

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Tom Gray
District Director
Council Member Bill de Blasio
2907 Fort Hamilton Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11218
(718) 854-9791

How can we save Long Island College Hospital?

Brooklyn, NY, October 22, 2008. Continuum Health Partners has submitted plans to close the maternity ward, pediatrics department and dentistry program at Long Island College Hospital and opt out of its contract to operate school-based health clinics in Brooklyn in an effort to reduce costs. Without a sound financial plan for LICH's future and meaningful community involvement in this process, Brooklyn residents have no way of knowing if this is only a cutback in service or the prelude to closing the hospital.

As the population of Downtown Brooklyn is projected to increase by over 24,000 residents over the next four years, Long Island College Hospital will play an increasingly important role in ensuring that Brooklyn residents have access to high quality health care.

Congresswomen Nydia Velazquez and Yvette Clarke, Congressman Ed Towns, Assembly Members Joan Millman, Hakeem Jeffries and Felix Ortiz, Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, Council Members Bill de Blasio, Letitia James and David Yassky, the Cobble Hill Association, the Brooklyn Heights Association, the Boerum Hill Association, and the Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Association, together with the doctors and nurses at LICH, are working to keep Long Island College Hospital as a full-service neighborhood hospital.

If you would like to support our efforts, you can:

1. Sign the petition online: <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/SaveLICH>
2. Send a letter to Governor Paterson's office. Just cut and past from the petition, call 718-854-9791 or email tagray1@gmail.com.

Thank you for your assistance in working to save Long Island College Hospital.