



**FY 2025 ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING ~**

**BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025 • 6 PM**

**FORMAT – IN-PERSON**



**Call to Order - 6 PM**

**DR. MICHAEL ESPIRITU**  
Board Member and Manhattan City  
Council Representative

■ **Opening Remarks**

**DR. MITCHELL KATZ, President & CEO**

■ **Report on the  
Health System**

**ANDREA COHEN, ESQ, Moderator**  
Senior Vice President & General Counsel

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



## **SPEAKERS' ADVISORY**

**WELCOME TO THE NEW YORK CITY HEALTH + HOSPITALS FISCAL YEAR 2025 ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING IN THE BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.**

**THIS IS THE SECOND 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.**

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



**NYC Health + Hospitals**  
**Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Public Meeting - Manhattan**  
**Tuesday, March 18, 2025**  
**Report by Dr. Mitchell Katz, President and CEO**

Good evening, I'm Dr. Mitch Katz and I'm a practicing primary care doctor and the President and CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals. This is my eighth year here at the health care system, and I am proud and honored to lead this institution. I don't do this alone, of course. We have thousands of employees 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 organized this meeting, 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 those speaking this evening. Your presence here demonstrates how much you care about New York City's public health care System, the quality of health care in your neighborhood, and the community both inside and outside of our facilities. I appreciate your time and look forward to hearing what you have to say.

My 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 mission and values. This remains core to what we do every day at NYC Health + Hospitals.

Before we begin tonight's meeting, I do want to highlight some of our achievements from this past year.

- Our nursing team has had a phenomenal year. In addition to national recognition and awards, we have hired over 3,600 new union nurses since March 2023, replacing many agency nurses.

- In 2024 we housed over 375 of our patients through our Housing for Health initiative. The initiative has now housed over 1,200 patients since launch.
- US News & World Report, included all 11 of our hospitals in its "Best Hospitals 2024-2025" list, with a special nod to NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst Hospital as a "Best Regional Hospital for Equitable Access." Additionally, Newsweek ranked Seaview the #1 nursing home in New York City.
- All of our hospitals have achieved at least three honors through the American Heart Association Get with the Guidelines and Mission: Lifeline quality programs.
- We continue to be a leader in LGBTQ+ care. All 18 eligible NYC Health + Hospitals facilities earned the "LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Leader" designation by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Healthcare Equality Index.
- Four of our hospitals -- Bellevue, Elmhurst, Lincoln and Woodhull -- were ranked by US News and World Report magazine as high performing for Uncomplicated Pregnancies.
- Our ground-breaking Lifestyle Medicine Program completed its expansion this past year, opening new sites at Elmhurst Hospital; Gotham Health, Vanderbilt; and Lincoln Hospital, for a total of seven sites systemwide that together can serve 4,000 patients a year.
- In 2024 we launched a comprehensive three-year blueprint to strengthen and expand our behavioral health services, funded in part by \$41 million from the state.
- We continue to provide services at our asylum seeker Arrival Center, which has welcomed more than 175,000 individuals from more than 160 countries.
- Our health insurance plan, MetroPlusHealth, continues to grow its membership roles across the five boroughs.
- NYC Health + Hospitals' facilities and engineering teams are working hard to reduce our carbon footprint. This year we installed the first solar panels on the roof of Elmhurst Hospital. This will supplement the power that the Level 1 trauma center uses every day.

- NYC Care, our health care access program for people who are ineligible or cannot afford health insurance, celebrated its five-year anniversary with over 125,000 members enrolled in the program.
- We performed over 10,000 scans for lung cancer in the first two years of the Lung Cancer Screening program. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for both men and women.
- The health care System opened 20 new wellness rooms where staff can decompress during the workday and participate in wellness activities.
- Our Arts in Medicine program continued to beautify our hospitals and create spaces for healing and reflection. Ten new murals were installed this year at our facilities, the newest one just recently at NYC Health + Hospitals/Lincoln.
- Our 250 Community Health Workers have worked with over 25,000 patients. CHWs meet regularly with patients to identify and address barriers to health and well-being, such as housing, financial, food, and legal needs, as well as helping them schedule health care appointments and coordinate transportation.
- Finally, the health care System launched a podcast called The Remedy. Episodes covered everything from the power of primary care to preparing for the next pandemic.

### **MANHATTAN NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

I would be remiss if I didn't specifically highlight our Manhattan facilities accomplishments. NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue, Harlem, and Metropolitan, Carter, Coler, and Gotham Health sites have contributed to our extraordinary year.

#### **NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue Accomplishments**

- The hospital received national accreditation as an Academic Comprehensive Cancer program under the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.
- It unveiled new Mohs micrographic surgery for the treatment of skin cancer.

- It was named to U.S. News & World Report's 2025 Best Hospitals list for excellence in treating heart failure and heart attack and one of the Best Hospitals for Maternity Care.
- The hospital marked its 100th robotic-assisted bronchoscopy, and the first robotic-assisted pediatric urology procedure in the health care System.
- The Pride Health Center staff was named 2024 Winners of Interprofessionalism Humanism in Healthcare Award, given for high impact collaborations between nurses and physicians
- The hospital's Adult Primary Care service, including the Geriatric Medicine team, was designated as an Age-Friendly Health System—Committed to Care Excellence.
- Last year it received \$2M in Federal funding for avian flu preparedness.

**NYC Health + Hospitals/Harlem has had a phenomenal year, too.**

- In July last year, Harlem Hospital launched a state-of-the-art Surgical Retina Service. The innovative service broadens ophthalmological capabilities and enables providers to deliver the gift of sight to patients with complex retinal conditions.
- Harlem Hospital also installed a new computed tomography (CT) scanner to obtain quicker and more accurate diagnostic imaging and improve outcomes for patients.
- And just recently, the hospital was recognized as one of the 2025 Best Hospitals for Black America. Harlem Hospital is one of 76 hospitals to receive the prestigious distinction.

**NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan contributed so much as well.**

- The nurses of the hospital's adult ICU and NICU earned a Gold Beacon Award for nursing excellence.
- The hospital earned a Leap Frog A grade.
- In January, Met performed its 500th robotic procedure.

- In June, it reached a significant milestone, performing its 200th gender-affirming surgery.
- The hospital's Emergency Department was selected as a recipient of the Emergency Nurses Association's 2024 Lantern Award for demonstrating excellence in leadership, practice, education, advocacy and research performance.
- In August, Julian John was appointed the new CEO.
- Two brand-new Ronald McDonald Family Rooms were completed at NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan's Pediatric Clinic.
- This past December, the hospital celebrated the ribbon cutting of a new flood protection system. Embedded in the wall is a new mural by a local artist, which celebrates images of local residents.
- NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan is the only hospital in the System with an FDNY paramedic training program. It just graduated its 9<sup>th</sup> class.

**Our two long term care facilities, NYC Health + Hospitals/Carter and Coler, were also standouts.**

- Both long term care facilities were ranked by Newsweek as top ten in the state out of 600 nursing homes statewide.

**And finally, our NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health facilities are doing amazing for things for their patients.**

- All the Manhattan Gotham Health sites have received exceptional patient experience scores and saw record highs in 2024.
- In 2024, clinical outcomes have shown continued month-over-month improvements, with some of highest-ever outcomes in chronic disease metrics related to hypertension and diabetes in 2024.
- This past October the American Heart Association and the American Medical Association recognized the Gouverneur and Sydenham sites with Gold Plus status for blood pressure, the Gold Award for diabetes, and the Gold Award for cholesterol.

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 General Counsel to outline the proceeding for tonight's meeting.