



For Immediate Release  
October 11, 2017

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**RAYS CHARTER PLANE TO PROVIDE RELIEF TO PUERTO RICO  
FOLLOWING HURRICANE MARIA**

**WHAT:** This morning the Tampa Bay Rays, in collaboration with Moffitt Cancer Center, Ponce Health Sciences University, the University of South Florida, State Representative **Janet Cruz** and Course of Action Puerto Rico, chartered a plane to Ponce, Puerto Rico to help in the relief effort following Hurricane Maria. The organizations are delivering medical supplies and equipment; preserving cancer tissue samples from the Puerto Rico Bio-bank; and picking up cancer patients, caregivers and nuns from a local church. Upon the group's arrival back in Tampa, there will be a press conference to recap the trip.

Among the passengers on the one-day trip are Cruz, St. Petersburg Mayor **Rick Kriseman** and Rays left-handed pitcher and Guayanilla, P.R. native **Xavier Cedeño** and his family. Xavier, his wife, **Mariliz**, and sister, **Lizzette**, will be returning to their home in Puerto Rico and remaining on the island, while Rays bench coach and Manatí, P.R. native **Charlie Montoyo's** brother, **Luis**, and cousin, **José**, will be picking up Montoyo's mother and father and bringing them back to the United States.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 11 at 5:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Lobby at Signature Flight Support at Tampa International Airport; 2450 N. Westshore Blvd., Tampa, FL 33607.

**WHO:** The honorable **Janet Cruz**, State Representative, District 62  
**Robert Keenan**, MD, Vice President, Quality and Chief Medical Officer, Moffitt Cancer Center  
**Alex Ruiz**, Chief Strategy Officer, Ponce Health Sciences University  
**Rafaela A. Amador Fink**, Sr. Director Public Affairs, Tampa Bay Rays

**NOTE:** Video footage of the visit will be made available for download later in the day via a FTP site. If you are not already on the distribution list, email [media@raysbaseball.com](mailto:media@raysbaseball.com) in order to be added.

—RAYS—

*The Tampa Bay Rays mission is to energize the community through the magic of Rays baseball. The organization is committed to building a strong community bond through meaningful interactions and charitable donations, and has proudly represented Major League Baseball since 1998.*

