

**Remarks by  
Michael Zinaman, MD  
Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
HHC North Bronx Health Network  
At Press Conference to Announce Reopening of Maternity Services at North  
Central Bronx Hospital**

**March 17, 2014**

Thank you, Bill, for your leadership and for the incredible opportunity to work in one of our nation's finest and safest hospital systems and serve the noble mission of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation in the Bronx.

Our priority is to deliver safe and effective services to our patients every hour of the day and every day of the year. Though I was not here when you made the decision to temporarily suspend services I applaud the courage it took to put the safety of our patients first.

Since my arrival, in December I have been focused on creating a new model of care. Towards this end I have made progress in recruiting physicians and have identified many to join our team of gifted veteran staff. Our staffing pattern is guided by the recommendations of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology & by the Association of Women's Health, Obstetrics & Neonatal Nurses. And finally our staffing addresses all components of the maternity suite including triage, Labor & delivery, Recovery and the restoration of the newborn nursery.

As we build this expert team for inpatient maternity care, we will also look to strengthen all of our Women's Health services and improve access and productivity of our extensive array of ambulatory OB and Gyn services including prenatal care, family planning, and GYN surgical services.

I was recruited to the Bronx in great part because of my wealth of experience in all aspects of Obstetrics and Gynecology. One of the lessons I learned over the years is that change takes time. Considerable progress has indeed been made towards meeting our goal- deliver quality care, healthy babies and provides a great patient experience. Our responsibility to our patients is that our services be first-rate. We now have a sustainable model of care. Thank you to the nurses, midwives, doctors, PA's, and support staff who stayed the course and whose service is invaluable as we go forward and deliver many healthy and happy babies at North Central Bronx Hospital

Thank you.

