



## UNIVERSITY OF UTAH MEDIA RELEASE

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### **UTAH NURSE TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR DECADE-PLUS RELIEF WORK IN HAITI**

(Salt Lake City, Utah) – As a founding member of and volunteer for medical rehabilitation non-profit Healing Hands for Haiti, Lisa Bagley, MSN, RN, CRRN has traveled to the poverty-ravaged nation annually for the last 12 years to help save and improve the lives of disabled children and adults through rehabilitation and education. In recognition of her efforts, Bagley will receive the Dare to Care Award during the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors for Nursing, to be held Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at Little America Hotel (500 South Main Street) in Salt Lake City. Hosted by the University of Utah College of Nursing Alumni Board and held in conjunction with National Nurses Week, *Honors for Nursing* recognizes nurses and supporters of nursing from throughout the region. Revenue generated from the event provides scholarships to students at the College of Nursing. The celebratory evening culminates with the presentation of the Dare to Care Award to an individual or organization in recognition of their significant community contributions which reflect and promote the ideals of the nursing profession.

Through educating and training patients, clinicians and caregivers on rehab medicine, Bagley works with the organization's corps of volunteers to create a better chronic living environment for disabled patients, often reintegrating them into school and mainstream society so they can lead productive lives. Professionally the Nursing Director, Intensive Medicine at Intermountain Medical Center, Bagley, who also is an alumna of the College of Nursing, credits her volunteer service with keeping her focused on the most important role of a nurse, stating, "It is about caring about the patient and their family members, and what happens to them. Our ability to impact their care and their very personal life experience is the foundation for what we do."

As Healing Hands for Haiti responds to the January 2010 earthquake that has devastated what was already one of the world's poorest countries, Bagley has helped to triage medical support for the most vulnerable victims of the catastrophe. She was able to visit Haiti three weeks following the disaster to help provide medical care and rehabilitation to individuals who lost limbs in the quake. Still, Bagley insists she is the one reaping the benefits of her service. "I don't feel like my work is any sacrifice on my part, because it is a privilege for me to be able to help people in need of rehabilitation," she says. "It is heartbreaking at times, absolutely. But I can't imagine not doing it."

Media representatives are invited to cover the May 11 program.

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