

Dear Einstein Community:

In recent days, we have all been stunned and disturbed by the images of devastation in Haiti in the wake of a major earthquake, as well as the turmoil in Afghanistan resulting from the American withdrawal from the country.

As is frequently the case, members of our community are seeking to offer their assistance to those in need. As we did following the tremendous surge in COVID-19 cases in India earlier this year, <u>Montefiore and Einstein</u> are teaming with Afya International to raise funds to help send critical equipment to Haiti. While this is not a request to contribute, I know many of you are already looking for ways to assist the relief effort and to show your support for our neighbors in the Caribbean.

Our hearts also are heavy for the Afghan people whose lives have been forever changed by America's military mission in their country over the past two decades—and what is happening now in the aftermath of the Taliban takeover. As a community representing physicians, scientists, and students, we want to heal and find solutions. While we have not yet established direct ways to send aid, information on relief agencies and foundations offering support for a variety of causes affecting the Afghan people is available online—and we hope you will explore them.

For those of you who have family or friends directly impacted by these tragic events, we extend our heartfelt support and direct you to the services that Einstein makes available for everyone in our community—and those specifically for both students and postdocs. For those of us who are concerned citizens, I encourage you to identify ways to help your colleagues and those overseas in need of our care and assistance.

Sincerely,

Gordon F. Tomaselli, M.D.

The Marilyn and Stanley M. Katz Dean

Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer

Montefiore Medicine