

LONG ISLAND COLLEGE HOSPITAL - FACT SHEET

Long Island College Hospital was founded in 1858, 150 years ago, as a hospital and medical school. It introduced the practice of bedside teaching in the U.S., and was the first American hospital to use stethoscopes and anesthesia.

LICH remained a the Medical School until the 1950's, when it became part of the State University and classroom activities were moved to Downstate Medical Center. Until now, LICH has maintained its reputation as a premier Brooklyn community hospital with a strong academic/teaching hospital affiliation.

But this will not continue under current management.

- In 1998, the LICH Board signed an affiliation agreement with Continuum Health Partners (CHP) in an effort to benefit financially from common purchasing and negotiations with insurance companies. As part of this agreement, CHP promised to provide \$15 million to LICH for primary care development. LICH never received these funds.
- In 1999, Donald and Mildred Othmer donated \$140 million to LICH, the Othmer Bequest. CHP says that most has been used for LICH projects, but hasn't provided reasonable accounting to show it.
- CHP has also sold off \$50 million in LICH real estate – with even more now for sale – without reasonable accounting.
- In 2000-2001, Continuum effectively ended Brooklyn input into its management of LICH by replacing the Board of Directors with its own Manhattan-based Board.
- In 2005, because of the ongoing diversion of funds and resources from LICH to CHP facilities in Manhattan, and the resulting gradual deterioration of LICH, the Medical Staff decided to retain legal counsel.
- In January 2008, the LICH Medical Staff filed official complaints with the NY State Department of Health and the NY State Attorney General, documenting the illegal maneuvers by CHP to take over control of LICH.
- On July 30, CHP announced their plan to close the LICH Obstetrics (Maternity) department. CHP announced they would provide a plan to the State, but have not done so.
- **On September 4, the LICH Medical Staff submitted a detailed restructuring plan to the NY State Health Department that will sever all ties to CHP and return LICH to financial health and local Brooklyn control without closing any services.**
- On September 22, CHP announced their plan to also close the Pediatrics and Dentistry departments, plus four public school clinics.

Elected officials and community leaders have joined in an effort to stop CHP and its apparent effort to close LICH completely.

**We need your support –
Contact your local elected officials and community leaders-
Let them know that LICH must survive!**

www.LICHmedicalstaff.org