

# **Fiscal Year 2023**

## **Annual Public Borough Meetings Responses**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**October 26, 2023**

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**Senior Vice President, External and Regulatory Affairs**

## Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Public Meetings

In accordance with §7384(10) of the HHC Enabling Act, the Board of Directors of the New York City Health + Hospitals facilitated the Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Public Meetings in all five boroughs of NYC:

Staten Island	-	March 21, 2023		Staten Island Borough Hall
Manhattan	-	April 4, 2023		NYC Health + Hospitals/Harlem
Queens	-	April 18, 2023		NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst
Bronx	-	May 16, 2023		NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi
Brooklyn	-	June 13, 2023		NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull

The President and CEO informed the public on the programs and plans of the NYC Health + Hospitals, as well as afforded the public an opportunity to present oral and/or written testimony concerning the NYC Health + Hospitals performance to the Board of Directors.

# Compilation of Questions and Responses

- NYC Health +Hospitals recorded the individual questions/ concerns from each of the public meetings.
- This deck contains a comprehensive listing of questions/ concerns and responsive information.
- We will provide an overview today.
- The full deck will be posted for public review:  
<https://www.nychealthandhospitals.org/public-meetings-notices/>
- Each slide is identified with the name of the borough in which the question/ concern was raised.
- When a specific facility is referenced in the question/ concern, it is also included on the slide.

