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2012 International Humanitarian Assistance Symposium Announced: June 7 & 8, 2012 - Miami, FL

The Family Assistance Foundation is pleased to announce that the International Humanitarian Assistance Symposium will be held in Miami, June 7th and 8th, 2012. Organized by The Family Assistance Foundation and Inter cruises Shoreside & Port Services, the symposium will enhance industry response to emergencies and disasters, uniting different sectors through knowledge sharing and thus ensuring those involved in an unforeseen tragedy are given the support they need. The two-day event will consist of a series of educational panels, practical workshops and experiences recounted first hand by disaster and accident survivors.

“The Foundation is excited to join with Inter cruises to further its efforts in educating responders and unifying Humanitarian Assistance on a world-wide basis,” says Dr. Carolyn Coarsey, president and co-founder of the Family Assistance Foundation.

Key Panel Discussions:

- International Humanitarian Assistance Worldwide
- International Terrorism and Humanitarian Assistance: The long-term perspective
- Transport and Travel Tragedies
- Industrial & Manufacturing Tragedies
- International Notification Protocol: A Worldwide Perspective
- The Employees’ Perspective on Assisting Survivors in A Crisis
- Crisis Communications: Duck and Cover, or Scream and Shout — How to Survive the OMG Event

During the symposium there will be presentations providing information on the international resources available to companies. The Global Survivor Support Network of The Family Assistance Foundation has trained members worldwide and acts on behalf of organizations, should a disaster happen in a location in which they have no local presence.

“Myths about notification protocols in various countries and lack of knowledge about global resources for assisting survivors have dominated the field of family assistance for too long,” Coarsey said. “We look forward to joining with Inter cruises and all of our partners in becoming more enlightened in these crucial areas.”

Preliminary sponsors include: Carnival, BMS Global, Aviem International, Higher Resources and Crucial Communications Group, LLC. Early supporters include: Passenger Shipping Association, NY Cruise, MedCruise, Family Assistance Foundation and CruiseEurope.

Register online

Visit www.IHAS2012.com to register and for more information regarding the symposium, including a full synopsis and detailed program.

About the Family Assistance Foundation

The Family Assistance Foundation, Inc. is an independent non-profit corporation founded in 2000 for the purpose of empowering people following tragedy. Our mission is to support and improve business and industry responses to emergencies and disasters. The Foundation takes a unique, research-based approach to helping organizations successfully meet survivors' (customers, affected families, employees, any member of the public impacted) needs by coordinating and mobilizing resources during the acute phase of a crisis and beyond. The Foundation's annual symposium provides member organizations, as well as survivors, the opportunity to share lessons learned and information about how to continually improve response efforts and business practices. Foundation education and training programs support members by monitoring the long-term outcomes of those impacted by tragedy. Promoting awareness and building skills and knowledge for those who are charged with responding are crucial elements of the Foundation's fully integrated training and support programs for business and industry. For more information, visit the Foundation's website at www.fafonline.org.

About Intercruises

Intercruises Shoreside & Port Services is an experienced global business offering first class ground handling and port agency services to the ocean and river cruise industry. Teams committed to service and dedicated to clients provide local insight and practical knowledge that is enhanced by global expertise and presence. The services they provide include Turnaround, Shore Excursions, Port Agency Services, and Hotel. To learn more about Intercruises, their services and core values, visit www.intercruises.com.