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## ***Dorado Beach Health breaks ground aiming to become the center of medical tourism for the Caribbean***

*The hospital will also collaborate with Johns Hopkins Medicine experts to improve the quality of patient care in Puerto Rico through enhanced clinical programs, education and training opportunities.*

Dorado - With a \$107 million investment and a collaboration with Johns Hopkins Medicine International, Federico Stubbe, Jr., President of PRISA Group, along with partners and the Governor of Puerto Rico, Hon. Ricardo Rosselló, today announced the groundbreaking of Dorado Beach Health, a new, state-of-the-art hospital facility that will raise the standard of care on the Island and maximize its potential as a medical tourism hub for the region.

According to Stubbe, Jr., the vision is to create a unique health offering in Puerto Rico with enhanced clinical programs and the consulting and educational expertise of Johns Hopkins Medicine. Both organizations will work together in developing clinical training and educational opportunities for the hospital's medical faculty and staff. "The first new private hospital on the Island in over 15 years, Dorado Beach Health is a major accomplishment that will benefit Dorado and Puerto Rico. Our company, PRISA Group, a developer and creator of first-rate hospitality and community experiences joins forces with the largest private insurer in Puerto Rico: Triple S, along with an operator of proven reputation and outstanding performance: Dr. Carlos Blanco, Chairman of Doctors' Center Hospital System; all working in collaboration with one of the most prestigious institutions for clinical care and academic medicine: Johns Hopkins Medicine, with the commitment of creating a new model of excellence in patient care; a state-of-the-art hospital the people of Puerto Rico deserve and furthermore, a facility designed from its conception to attract medical tourism patients from all over the world", Stubbe said.

Additionally, Dorado Beach Health is possible because of two partner institutions with deep roots and instrumental in Puerto Rico's economic development. Joining the distinguished group of partners in this project is the Asociación de Empleados del

ELA, established 1921. AEELA has bet that through its investment, it will contribute to improving the quality and access to first-rate medical services, while fulfilling its fiduciary duty of pursuing an attractive expected return while mitigating risks. Also, Banco Popular de Puerto Rico has provided a \$58 million senior financing to the Project. "Banco Popular has been our partner for decades, in many projects. We are glad, that once again they join us in a Project that will have a strong impact on the people of Puerto Rico.

PRISA's President explained that the consulting and educational collaboration will facilitate knowledge transfer between Dorado Beach Health's physicians and their colleagues at Johns Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. The collaboration includes quality and patient care improvement efforts, clinical program enhancement, education, and staff training.

"We are honored to collaborate with leaders from Dorado Beach Health by sharing our expertise to help develop a new hospital that will contribute to advancing the Puerto Rican health care journey," says Charles Wiener, M.D., president of Johns Hopkins Medicine International, the global consulting arm of Johns Hopkins Medicine. "It's all part of our mission to improve the health of the community and the world by setting the standard of excellence in medical education, research and clinical care. All of us at Johns Hopkins Medicine are thrilled to contribute our experience in academic medicine to help our colleagues at Dorado Beach Health deliver quality clinical education and training, and enhance health services on-island."

Roberto García, CEO of Triple-S, indicated, "Dorado Beach Health offers a unique opportunity to continue supporting our medical class in Puerto Rico with state-of-the-art technology and facilities that will continue to strengthen the availability of hospital services on the Island. In addition, it opens the door for medical tourism to the more than 100 million policyholders affiliated with the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, of which Triple-S is a part of. Johns Hopkins Medicine's collaboration will help to retain our local medical talent and attract those who currently practice outside the Island".

"Our vision has always been to provide the best medical care locally and globally. We are now going to improve on what we have done with the knowledge transfer we will receive from Johns Hopkins Medicine", stated Dr. Carlos Blanco, Chairman of Doctors' Center Hospital. When stabilized, Dorado Beach Health is expected to incorporate a medical faculty of about 250 U.S. Board Certified physicians, most of which will come from the existing base of over 600 physicians in Doctors' Center's system, and some that the hospital expects to attract back to Puerto Rico from the U.S. mainland.

### **A MEDICAL TOURISM HUB**

Stubbe emphasized that the latest medical tourism research states that medical visitors to Puerto Rico stand at about 11,000 people annually, generating between \$40 million and \$80 million in revenues.