## Main Areas of Concern Raised by the Public

Capital  
improvements

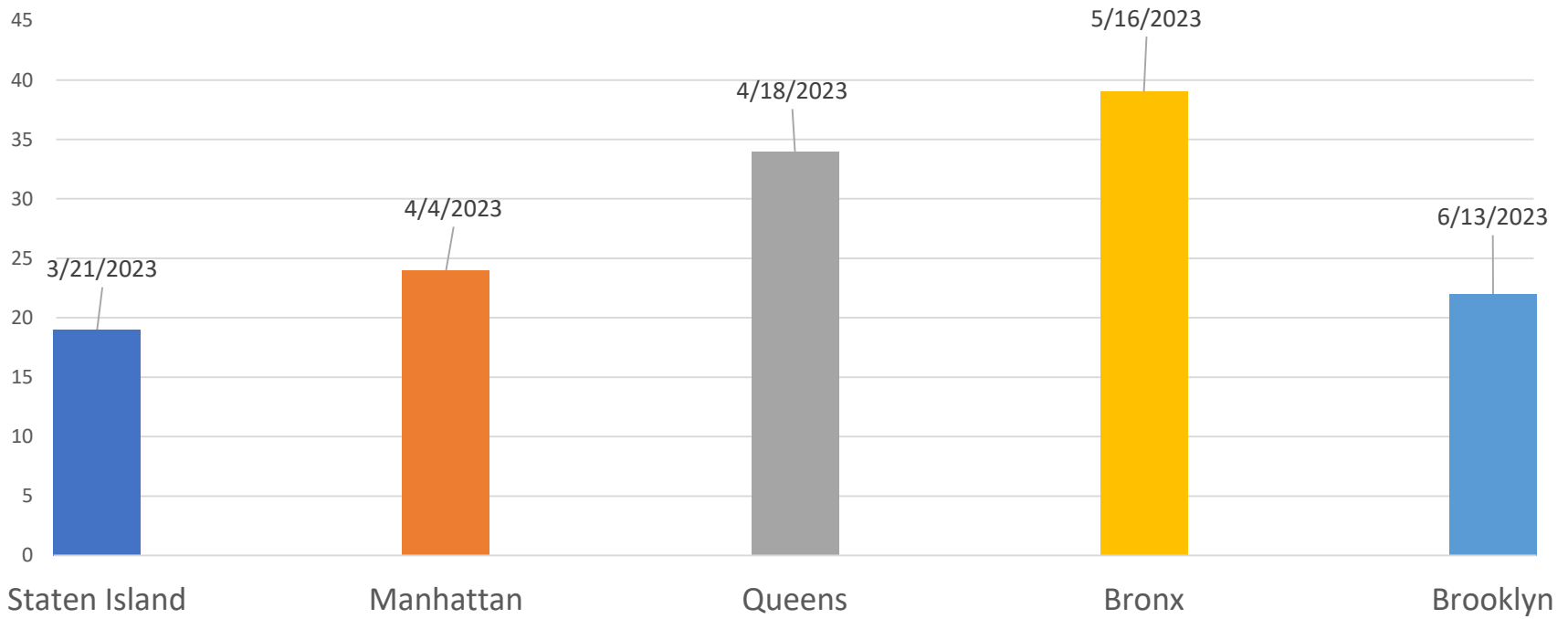
Opioid settlement  
funds

Fair nursing  
contract

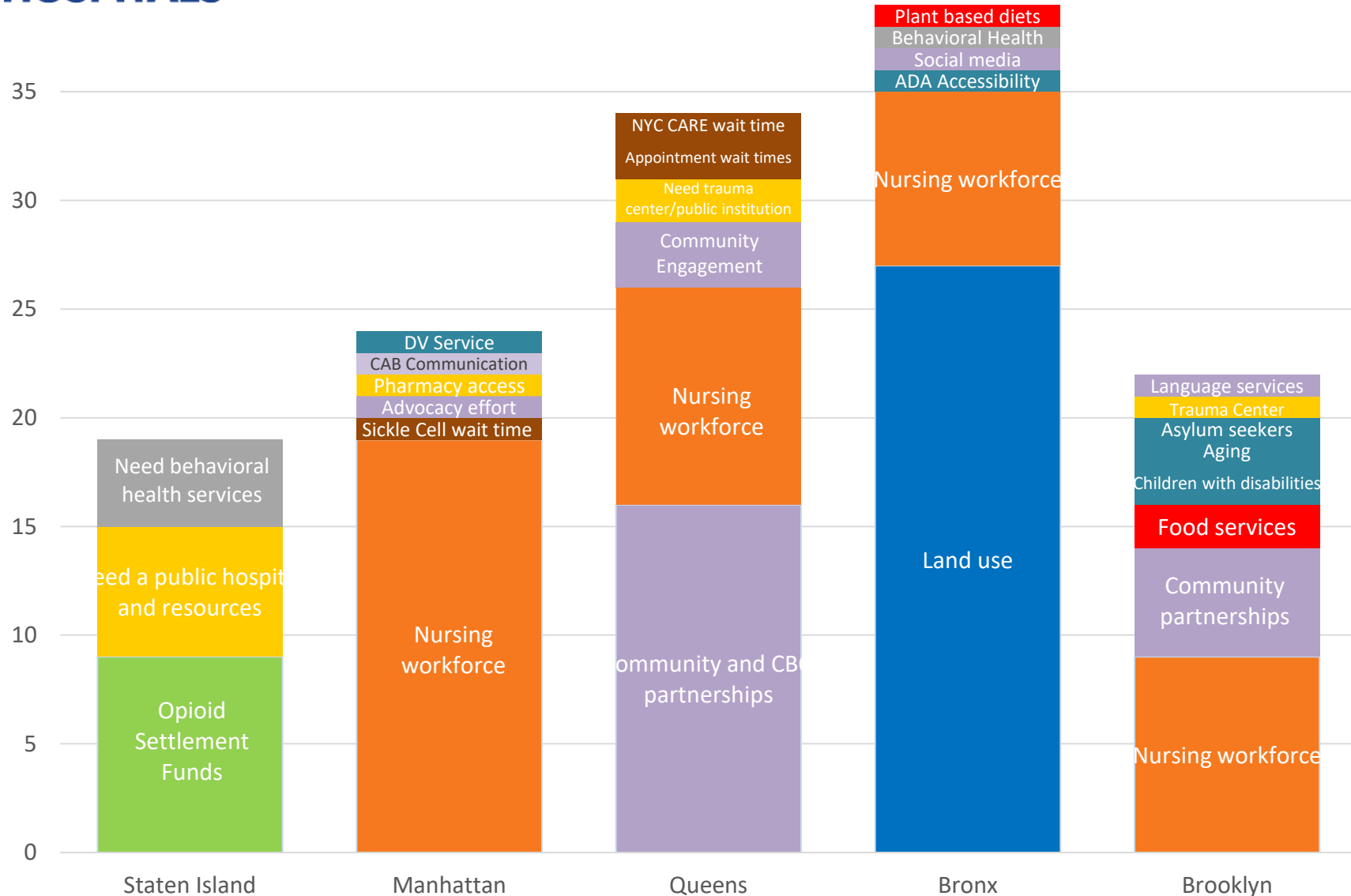
Increased  
communication  
with communities

