



Making Health Equality a Reality

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Bronx Westchester AHEC • Bronx Defenders • Church of Christ the King • Church Alive Development Corporation • Columbia Human Rights Clinic • Concerned Residents Organization • Groundswell Project at King of Glory Tabernacle Church • Highbridge Community Life Center • Iglesia First Pentecostal Church of Jerome • Institute for Family Health • Leukemia and Lymphoma Society • MARC After School Program, Inc. • Metro NY Health Care for All Campaign • Misión San Juan Bautista • Neighborhood SHOPP • New York Immigration Coalition • New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI) • Grand Concourse Seventh Day Adventist Church • Sikh Coalition • Temple of the Living God • Urban Justice Center • World Evangelical Deliverance Center

List in formation as of 6/5/08

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release: June 5, 2008-

EMBARGOED UNTIL June 9, 2008

HUNDREDS OF BRONX RESIDENTS, RELIGIOUS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS, HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND HEALTH ADVOCATES RALLY TO END DISCRIMINATION IN HEALTH CARE

COMMUNITY-BASED COALITION TO ANNOUNCE FILING A CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT AGAINST FOUR MAJOR MEDICAL CENTERS IN NEW YORK CITY; ALLEGE SEGREGATION IN OUTPATIENT HEALTH CARE

On Monday, June 9th, Bronx Health REACH, a coalition of 40 community and faith-based organizations dedicated to eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities, will file a civil rights complaint with the New York State Attorney General's Office, alleging that several major hospitals in New York City discriminate on the basis of insurance and race in the delivery of outpatient health services. The complaint, to be filed by New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI) on behalf of Bronx Health REACH, documents how private hospitals in New York City operate two separate and unequal systems of outpatient care within the same health facility in violation of federal, state and local civil rights laws.

Individuals with private insurance are treated in hospitals' "faculty practices," while uninsured individuals and Medicaid recipients are seen in hospital clinics, where they receive more fragmented care from less experienced doctors. Since more blacks and Latinos in New York City receive Medicaid or are uninsured, separation of patients in this manner is a form of discrimination based on race and ethnicity. A rally to announce the filing of the complaint will take place at 10:30 AM on the steps of Bronx Borough Hall.

When: Monday, June 9 at 10:30 am

Where: Steps of Bronx Borough Hall (161st St and the Grand Concourse)

Visuals: Hundreds of community residents holding signs and banners, signing petitions

Speakers: Patients impacted by the problem; community and religious leaders; physician; health care lawyer

***** Photo Opportunity *****