“This is about to change for the better with a facility like Dorado Beach Health and joint efforts with the government, as well as the Destination Marketing Organization, Discover Puerto Rico. This Administration is pushing to attract more medical tourism by targeting \$300 million in annual revenues. The Medical Tourism Corp. of Puerto Rico aims to promote medical tourism as a key economic development lever that will transform Puerto Rico into a healthcare regional hub”, Stubbe emphasized.

“Dorado Beach Health provides an example of how successful the collaborative work between the public and private sectors can be. This new construction, in addition to the injection that it provides to the local economy and the creation of short and long-term jobs, will become a space that contributes to medical tourism on the island”, indicated Governor Ricardo Rosselló.

Rosselló Nevares added, "As part of our public policy to make Puerto Rico the headquarters of the human cloud, it is important that we have first class health facilities. Dorado Beach Health will be an example so that many others developers can see the potential of investing here”.

According to Brad Dean, CEO of Discover Puerto Rico, “The development of Dorado Beach Health is a significant step forward as Puerto Rico seeks to grow as the medical tourism center of the Caribbean. Offering treatment to patients from U.S. board certified physicians and providing the ability to recover and rehabilitate within a tropical climate and island setting differentiates Puerto Rico. Being part of the U.S. makes the experience hassle-free and our close proximity to the U.S., Latin America and the rest of the Caribbean positions us to excel in this area.”

“The opening of Dorado Beach Health represents another milestone for our city. Its modern design and innovative medical program will take the health care system to another level, benefiting not just the people from the northern region of Puerto Rico but all who come to our Island seeking the best health professionals and treatments. We emphasize that in Dorado people live to have health, quality of life and be happy”, indicated Carlos López, Mayor of Dorado.

### **A HEALTH OFFERING WITH BROAD SERVICES**

The medical facility will incorporate a total of 104 rooms; with eight (8) Intensive Care Units, two (2) Neonatal Intensive Care Units, 79 single patient private rooms and 15 suites. The facilities are designed taking in consideration the safety and comfort of the patient. In addition to inpatient services, ambulatory services and emergency room, the development incorporates a 20,000 SF multi-specialty clinic providing integrated, coordinated and continued care to patients resulting in more effective treatments and an improvement in the health status of the area population. A telemedicine facility will provide patients in Puerto Rico with direct access to Johns Hopkins Medicine experts in targeted specialties.

“This will be the first hospital in Puerto Rico with all private rooms, providing not only more

comfort to all patients, but most importantly many advantages in healthcare outcomes such as the reduction of hospital acquired infections, patient falls, decreasing of medical errors and patient and staff stress. It also increases patient privacy and confidentiality, patients' rest and improved family communication among other benefits," explained Stubbe.

Among hospital specialties, Dorado Beach Health will provide patients with primary family care; emergency intensive and urgent care; vascular surgery; orthopedics and sports medicine and medical oncology. It will also provide general aesthetics surgery; anti-aging practice; health and wellness; woman's health; obstetrics and gynecology; and specialties like ear, nose and throat; urology; gastroenterology and pulmonary care. It will offer most types of diagnostic tests including mammography, primary lab care and radiology.

Stubbe explained that during the planning process, PRISA challenged every aspect of the healthcare delivery model on the Island. "Coming from the hospitality industry, we are convinced that the patient experience is tantamount to successful prevention, treatment and healing; that patients are more likely to take care of themselves when they visit a place that is warm, inviting, and surrounded by nature, instead of a place with a cold, institutional environment. We then searched for the best operator to deliver on that experience and joined forces with Dr. Carlos Blanco. Together we have approached this Project with the commitment to serve patients like no other hospital in the region," said Stubbe.

Beach Health will also incorporate such hotel-style features as welcoming lobby spaces, warm lighting, signage & wayfinding and local art throughout. A predominant design focus of PRISA has been "nature as healer" with increased access to daylight and sweeping views of nature through extra-large windows in patient rooms, as well as a central, expansive outdoor healing garden which welcomes patients can be appreciated from all public areas of the hospital.

The opening of the facility, that will create 1,034 jobs (direct, indirect & induced) during the construction phase, is scheduled for 2021. Once it's fully operational, it will create 870 direct, indirect and induced jobs while seeking to improve the health of the community and serve the world with the highest standards of excellence.

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