Land use projects

# Total Questions per Borough



# Questions by Borough



**Public Concern:**

Nursing staff requested support for new contract which includes:

- Pay parity
- Safe staffing
- Training
- Staff retention
- Guarantee of healthcare benefits after retirement

**Response:**

The issues concerning pay parity are subject to an arbitrator's award. Staffing ratios are defined in the collective bargaining agreement, and as of now, there have been no violations. New hires will undergo comprehensive training and we anticipate an improvement in staff retention numbers due to the new compensation package.

**Public Concern:**

Nurse Practitioner raised concern over the lack of administrative time in daily schedules as a safety and retention issue.

**Response:**

Administrative time is not defined in the collective bargaining agreement, however, it is provided for and managed at the unit level at each facility.

**Public Concern:**

Nursing staff sought more detailed information regarding elevated spending on agency and traveling nurses.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals provided New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA) with data as part of the collective bargaining process and we anticipate declining dependency on agency staff.



**Public Concern:**

Patient is concerned that all Emergency Room (ER) patients should be treated with respect, professionalism, and dignity without exception. These concerns were voiced by a patient following an unpleasant experience in the ER.

**Response:**

The Emergency Department (ED) leadership team strive to provide the highest quality care and treat patients with respect, professionalism, and dignity without exception. In collaboration with our Patient Experience team, we perform a monthly analysis of the patient feedback gathered through grievances, and complaints, and Press Ganey surveys to highlight opportunities for improvement and categorize these into thematic categories to focus our efforts and monitor performance. Efforts are underway in the ED to create a friendlier environment to treat all patients well, be more accommodating, and reduce wait times; especially for patients with developmental disabilities, from check-in to receiving care.

**Public Concern:**

Community member expressed the importance of creating a friendlier environment to treat all patients well, and be more accommodating and reducing wait times for patients with developmental disabilities, from check-in to receiving care.

**Response:**

The experience of our patients and staff continue to be of the highest priority and we want to thank you for bringing these concerns to our attention. Feedback is very important as we seek to improve our services to ensure patient and family-centered care. Our Patient Relations office remains available at 212-562-6071 should patients require further assistance.



**Public Concern:**

Community members seeking clarification on the distribution of funding from the New York State (NYS) Opioid Settlement Fund.

**Response:**

Following court settlements with pharmaceutical companies regarding opioids, the Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Board was established in 2022 under the Office of Addiction Services and Supports. This board recommends how the funds from the Opioid Settlement Fund should be distributed. Funds are distributed through allocations made by the Advisory Board. Additional funds were provided directly to municipalities to determine how to allocate under the regulations set forth by the Advisory Board.

In June 2022, Mayor Adams announced the first allocation of Opioid Settlement funds, totaling \$150 million over five years. The funds were directed to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, NYC Health + Hospitals, and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. These funds are intended to expand harm reduction services, extend hours for syringe service providers, and enhance support for families affected by overdose, benefiting New Yorkers citywide.

It's important to note that this was the initial allocation, and there will be subsequent rounds of funding from the opioid settlement. Each allocation will support lifesaving programs citywide, including on Staten Island, as we work to tackle the overdose crisis. Both New York City and the State remain committed to investing in vital programs to combat the overdose crisis and save lives throughout the city.

