



LIFE HEALTHCARE GROUP MEDIA RELEASE

July 2016

10 TEAMS OF SURGEONS & ANEATHETISTS TO PERFORM PRO-BONO SURGERY

Life Healthcare Group and Operation Healing Hands partnership aims to provide surgical services to underprivileged patients this International Mandela Day

Pretoria, 18 July 2016, – Life Healthcare Group proudly supports the International Mandela Day launch of Operation Healing Hands by sponsoring theatre time, ICU and hospital ward stay and quality nursing care for underprivileged patients receiving surgery from a team of its surgeons and anesthetics.

From 18 – 29 July 2016, a group of ten surgeons and aneathetists at Life Eugene Marais Hospital and Life Groenkloof Hospital in Pretoria are volunteering their time for the surgical procedures ranging from central venous catheter (CVC) line for cancer patients to a bilateral Achilles tendon lengthening for a patient with limited ankle joint movement.

“This initiative is brought to fruition by Operation Healing Hands, a Section 21 company formed by a group of doctors in private practice who wished to do something special for their 67-minutes of allocated selfless time on Mandela Day,” said Antonie Brown, Life Healthcare Regional Manager.

“We commend our healthcare professionals who are giving their time and expertise to improve these patients’ lives through the various medical procedures. Not only will the patients receive surgery but they will also benefit from the exceptional quality care from our nurses and other staff within our hospital wards.

It’s particularly fitting that Operation Healing Hands is being launched on International Mandela Day where the healthcare professionals involved, the two Life Healthcare hospitals as well as other suppliers can play a small part in making a difference in people’s lives. “We are proud to be able to recognize Madiba’s values and his dedication to the service of humanity through providing quality care to these patients”, concluded Brown.

Spokesperson and Marketing Manager at Operation Healing Hands, Karen Schwendtke says that this year marks the official launch of the Operation Healing Hands project. “We are grateful to the Life

Healthcare Group for getting involved and being willing to provide their world-class facilities and expertise in order to help the underprivileged patients. While this project is still in its infant stages, the initiative will immediately touch the lives of many underprivileged patients who cannot afford surgery, and it is our sincere hope that the project expands to other hospitals and cities over time,” she said.

The World Health Organization reports approximately 517 million people in developing countries are visually impaired because they do not have access to corrective treatment. Life Healthcare is proud to participate in making a difference in patients’ lives, as we honour the legacy of Nelson Mandela.

ENDS

Notes to editors

List of procedures being performed:

- *Bilateral hip flexor release*
- *Total hip replacement*
- *Bilateral Achilles tendon lengthening*
- *Right hand flexor tendon release*
- *Reverse shoulder replacement*
- *Total right knee replacement*
- *Mastectomy*
- *CVC line*

For more information contact: Yolanda Ngxiki, FleishmanHillard, 011 548 0248,
yolanda.ngxiki@fleishman.co.za

About Operation Healing Hands - Operation Healing Hands is a charity initiative created by a group of doctors in private practice who wished to do something special for their 67-minutes of allocated selfless time on Mandela Day. The project will launch for the first time on the 18 July 2016. The initiative aims to immediately touch the lives of many underprivileged patients who cannot afford surgery, and it is our sincere hope that the project expands to other hospitals and even cities over time. For more information visit operationhealinghands.org

About Life Healthcare Group - Life Healthcare Group has more than 32 years’ experience in the private healthcare and hospital industry. Headquartered in Johannesburg, South Africa, the Group is a listed company on the JSE. The Group’s primary business is private acute hospital care with 63 healthcare facilities in seven of South Africa’s nine provinces and one hospital in Botswana. The Group offers a wide range of complementary healthcare services: rehabilitation; mental health and renal dialysis and through Life Occupational Health and Careways, offer an integrated employee health solution to manage a full employee health and wellness cycle to corporates. The Group is the first and only South African hospital group to have achieved a multisite ISO9001 certification. It also operates in Poland with a joint venture in India. Visit Life Healthcare: www.lifehealthcare.co.za | Facebook | Twitter | LinkedIn