missed it, the recording is now available [here](#).

When natural disasters strike across the globe, highly skilled and trained humanitarian organizations respond in rapid fashion. In-country and across the globe, teams assemble to save lives, safeguard health and safety, and meet the basic needs of the people affected.

But what happens when a disaster strikes in a location that is already facing the consequences of a previous disaster or protracted crisis? In fragile, conflict-affected, and vulnerable settings health systems are often strained beyond capacity, infrastructure is overwhelmed, poverty and food insecurity are pervasive, governance systems are weakened, and resources are constrained. These additional layers of complexity can have a compounding effect on an already traumatized population. So how do humanitarian organizations respond to an emergency within an emergency?

The webinar discussed how within this fragile setting, humanitarian organizations continued their efforts to provide essential health services and psycho-social support, navigated the constantly changing situation and external factors influencing emergency responses, and worked to optimize the use of available yet-widely constrained resources.

Speakers included Dr. Mohammad Aljaseem, Health Coordinator Syria, International Rescue Committee, Adam Jacovou, Turkey Country Director, Project HOPE, and Michelle Thompson, Associate Director of Emergency Response, AmeriCares. The discussion was moderated by Courtney Sunna, Director Global Community Investment and YHP, AstraZeneca.

[View Recording](#)

Trending topics on the CoP!

Thank you to everyone who recently engaged and contributed to important discussions on PQMD's [Community of Practice](#) (CoP)! We highly suggest that, if you haven't yet, to check out the PQMD's CoP and keep following trending and important discussions currently happening.

If you have any questions or issues accessing the CoP, please contact [Victoria Hammond](#).

A horizontal banner with a dark blue background. On the left side, there are three diagonal stripes in light green, yellow, and orange. The text "MEMBER NEWS" is written in white, uppercase letters on the right side of the banner.

MEMBER NEWS



IHP: From struggle to strength: Empowering refugees on World Refugee Day

Every year since 2001, 20 June has marked World Refugee Day. This day, created by the United Nations, raises awareness of the plight of the more than one hundred million people throughout the world who have been displaced from their homes. IHP's desire to see an equitable, just delivery of healthcare means that the ethos of World Refugee Day aligns strongly with our values as an organisation and with the work we enable around the world. Our aim of distributing medicine freely to those in need is driven by compassion and our belief in the innate worth of every human being. Often, the more marginalised an individual is, the more they will need healthcare. Therefore, we actively seek ways to assist refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) as we are aware of their vulnerability and often complex healthcare needs. Our work allows them to overcome many obstacles that can go hand in hand with refugee status (such as a lack of finances and an absence of rights), which would ordinarily prevent healthcare access.

In 2022-2023, we reached refugees and IDPs through shipments to 10 countries through seven of our NGO partners. So far this year, we have sent shipments of medical supplies to support displaced people in Ukraine, Ethiopia, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Somalia, Gaza and the West Bank. The treatment delivered has varied, from PPE and disaster response equipment to vitamin D and antithrombotic medications. All treatments are supplied free of charge to patients.

Read the full article on IHP's website [here](#).



HPIC: Refugee and IDP Month

By: Samara Lewis and Heather Watts

Refugee camps are often the last resort for displaced individuals and families seeking safety and shelter in foreign lands. These camps, while providing a lifeline for those escaping conflict and persecution, often face numerous challenges in meeting the basic needs of refugees such as adequate shelter and access to medicine and healthcare services. In such circumstances, organizations like Health Partners International of Canada (HPIC), play a vital role in responding to the healthcare needs of vulnerable populations.

For four years, HPIC has partnered with NGOs International Association for Refugees and There Is Hope Malawi to improve access to medicines for those living in the Dzaleka refugee camp in Dowa District Malawi.

First established in 1994, Dzaleka was designed to host between 10,000 to 12,000 refugees. However, with approximately 300 new arrivals per month, the camp is currently home to more than 52,000 refugees. Most of Dzaleka's residents have fled conflict and instability in neighbouring countries Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi, and Rwanda and face many challenges, including limited access to healthcare, and the spread of infectious diseases within overcrowded camps.