**Public Concern:**

Community member seeking expansion of NYC Health + Hospitals clinical services and care in Staten Island to increase access for vulnerable populations such as undocumented and uninsured communities.

**Response:**

We remain committed to providing health care services to Staten Islanders. We are proud to have NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health, Vanderbilt and NYC Health + Hospitals/Seaview. Additionally, our Street Health Outreach & Wellness Mobile (SHOW) vans serve five locations in Staten Island.



**Public Concern:**

Community member expressed the need for a new trauma hospital in Far Rockaway to ensure community members can obtain care in crisis.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens support the efforts of the Rockaway Trauma Healthcare Access Task Force, a blue-ribbon panel formed by City Councilmember Selvena Brooks-Powers to address the persistent lack of health care infrastructure in the eastern Rockaways.

Dr. Mitch Katz, President and CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals, as co-chair of the task force, is committed to ensuring high quality healthcare access to residents of the Rockaway Peninsula. The task force includes local residents and members of nearby community groups. This year, NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health and the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) announced plans to open a new comprehensive community health center in Far Rockaway to expand access to primary care, women's health, dental, vision and mental health services for the peninsula community.

**Public Concern:**

Community member expressed concern over “Communities Thrive” partnership between Mayor’s office and NYC Health + Hospitals ending in December 2023.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst currently works in partnership with NYS Office of Mental Health to support the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) mobile outreach program. The ACT program is designed to be made up of a multi-disciplinary team in community settings. ACT treatment is an evidenced-based practice that offers treatment, rehabilitation, and community integration services to individuals diagnosed with serious mental illness and uses a person-centered, recovery-based approach to care.

ACT services include:

- assertive outreach
- mental health treatment
- vocational support
- integrated dual disorder treatment
- family education
- wellness skills
- community linkages
- peer support

**Response (Cont'd):**

In addition, there are SHOW vans stationed close to NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst to provide COVID-19 tests and vaccinations, wound care, basic material necessities, and harm reduction services to New Yorkers who are unsheltered.



**Public Concern:**

Community member recommended including dental coverage as part of NYC Care package.

**Response:**

NYC Care members can access all the services available at NYC Health + Hospitals at an affordable fee scale according to their household income. Those services include dental services available at over a dozen NYC Health + Hospitals facilities across the city. Thousands of NYC Care members take advantage of our dental services every year.

**Public Concern:**

Community member shared that the process to connect to NYC Care through financial counselors at NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst takes much longer than at other facilities. Once connected, the cumbersome application requires multiple documents which often cause week-long delays until all documents are submitted.

**Response:** NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst follows policies and procedures established by our health system to connect patients to NYC Care.



**Public Concern:**

Community member recommended partnering with local pharmacies to reduce burden and wait periods at NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst pharmacy.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst is working to streamline its pharmacy operations and has added a new machine in our Pharmacy Department to process orders in a more efficient manner so that our patients have a better experience. We have also added more Pharmacy Techs to assist with providing better patient care and more patient education.

**Public Concern:**

Community member suggested increasing access to financial counselors by locating counselors in community-based organization sites, which will streamline the application process and remove language and transportation barriers.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst is working to improve access to financial counselors at our facility. We have expanded access to financial counselors with extending evening hours and Saturday hours so that our patients and community members get the help they seek and have their questions answered regarding access to health insurance and other programs to pay for healthcare.



**Public Concern:**

Community member expressed importance of increased communication between healthcare providers and community-based organizations serving vulnerable populations.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst has a robust community outreach team whose goal is to strengthen relationships between the hospital, patients, providers, and community-based organizations to promote wellness and health equity. In the past year, the team has reached over 28,000 people through community health events in Central and Western Queens (over 9 zip codes). Most of these events have been in partnership with local community-based organizations, civic groups, business development groups, and faith institutions. In addition, the hospital partners with elected officials to improve access to healthcare through vaccination events and health fairs where Elmhurst nurses and other health professionals provide blood pressure screenings and health information. Elmhurst also has close relationships with other City agencies and programs, including the NYPD, NYC Parks, and the Queens Library, to do educational talks and health outreach events within our catchment area.

