

## AAP Abroad

### Honduran pediatricians, responders readied for disasters

Honduran pediatricians and first responders completed AAP-led pediatric disaster training last December using the train-the-trainer AAP Pediatric Education in Disasters (PEDs) program curriculum.

The course at Soto Cano Air Base in Honduras covered pediatric triage, trauma, dehydration, infections, malnourishment and emotional impact of disasters on children and families. Exposure to toxic substances and use of hazardous material gear also were part of the course, as demonstrated by the Honduran first responder pictured above with a U.S. Air Force member.

The PEDs initiative is working to boost relief efforts in a way that is sensitive and responsive to children's physical and psychological needs when a disaster occurs. The course was conducted in partnership with the Honduran Academy of Pediatrics, Honduras Ministry of Health, Honduras Red Cross and Permanent Contingency



Commission of Honduras with AAP instructors provided from the United States, Mexico and Honduras.

“Honduras is a nation that has serious, significant vulnerability to disaster,” said Col. Douglas Lougee, M.D., M.P.H., FAAP, who helped lead the PEDs training. “Everything from chronic under-nutrition in large parts of the country, to a vulnerable transportation network, to security challenges in face of ongoing threats from disasters: hurricanes, mudslides, earthquakes, makes this a country that is particularly at risk. They are our neighbors and friends, and their challenges are directly linked to

the health of all of the Americas.”

Additional PEDs courses will take place this summer in Argentina, Tanzania and Ghana. Find out more about the course at <http://bit.ly/1gu3HsK>.