



FY 2024 ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2024 • 6 PM

FORMAT – IN-PERSON



Call to Order - 6 PM

DR. PATRICIA MARTHONE
Brooklyn City Council Representative
To the Board of Directors

■ **Opening Remarks**

DR. MITCHELL KATZ, President & CEO

■ **Report on the Health System**

BLANCHE GREENFIELD, ESQ, Moderator
Deputy General Counsel

■ **Invitation To the Public to Participate in Accordance With Rules**



SPEAKERS' ADVISORY

WELCOME TO THE NEW YORK CITY HEALTH + HOSPITALS FISCAL YEAR 2024 ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN.

THIS IS THE THIRD MEETING IN A SERIES OF FIVE MEETINGS CONDUCTED ANNUALLY IN EACH OF THE CITY'S BOROUGHES. THE PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS IS TO PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE PLANS / PROGRAMS AND TO AFFORD THE PUBLIC THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE ORAL/WRITTEN TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE SYSTEM'S SERVICE DELIVERY. PUBLIC TESTIMONY [ORAL/WRITTEN] WILL BE TRANSCRIBED AND FORWARDED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

THE PANEL, CONSISTING OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, IS HERE TO *LISTEN* TO THE COMMENTS MADE BY THE PUBLIC.



REGISTERED SPEAKERS ARE ALLOTTED FIVE MINUTES SPEAKING TIME -- THE ELECTRONIC TIMER WILL SIGNAL WHEN TIME HAS EXPIRED.

TRANSFER OF TIME FROM ONE SPEAKER TO ANOTHER IS PROHIBITED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING YOUR VIEWS



**NYC Health + Hospitals
Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Public Meeting - Brooklyn
Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Report by Dr. Mitchell Katz, President and CEO**

Good evening, my name is Dr. Mitch Katz and I'm the President and CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals. This is my seventh year here at the health system, and I continue to be proud and honored to lead this institution. I don't do this alone, of course. There are some 9,000 nurses, 4,000 providers, social workers, environmental service workers, and thousands of other staff who ensure that New Yorkers received the high-quality care they deserve.

Some of those folks are in the room today. I want to thank our Board Members who are here, the staff who have spent long hours organizing these meetings, and the team here tonight who will ensure that your words are captured for all our leadership to hear.

I want to thank those of you in the audience and speaking this evening. Your presence here demonstrates how much you care about NYC Health + Hospitals, the quality of health care in our neighborhoods, and the community both inside and outside of our facilities. I appreciate your time and look forward to hearing what you have to say.

Before we begin though, I do want to highlight some of our achievements from this past year. Our goal has always been to expand access to care for more New Yorkers regardless of their ability to pay or immigration status, offer the highest quality of care, and advance our values of equity, diversity and inclusion.

Here are just a few highlights of the amazing achievements from the last year.

- We opened a new hospital. The Ruth Bader Ginsburg Hospital on the campus of South Brooklyn Health is a bright, beautiful space for our patients to receive care. The 11-story building was designed to withstand the next 500-year storm.
- Our nurses had a big year: they gained pay parity with private hospitals thanks to a new NYSNA contract.
- We remained at the forefront of the City's response to the historic asylum seeker crisis, providing shelter, health care,

casework, and social services to thousands of asylum seekers at our Arrival Center and humanitarian centers.

- Correctional Health Services opened the first-ever reentry service center on Rikers Island, a resource hub for the hundreds of people who are released from Rikers each year as well as members of the public and staff.
- The health system's Lifestyle Medicine Program is now in every borough, including at NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst.
- All of our hospitals began serving plant-based meals as the primary choice for dinner, encouraging our patients to eat tasty food that promotes better health outcomes.
- NYC Care, our program for those who cannot afford or are not eligible for health insurance, hit a milestone of 125,000 members.
- Over 500 patients found permanent housing working with our Housing for Health team this year.
- Newsweek once again ranked NYC Health + Hospitals/Seaview the #1 Nursing Home in New York State. Three of our other skilled nursing facilities ranked in the top ten, and the fifth was ranked in the top 30. Impressive for a state with over 600 nursing homes.
- We successfully advocated for \$95.1 million in City, State, and federal funding for medical equipment and structural upgrades for our facilities.
- Nine new murals can be found around our facilities thanks to the Arts in Medicine department's Community Mural Project.
- We finished converting medical units to psychiatric units after COVID and now have 1,000 psychiatric beds online.
- We broke ground on a new housing development on the NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull campus that will have 93 apartments, including 56 units of supportive housing for our patients.
- We distributed \$1 million in debt relief to 27 behavioral health providers in exchange for a three-year commitment to serving our health system. We expect to continue this program and distribute to more providers this year.