**Response (Cont'd):**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens is dedicated to the health and well-being of the diverse communities served by the hospital. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic the hospital has reestablished a vibrant community outreach program that is staffed by public health educators, community health workers, nurses, doctors, and other health care experts. The hospital's outreach program focuses on providing free health screenings and health awareness about preventive and wellness programs and these activities has touched dozens of neighborhoods and benefited thousands of local residents. Our hospital has partnered with civic organizations like the Lions Club, the Queens Public Library, the NYPD, faith-based organizations, and elected officials to conduct workshops, health fairs, health screenings and awareness information about several important health concerns such as diabetes, high blood pressure, nutrition, cancer, and much more.



**Public Concern:**

Community member expressed concern over long-wait times (4-6 months) for specialist appointments, including: Gynecologist, Ophthalmologist, bi-lingual Mental Health and Cardiologist.

**Response:**

In some areas, the demand for highly-specialized services at NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens exceeds the hospital's ability to meet a steadily increasing need for such services.

One key strategy the hospital is using to increase access to specialized services involves the use of eConsults (telemedicine). The use of eConsults allow specialty and subspecialty physicians to review requests for outpatient consultation and advise referring physicians about the steps they can take to more appropriately address and manage issues in the primary care setting, thus eliminating the need schedule unnecessary appointments with specialists. Eliminating unnecessary appointments will result in shorten wait times for patients who do need to see a specialist.

We are also leveraging technology by using tele-retinal cameras for screening diabetic patients for retinal disease in the primary care setting. This technology entails having dilated retinal images reviewed by experts in the ophthalmology department. If the images are less than optimal, or if is a positive screen, patients are contacted to schedule an appointment. The use of this technology has made it possible to reduce the demand for screening appointments in ophthalmology. The hospital is in the process of expanding its use of retinal cameras to conduct screenings in Geriatrics and Virology clinics.

**Response (Cont'd):**

The expanded use of this technology will enable our healthcare experts to detect retinal diseases earlier and reduce the wait time for patients who need to make appointments in the ophthalmology department. Additionally, the enterprise ACLC has prepared and published a directory of specialty and subspecialty services available at all Health and Hospitals facilities. Patients can use this directory to choose where to go for an earlier appointment at any of the public hospitals because of our ability to use electronic health records (MyChart) to securely share their health information across the enterprise. Our diverse staff is also able to communicate with patients in their preferred language and interpreter services is available by telephone.

NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst is working to reduce wait times for specialist appointments. Unfortunately, due to a nationwide shortage of providers, this process is taking longer than we would like. However, we are doing all we can to hire new physicians and other staff to support reduced wait times for our clinics.

**Public Concern:**

Community member mentioned the need for ADA accessibility to reach NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi on the crosswalk on the North side of Seymour to the Westbound 12 bus.

**Response:**

We understand that pedestrian ramps are critical in enhancing the pedestrian experience, as they provide safe access on and off the streets and sidewalks. We appreciate this valuable feedback. Our operations team can share the concern with the Department of Transportation. However, the final decision to make this enhancement is beyond our jurisdiction. The Parks Department has a capital project pending to address the accessibility issue.

**Public Concern:**

Community member mentioned the need to notify Psych ER when patient with behavioral health needs come to the ER.

**Response:**

We agree that Psych ER should be notified when a patient with behavioral health needs presents to the emergency room. However, this process may not be immediate, as it is critical that our health care professionals assess and clear all patients of critical medical emergencies before engaging the Psych ER.