The camp is served by just one small hospital, the Dzaleka Health Centre, which struggles to meet the growing demands of the refugees plus additional Malawians from surrounding communities. Providing primary healthcare services to a catchment population estimated to be over 80,000 people, the Centre faces challenges in sourcing medicines locally and has been forced to rely on donations from abroad.

HPIC and its partner NGOs have worked together to mobilize biannual shipments of Humanitarian Medical Kits (HMKs) to send to the Dzaleka Health Centre. HMKs are comprised of essential medicines, including analgesics, antibiotics, antihistamines, antihypertensives, eye/ear drops, ointments, oral rehydration salts and solution, topical creams and basic medical equipment. Since this partnership started, HPIC has sent over 60,000 treatments to Malawi and has helped treat an estimated 30,000 people. HPIC is committed to supplying medicines to refugees in Dzaleka camp as long as there is a continued need.

Read the article on PQMD's website [here](#).



Baxter Releases Annual Corporate Responsibility Report

Baxter recently published their annual Corporate Responsibility Report today, which features actions they are taking to help empower their patients, protect their planet and champion their people and communities.

To explore their corporate responsibility goals and accomplishments in more detail, visit Baxter's website [here](#).



Americares Honors Lilly with Power of Partnership Award

Americares, in partnership with the Healthcare Distribution Alliance (HDA), presented its annual Power of Partnership Award to Eli Lilly and Company, in recognition of its outstanding commitment to increasing access to health care around the world. Lilly is among AmeriCares most dedicated donors, providing medical products and financial support that saves lives and improves health for people affected by poverty or disaster.

Lilly and AmeriCares have worked together since 1986, with Lilly donating products valued at more than \$150 million to AmeriCares to support its partner clinics and community health centers in the U.S., as well as emergency response and recovery efforts worldwide. To date, AmeriCares has delivered Lilly products to AmeriCares partner health facilities in more than 70 countries.

Lilly has been donating insulin to AmeriCares for patients in need in the U.S. since 2018. To date, nearly 70 AmeriCares partner health facilities in 33 states and Puerto Rico serving patients in need have benefitted from the donations, which include diabetes medicines. Additionally, Lilly has provided over \$1 million in funding for AmeriCares Patient Navigator Program, which helps patients with diabetes better navigate the U.S. health care system and connect to resources that can help them in their journey with diabetes.

To read the full press release, visit AmeriCares' website [here](#).



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEB

[**El Nino rains intensify record dengue outbreak in Peru**](#)

Reuters

[**WHO monitors dire health impact of Ukraine dam destruction**](#)

Alararabiya News

[**'They are overlooked by everybody': elders in Ethiopia bear brunt of the climate crisis**](#)

The Guardian

[**Global health alliance reaches one billion vaccine 'milestone' for children**](#)

The Telegraph

[**Sudan health system 'could collapse at any moment'**](#)

France 24

[**Strengthening diagnostic capacity in Africa as a key pillar of public health and pandemic preparedness**](#)

PLOS Global Public Health

[**Rabat Declaration adopted to improve refugee and migrant health**](#)

WHO

[**Visualizing the global flow of 35 million refugees**](#)

Al Jazeera

[**Aid agencies raise alarm as solo children cross Chad border to flee Sudan fighting**](#)

The Guardian

[**Small islands agree bold plan of action on noncommunicable diseases and mental health**](#)

WHO

[**Fighting in Sudan has brought health care to its knees, a doctor says**](#)

Devex

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE!
**PQMD Pillar Talk: ESG
and the Sustainability
Dialogue Decode** July
25, 2023; 11am ET

PQMD Education Forum
October 17-19, 2023;
Santa Barbara, CA

[AidEx 2023](#)
October 25-26, 2023;
Geneva, Switzerland



*Does your organization have news to share?
Contact [Beth Haynes](#) for placement in future newsletters.
Next Month's Theme: ESG*

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