

New Bosnian Partners Named

Two years ago, when the war in the former Yugoslavia was at its peak, Buffalo General Hospital (BGH) in Buffalo, New York initiated an informal exchange program with the Clinical Center of Tuzla in Bosnia-Herzegovina to send teams of US physicians and nurses to the war-torn region to lend a hand. That relationship has evolved into AIHA's first hospital partnership in Bosnia, which is set to begin this fall. Preliminary focus areas for the two-year partnership include nursing, pediatrics, health services management and administration, and strengthening linkages with primary care practitioners.

BGH is a comprehensive health care system that provides primary and long-term care through nursing homes, home care programs and three acute care hospitals, including a major teaching/tertiary care center. The hospital will draw on its relationship with the city of Buffalo and the State University of New York at Buffalo — including its schools of medicine, nursing, pharmacy and allied health sciences — to support the partnership. BGH and its staff have already donated more than \$1.5 million in supplies and equipment to their Tuzla colleagues.

"All of us share the opinion that it would be extremely important for the city of Tuzla to have Buffalo as a partner given the reputation it has deserved so far as well as the outstanding contacts we have made with that institution," said the mayor of Tuzla and the governor of Tuzla Canton in a joint letter to AIHA supporting the partnership.