**Public Concern:**

Community member mentioned the need for greater presence of NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi on social media platforms to share information.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi is unique compared to our sister facilities as we have a Twitter account for our Jacobi campus and Facebook for North Central Bronx. Our social media following for the Jacobi campus increased significantly in 2022 as we advanced our content to include healthy literacy information (videos) while connecting our target audience to our hospital comprehensive services. In 2022, Jacobi was recognized with an award by our central office Media & Marketing Executives for receiving the most increase in followers facility-wide. Additionally, the social media platforms utilized by Jacobi must be approved by our Media and Marketing department at our central office. To date, we are approved and are excelling on Twitter and Facebook.

**Public Concern:**

Community member mentioned the need for greater promotion of plant-based diets to the community

**Response:**

We agree. NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi currently serving culturally-diverse plant-based meals as primary dinner options for inpatients. Additionally, from June through November we partner with Harvest Homes for a weekly Farmer's Market which provides access to fresh organic fruits and vegetables. We also, provide health education, and perform blood pressure screenings to increase health literacy and the overall well-being of the Bronx communities we serve. The farmer's market is available every Friday on Pelham Parkway, Pedestrian Mall.

Additionally, Jacobi will announce our new Lifestyle Medicine Programs. Lifestyle Medicine is the use of healthy lifestyle habits to prevent and treat common chronic conditions, such as type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure. Our nutrition element recommends that patients choose whole plant-based foods (fruits, vegetables, whole grains, legumes, nuts, seeds).



**Public Concern:**

Community member shared the community's opposition and displeasure regarding the Just Home proposal on the NYC Health + Hospital/Jacobi campus. They requested clarity on the following concerns: How was this population prioritized for supportive housing over other vulnerable populations?

**Response:**

Just Home is one component of NYC Health + Hospitals' comprehensive 'Housing for Health' initiative, which seeks to improve the health and wellbeing of the system's patients who are experiencing homelessness by connecting them to affordable homes and housing supports. As part of this initiative, NYC Health + Hospitals has already leased land on five campuses to facilitate the creation and operation of senior housing, low-income housing, and supportive housing for formerly homeless adults. Just Home will serve some of the most vulnerable patients in the system: incarcerated individuals who have complex medical conditions and are under the care of NYC Health + Hospitals/Correctional Health Services (CHS).

**Public Concern:**

What kinds of patients will CHS refer to Just Home?

**Response:**

The patients CHS refers to Just Home will be medically complex individuals who are likely housed in the infirmaries on Rikers Island.

Based on a recent analysis, of CHS' medically complex patient population:

- More than 60% were age 55+
- 76% had at least one significant health diagnosis: recent/active cancer; pulmonary-related (e.g. lung disease); heart-related; diabetes; immunocompromised
- 9% were HIV positive; and
- 7% had challenges with activities of daily living

**Public Concern:**

Will Just Home tenants have open court cases?

**Response:**

About 86 percent of the people incarcerated on Rikers are detained pre-trial, meaning they have not been convicted of a crime. To be eligible for consideration for Just Home tenancy, individuals must be determined by the courts to be able to reenter their communities. They may have open cases (e.g., out on bail; released on recognizance), but it is more likely that their cases have been resolved (e.g., time served; case dismissed; alternative-to-incarceration program). While CHS will refer patients to Just Home, only the courts can release someone from custody and into the community.

**Public Concern:**

What kinds of screening will Fortune Society conduct in assessing potential Just Home tenants?

**Response:**

Future Just Home residents will undergo the Fortune Society's tenant-screening process before being offered a rent-stabilized lease for their studio apartments. People assessed as posing a risk of current violence and people assessed as inappropriate for the independent, permanent housing model and level of services provided will not be accepted.

**Public Concern:**

Will a process be in place for a resident who no longer qualifies as a Just Home resident?

**Response:**

This process will be established by the Fortune Society, as the operator of Just Home.

**Public Concern:**

What measures will be taken to ensure public safety will not be impacted?