- We launched telehealth medication abortion services through Virtual ExpressCare – becoming the first public health system in the nation to do so.
- We were once again recognized by the American Heart Association and American Medical Association for providing high quality care in several areas, including type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, heart failure, stroke, and resuscitation.
- We expanded our services for survivors of domestic violence by bringing behavioral health services to the City’s domestic violence shelter system, providing on-site services to adults and children. The initiative started in 9 shelters in 2023. We also opened two specialized mental health clinics for survivors at NYC Health + Hospitals/Lincoln and NYC Health + Hospitals/Kings County.
- NYC Health + Hospitals surgical service expanded its DaVinci Surgical Robot program throughout the system. This brings high-quality surgical services to all our patients.
- Our Low Dose CT Lung Cancer Screening Program was initiated at 3 pilot sites. To date, 3,961 patients have been screened. The NYC Health + Hospitals screening rate is 24% of all eligible people, which higher than the national rate of 6%. From an equity lens, 23% were Black, 25% were Hispanic, 24% were White, 26% were Asian, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander.
- The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Team launched a multi-year project with The New York City Administration for Children’s Services and Public Policy Lab to improve referral pathways so we can increase the number of NYC Health + Hospital patient families who receive community-based prevention services and reduce the number of families who are unnecessarily subjected to child abuse investigations.

BROOKLYN NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS

I would be remiss if I didn’t specifically highlight our Brooklyn facilities accomplishments. NYC Health + Hospitals/Kings County, South Brooklyn Health, and Woodhull and Gotham Health sites have contributed to our phenomenal year, too.

NYC Health + Hospitals/Kings County celebrated significant achievements, including:

- The opening of its Behavioral Health Center’s Extended Care Unit in March 2023, for patients who are discharged from psychiatric

inpatient care and want continued support. Patients stay in the ECU for up to 90 days to work on rehabilitation and reintegrating into the community. The ECU at Kings County Hospital joins a successful program at NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue launched in 2020.

- The launch of the Brooklyn Neuroscience Center in January 2023, offering comprehensive care for neurological disorders.
- The launch of its Lifestyle Medicine Program this past November.
- The unveiling of the "We Are Kings" Community Mural, symbolizing the hospital's commitment to our community. The Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund supported the mural, serving as a beacon of hope and resilience, embodying the collective dedication to healing and support.
- In early 2024, the hospital's NICU, CCU, and MICU were honored with the Beacon Award of Excellence, underscoring its unwavering commitment to delivering exceptional patient care across diverse specialties.

NYC Health + Hospitals/South Brooklyn Health has been busy, too. May 7, 2024 marked the one-year anniversary of the opening of the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Hospital, named after one of the most prominent and influential women in American history. Over the past year, South Brooklyn Health:

- It celebrated a significant milestone of being one year free of catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs). This achievement is a testament to the dedication, expertise, and unwavering commitment of the entire team, including physicians, nurses, infection prevention, environmental services, and supply chain.
- It achieved meaningful reductions in falls, pressure injuries and central line bloodstream infections (CLABSIs).
- The hospital's Emergency Department (ED) was the first in the health system to receive the prestigious Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) Lantern Award. This significant honor recognizes the ED nurses' exceptional performance in leadership, practice, education, advocacy, and research.
- It completed over 800 robotic surgeries using the da Vinci Xi Surgical System, since its launch in 2022. The surgical team now provides minimally invasive procedures with improved precision and quicker patient recovery across various specialties.

At **NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull**:

- The hospital launched its Lifestyle Medicine Program in November.
- The ICU received a Gold-level Beacon Award for Nursing Excellence in March 2023.

- The hospital received accreditation for its bariatric surgery program, expanding weight loss options in the community. It also received a certification in Person-Centered Care.
- In December, the hospital hosted *Creating Within*, the first art exhibit for the health system that showcased art by our patients who are cared for at Correctional Health Services alongside art from the health system's own collection.
- The hospital renovated its Fetal Echo Services, the Cardiology Echo Suite, Pulmonary Function Lab, Radiology Unit, a surgical unit, and the Hospital Police Command Center.
- Baby-Friendly USA re-designated the hospital a baby-friendly facility, ensuring that parents with newborns receive the best information about infant-feeding care.
- A new high-tech robot installed late last year, the Ion, allows the hospital to help quickly diagnose potential cancers of the lung.
- Finally, last fall the entire community came together to help the hospital when a storm caused a neighborhood power failure. The hospital safely transferred 116 patients to our other facilities. A week later, after our dedicated facility's team had fixed everything, the hospital's team worked with colleagues to reopen the facility.

And finally, our **NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health** sites have also seen improvements and upgrades for patients:

- At the COVID-19 Center of Excellence at 815 Broadway in Brooklyn, patients can now get MRIs, CTs, and X-rays as part of their comprehensive care.
- At NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health, Cumberland, the site now has an upgraded 3D mammogram machine.

It takes all of us to make NYC Health + Hospitals succeed. And we could not do it without all of you - our patients and patient advocates, community-based organizations, elected officials, and other members of the communities we serve. Thank you for being here tonight and for your support of our essential public health care system.

Now let's proceed to the main purpose of tonight's meeting - to hear from you, members of our community. Your input is so important to the future success of NYC Health + Hospitals. We are ready to listen.

I will now turn to our Deputy General Counsel Ms. Blanche Greenfield to outline the proceeding for tonight's meeting.