

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Denise Sears, CEO of SOS International, Elected Chair of MedSurplus Alliance Leadership Council

Louisville, KY – July 1, 2025 — SOS International (SOS) is proud to announce that its President and Chief Executive Officer, Denise Sears, MHA, has been elected Chair of the Leadership Council of the MedSurplus Alliance (MSA). She succeeds Chris Palombo, President and CEO of MAP International, in the role.

Denise brings a transformational record of service and innovation in global health. Since taking the helm at SOS in 2016, she has led the organization to new heights:

- Under her stewardship, SOS diverted over **2000 tons of reusable medical supplies and equipment** from local landfills to clinics and hospitals in **96 countries** [map.org+7myemail.constantcontact.com+7linkedin.com+7](#).
- A 2024 *Simply Business* podcast highlighted her leadership in driving 500% growth at SOS, emphasizing her commitment to advancing global health equity through innovative, philanthropy-driven initiatives. [podcasts.apple.com](#).
- Recognized as a **2023 Nonprofit Visionary Leader** by Louisville Business First, Denise has been celebrated for her mission-driven approach and measurable impact in global healthcare access [styleblueprint.com+7bizjournals.com+7linkedin.com+7](#).

Reflecting on her new appointment, Denise remarked, “It is an honor to serve in the MedSurplus Alliance leadership. I look forward to bringing SOS’s model of ethical and mission-aligned medical surplus management to support improved global health and to elevate standards across our sector.”

Chris Palombo has served with distinction as MSA Chair since his appointment and will remain a valued member of the council. His tenure was built on a formidable track record:

- For 13 years, Chris led Dispensary of Hope, significantly expanding access to free medication for uninsured populations in the U.S. [people.equilar.com+6map.org+6medsurplusalliance.org+6](#).
- As a U.S. Presidential Leadership Scholar and current president of MAP International, he has been instrumental in advancing global pharmaceutical distribution initiatives [linkedin.com+12map.org+12map.org+12](#).
- He also played a central role in developing ethical donation protocols for surplus medical materials and chaired the MSA governing body .

In her capacity as Leadership Council Chair, Denise will guide MSA's strategic vision and oversee initiatives to standardize medical surplus practices, foster global partnerships, and enhance the impact of surplus redistribution programs.

About SOS International

Founded in 1993, SOS is a Louisville-based nonprofit dedicated to rescuing unused and surplus medical supplies and equipment. Today, thanks to community partnerships, SOS has delivered millions of pieces of medical and educational supplies to underserved areas around the world.

About MedSurplus Alliance

MedSurplus Alliance is a coalition that brings together supply-chain leaders, nonprofits, health-care providers, and manufacturers to promote ethical, sustainable, and efficient redistribution of surplus medical materials globally.