**Response:**

Just Home tenants are free members of the community: they are no longer in custody and the building is not a jail. However, to help ensure a safe environment, Fortune will have staff in the building who will conduct regular rounds of the building and monitor activity from the cameras placed outside of the building and in the common areas inside the building. Fortune is also developing a relationship with the local NYPD 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct.

**Public Concern:**

Why was the Bronx selected for Just Home despite community members expressing concerns about the borough being overburdened?

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals' has arranged for the development of housing on its land in Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and Manhattan – Just Home is the first Bronx campus in NYC Health + Hospital's housing portfolio.

NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi is in Council District 13, which produced just 58 units of new affordable housing in total over the last eight years. Fortune provides citywide social services in Queens, Manhattan, and the Bronx, and, in addition, to housing, in the Bronx, provides housing in several Manhattan locations, including to many residents from the Bronx.

**Public Concern:**

Why didn't you engage the community before using Building 2 for Just Home and designating Fortune as the developer?

**Response:**

We followed the standard practices for this kind of project, with HPD's designation of Fortune kicking off the official community outreach process. NYC Health + Hospitals and HPD are focused on leveraging City resources to address the immense need for affordable housing. We are using public land for public good, meeting the needs of different populations through available land and properties. We will continue to brief community stakeholders throughout the process, and your feedback will inform our work, but we are committed to building more housing – especially for vulnerable people.

**Public Concern:**

Does Jacobi Medical Center have the capacity to care for an additional 70 patients?

**Response:**

Yes, both the NYC Health + Hospitals President & CEO and the NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi CEO have confirmed that Jacobi Medical Center can treat the Just Home residents and the residents in the affordable units. Fortune case managers will work with the Jacobi medical providers to coordinate care for individuals living in the Just Home apartments.

**Public Concern:**

Will Just Home alter the character of the neighborhood?

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi has long been an asset to the Morris Park community, and, through Just Home, Fortune will join them in being good neighbors. Fortune's current housing sites not only provide homes to people in need – they provide community meeting space and serve as cultural sites, food distribution sites, and polling locations. They have not altered the character of the neighborhoods but have helped to enrich the neighborhoods, and it is a part of why they are embraced by local residents and community boards. They are similarly committed to being a good neighbor to the Jacobi and Morris Park communities.

**Public Concern:**

How do you know Fortune will be successful and tenants won't reoffend?

**Response:**

The Fortune Society has provided high-quality social services for 55 years and housing for 20 years. This includes their long-established Castle Gardens in West Harlem and their newly opened senior building in the Bronx. We know that permanent, supportive housing can reduce the likelihood of reincarceration.



**Public Concern:**

Community member suggested the need to provide guidance to families of patients on best practices to care for the needs of their geriatric patients (including managing will and power of attorney).

**Response:** We do not provide support regarding living will or power of attorney, but we do encourage all patients to identify a health care proxy. If a patient would like further assistance/support in the Geriatric practice, they can inquire with any member of their care team.

**Public Concern:**

Community member mentioned the need for greater investments in the HERRCs to meet the greater demand, and providing accessible, comprehensive medical services to every individual within the HERRC.

**Response:**

Every HERRC has on site medical care and every person who goes through intake at Roosevelt (which NYC Health + Hospitals runs) completes a comprehensive medical screening. We also have MetroHealthPlus on site at HERRCs to enroll HERRC guests in insurance.



**Public Concern:**

Community member mentioned the need to provide additional NARCAN training to address overdose in the community.

**Response:**

Currently through the Chemical Dependency Department, we offer training to all opioid dependent patient, as well as, any other patient who is interested in being trained, and give free DOH-supplied kits upon completion of the training.

**Public Concern:**

Community member mentioned the need for additional engagement programs for increased staff and resident satisfaction at NYC Health + Hospitals/McKinney.

**Response:**

Our resident and staff engagement surveys has shown that these groups are engaged. We can always do more if we have additional resources.

**Public Concern:**

Community member suggested returning to preparing food on site at NYC Health + Hospitals/McKinney.

