

Dynamic Chiropractic



Dr. Cianciolo (third from right) and other

NEWS / PROFESSION

Katrina Relief Medical Team Includes Chiropractic

Approximately five days after Hurricane Katrina hit the South, I was invited to go to Mississippi with a team of doctors from Yale and the Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven, Conn.



Dr. Cianciolo (third from right) and other members of the Connecticut Medical Response Team prepare to depart for Gulfport, Miss., on a donated private jet.

I joined a team that was comprised of a cardiologist, a pulmonologist, a doctor of internal medicine, a pediatrician, an orthopedic surgeon, and a plastic surgeon. A shipping and supplies expert accompanied us.

After arriving in Gulfport, Miss., we were stationed at Gulfport Memorial Hospital. We had taken approximately \$50,000 worth of medical supplies and medicine along with us, which had been donated by St. Raphael's and private physicians for this mercy mission. I came armed with a small portable chiropractic table. Later, we hooked up with three ENTs

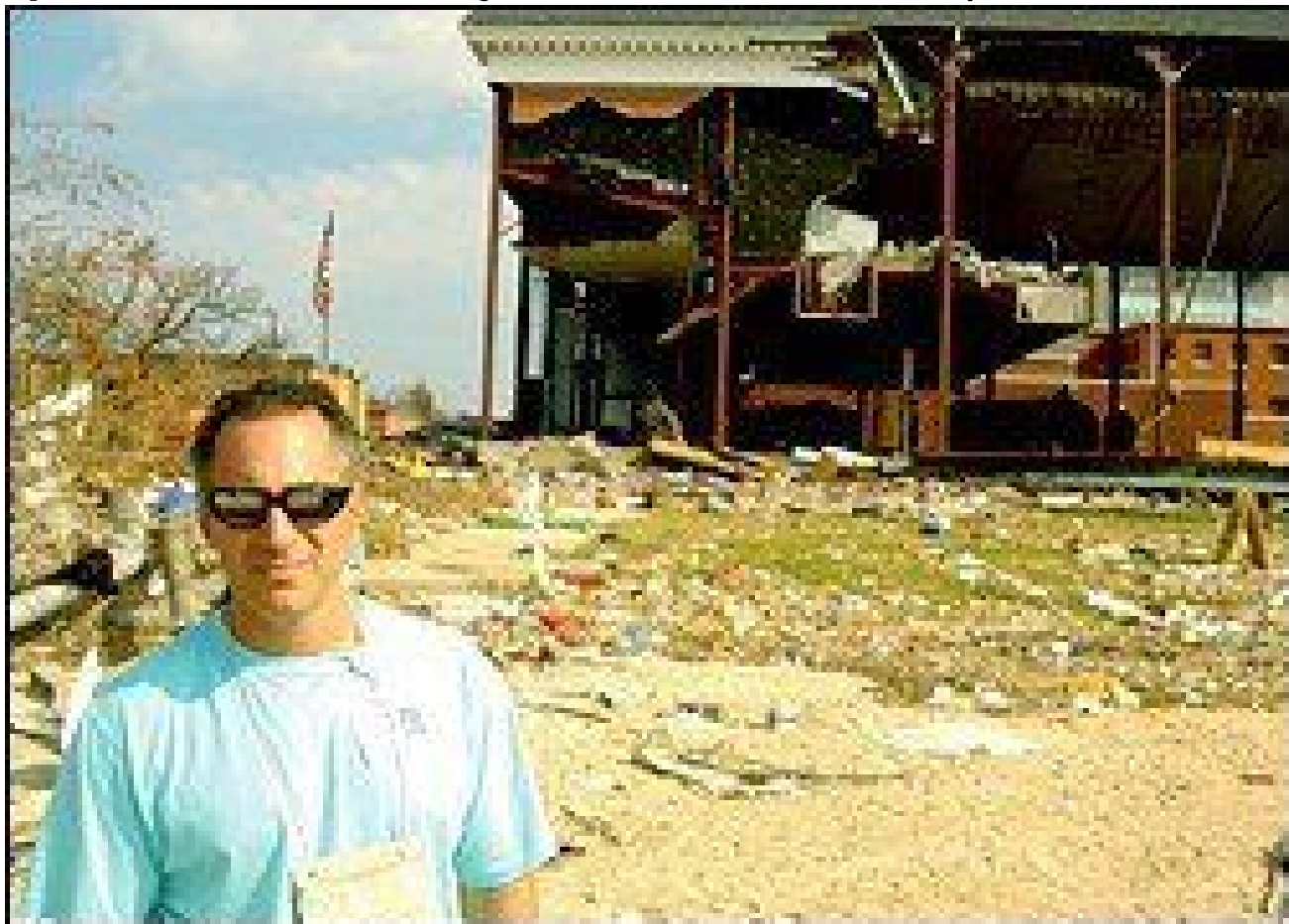


Dr. Cianciolo (right) adjusts an emergency worker outside Gulfport Memorial Hospital.

from Missouri; like us, they were there hoping to give medical help where it was needed. We were able to acquire an ambulance and a box truck, which we drove approximately 170 miles per day, traveling from one Red Cross shelter to another, providing all types of medical care.

It was both a personal privilege and a great chiropractic experience for me. Half of my time was spent assisting the doctors I was with; the other half of the time, I was treating patients, including local residents, Red Cross volunteers and hospital workers. The amount of musculoskeletal injuries was vast. Many people who had lost their homes were sore from sleeping on floors. The volunteers and

hospital workers who had been working without relief were also in need of my



Dr. Cianciolo witnesses the devastation at the Gulfport shoreline.

services. It was remarkable - whenever I took out the chiropractic table, a line would form. It was a great feeling to have an opportunity to give to people who at this point had so little. Working alongside such a diverse medical team with all their support was an added experience that I never would have known if not for this situation.

If you're ever given the opportunity to volunteer in this capacity, I strongly recommend that you take time out of your life to give back. It is a life-changing experience from which you gain as much as you give.

JANUARY 2006