

News for Immediate Release

Global Links Presents UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside with Outstanding Hospital Partner Award in Recognition of 30-Year Commitment to Surplus Medical Equipment Rescue and Sustainability

Partnership with Global Links has enabled UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside to redirect over 626 tons of surplus medical equipment, supplies and furnishings to serve clinics and hospitals locally, as well as in 20 countries around the world

PITTSBURGH (October 23, 2023) – Local and international humanitarian aid organization Global Links today presented UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside with its Outstanding Hospital Partner Award, recognizing the hospital’s 33-year commitment to rescuing surplus supplies and equipment and redirecting them to serve communities in need.

Global Links began working with three entities, Presbyterian, Shadyside, and Montefiore Hospitals, to collect no longer needed medical supplies and equipment in 1990. Renamed since then, UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside was an early leader in its sustainability efforts, and over the last three decades has redirected 626 tons of medical supplies, equipment and furnishings that would have otherwise been discarded. Those materials are shared with Global Links, who provides them to clinics, doctors and hospitals serving patients in lower-resourced communities locally and in 20 countries around the world.

U.S. hospitals such as UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside accrue medical and clinical furnishings surplus for multiple reasons, including upgrades, renovations, healthcare regulations, rebranding and more. Surplus materials range from sutures, surgical tools, bandages and gloves to exam tables, beds, IV poles, stretchers, wheelchairs and more.

“Over the past three decades, UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside staff across more than 30 departments have been actively involved in surplus rescue programs with Global Links,” says Global Links Executive Director Angela Garcia. “Whether redirecting patient room furnishings that were being replaced, hospital beds and IV poles that were being upgraded, or organizing a scrubs/uniform collection, nursing, environmental services, senior leadership, clinical engineering, supply chain and many others have worked with Global Links to efficiently redirect items being ‘retired’ or removed from service. In doing so, they have improved the quality of care for patients around the world.”

About Global Links

Global Links is a Pittsburgh-based non-profit dedicated to improving health in communities with need. Global Links collaborates with U.S. healthcare institutions and the community to rescue hundreds of tons of high-quality surplus medical materials every year. These materials are shared with public health facilities around the world and with non-profit organizations in Western Pennsylvania that are providing care for their community’s most vulnerable people. For more information, visit www.globallinks.org. Global Links. Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.