**Response:**

That would increase our ability to offer greater selection of choices but it may prove to be too costly.

**Public Concern:**

Community member mentioned the need for NYC Health + Hospitals/McKinney to once again be a polling site.

**Response:**

Unfortunately, we lost available space due to COVID. The space is now designated for on-site dialysis.

**Public Concern:**

Community member expressed wanting to see a Child Development Center in each borough to support parents of children with disabilities.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals currently has two Child Development at Gotham Health sites - Sydenham/St Nicholas and Morrisania. Although those sites are on the smaller side and get some funding (long-standing) from the City Council, NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health is thinking about how to better support them.

**Public Concern:**

NYC Health + Hospitals/McKinney Community Advisory Board member mentioned they would like Dr. Katz to visit more often to meet with residents.

**Response:**

His schedule is extremely tight, but we always enjoy showcasing our fabulous facility.



**Public Concern:**

Community member expressed the desire for recognition of the imperative role CBOs can have in transforming the health care system.

**Response:** Our health system recognizes community-based organizations' critical role in healthcare delivery. We are happy to work with numerous CBOs in our programs, from NYC Care, Community Health Needs Assessment Reports, Find Help and many more.

**Public Concern:**

Community member mentioned the need to connect residents who are discharged to resources like permanent housing.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals is committed to working with various city agencies and partners to ensure that patients discharged from our facilities are connected to outpatient services and housing advocates for those who need them.

**Public Concern:**

Community member expressed interest in exploring possibility of relocating the closed pharmacy to another location within Gotham Health/Sydenham.

**Response:**

We have been pleased to work with local elected officials and community members to find a satisfactory resolution to this necessary change. The Sydenham pharmacy serviced less than 200 patients annually and only the uninsured patients. To ensure patients have uninterrupted access to the prescription drugs they need, Sydenham patients who are uninsured are being offered alternative options, including access to three local CVS Pharmacies in the community with no out-of-pocket costs, free home delivery through CVS, continued access to pharmacy services at Harlem Hospital and on-site delivery option at Sydenham. Insured patients will continue to have the option of choosing any pharmacy to receive their medications.



**Public Concern:**

Community member requested expansion of behavioral health services at NYC Health + Hospitals, Gotham Health/Vanderbilt, as traveling (via shuttle bus) to other boroughs to receive care is a challenging barrier.

**Response:**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health continues to add services to our Vanderbilt location. It is our full intention to include behavioral health services and are actively recruiting for staff. As an organization we acknowledge the importance and need for expanding behavioral health in the Staten Island community and are working diligently to establish the services in the near future.



**Public Concern:**

Community member expressed concerns over lack of communication between Gotham Health Centers and Community Advisory Boards.

**Response:**

Gotham Health continues to host and participate in Community Advisory Board (CAB) meetings monthly for all nine of its D&TC facilities. In an effort to communicate effectively with our CABs, we are also working with the various CAB Chairs and Officers to identify various initiatives and lobbying opportunities in support of the practices. The regional and onsite leadership work very closely with many of the committees to ensure that there is progress in strategic areas of development. We welcome opportunities to continue to communicate with our CABs more effectively, and we will be working toward greater bilateral communication efforts.



**Public Concern:**

Community member emphasized the need for capital improvements at NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health, Morrisania, and the importance of engaging with elected officials as a means to advocate for increased capital funding.

**Response:**

Gotham Health received close to \$13 million in Capital Funding appropriated from our elected officials this year, an exponential growth from previous years, where we were only receiving one to two million dollars annually. Through a concerted effort this year and various pitch presentations to our elected officials and their budget directors we were able to solidify and grow our capital funding awards, the highest we have ever received as an organization. In regard to Morrisania, this year the facility was awarded \$2.5 million to fund various capital improvement projects at the practice from the City Council and Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson. Our intention is to continue to build our relationships with our elected officials and highlight the need for capital funding to continue to provide and expand services and access to our communities as well as facilitating our public health mission. We are so grateful for their confidence and support.