

Keeping Brooklyn Healthy

▶ **TBHC'S COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

▶ **GOOD NEIGHBORS INITIATIVE**

▶ **NEW CHAIR OF MEDICINE**

▶ **CHURCH AVENUE CENTER OPENS**



TBHC Launches Important Services

See page 5 for
our new programs

MESSAGE FROM OUR HOSPITAL'S PRESIDENT & CEO



The fall and early holiday season ushered in positive changes for The Brooklyn Hospital Center (TBHC), all of which contributed to our Blueprint for Financial and

Operational Success and our 2020 Vision.

Recently we were named a Silver-level recipient and made the Heart Failure Honor Roll for implementing the latest research-based treatment guidelines for heart failure patients by the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines® (GWTG) program. Additionally, we were named a Gold Plus Achievement-level recipient for stroke care and made the Honor Roll Elite from The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's GWTG.

TBHC also improved by two grade levels in The Leapfrog Patient Safety Group's 2016 hospital ratings, and named a "High Performing Hospital" for heart failure care from *U.S. News and World Report*. TBHC has also been designated a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology. As you see, we are committed to quality.

We have also expanded our services to include two important new programs. TBHC's Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center provides access to those struggling with chronic wounds. We also launched a hospitalist program that ensures a coordinated experience for all inpatients. I am excited about these services and urge you to read about them on page 5.

In these pages, you'll also meet our new Chair of the Department of Medicine, James Gasperino, MD, and learn about a new health center we opened in Flatbush. Finally, I want to take a moment to thank the Brooklyn Hospital Foundation for the successful 2016 Founders Ball. Everyone had a terrific time and funds were raised for programs such as the ones featured here in this issue.


Gary G. Terrinoni

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG

Join TBHC's Community Advisory Board and the First Calvary Baptist Church for some old-fashioned carols! Refreshments will be served.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15
11:30 am to 1:30 pm

The Brooklyn Hospital Center Lobby
121 DeKalb Avenue
Downtown Brooklyn

ANNUAL HEALTH FAIR

Screenings and information on blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose and more from TBHC nurses and technicians.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17
9 am to 3 pm

St. Mary Church of God
378 Throop Street
Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn

MUSLIM COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

Screenings and information on blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes and more from TBHC nurses and technicians.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23
11 am to 3 pm

Masjid Al-Taqwa
1266 Bedford Avenue
Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn

BIRTHING CLASSES AND TOURS

TBHC's Childbirth Center offers birthing and baby classes, as well as Labor & Delivery tours.

CALL 718-250-8400 for more information and dates.

The Brooklyn Hospital Center
4th Floor
121 DeKalb Avenue
Downtown Brooklyn

TBHC & YOU, GOOD NEIGHBORS

TBHC enjoyed a number of events and initiatives, many of which brought us out into the community or brought the community in to meet us.



LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

Elected officials and community, healthcare and corporate leaders joined TBHC this summer as part of our "Good Neighbors" campaign. The goal is for TBHC to work with the community to best advocate for our neighbors. Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, US Congressman representing the 8th Congressional District (shown above) was keynote speaker.



GOOD NEIGHBORS

WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

TBHC strives to be a good neighbor to the residents we serve and provide beneficial services. We meet this goal by participating in events and creating partnerships throughout the borough.

The hospital's new campaign is *Keeping Brooklyn Healthy for 170 Years and Counting!* To accomplish this mission and build on our long history of serving the borough, we take our commitment to our communities seriously. Our Community Affairs department coordinates the many events we host and participate in, such as some of the important (and fun!) experiences that took place this summer (see photos below). We also offer lectures and health fairs throughout the community, as you'll see in our **community calendar** on the previous page.

TBHC also keeps abreast on what our neighbors need by way of clinical services. One effective assessment tool is our **Community Service Plan**, which helps TBHC identify specific

community health needs, create strategies to address those needs and consider effective ways to collaborate with community partners to do both. This fall, TBHC submitted its full, three-year Community Service Plan to the State of New York and to the federal government.

The **Community Advisory Board**, a diverse group of individuals with strong ties to the community, is another essential way TBHC reaches out to the community. This board meets regularly with senior administration. Each member has a keen understanding of both the community and the hospital. The board assists us with outreach efforts and helps us cultivate and maintain relationships with neighborhood leaders, community-based organizations and civic groups.

MURAL IN THE PARK

For our 4th Annual Day of Community Service, more than 30 Brooklyn Hospital Center staff, community members and friends joined the Fort Greene Park Conservancy and local artist Mackenzie Younger. The project was to paint a mural (which Mr. Younger designed) that hangs on the park wall by the hospital and depicts the Civil War.



WWE VISITED US AGAIN

TBHC enjoyed an exciting August morning when World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) stars and friends visited the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology unit. WWE was in town for the SummerSlam at Barclay's Center.



BABY HUGS

Alpha Kappa Alpha Psi Lambda Omega Society created this program to give out blankets to infants who are in need of special support. The Society came to visit us late summer and gifted NICU parents with their lovely blankets.



BROOKLYN TECH SUMMER INTERNS

TBHC welcomed 10 students from nearby Brooklyn Tech High School. The IT whiz kids proved to be invaluable in helping the desktop support and computer network teams.



NEW CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

TBHC looks forward to Dr. Gasperino's contributions on issues of the patient experience, quality improvement, safety and more.

TBHC is pleased to welcome James Gasperino, MD, PhD, MPH, as Chair, Department of Medicine; Vice President for Critical Care, Perioperative and Hospitalist Medicine; and Associate Chief Medical Officer.

As Department of Medicine Chair, Dr. Gasperino is responsible for overseeing the patient experience, physicians, and medical residents and fellows of all the department's divisions: allergy, cardiology, dermatology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, general medicine, geriatrics, hematology/oncology, hospitalist medicine, infectious diseases, nephrology, neurology, pulmonary medicine, rehabilitation services and rheumatology. In his Vice President role, he is responsible for the delivery of critical care across all departments, including the neurologic, surgical and medical intensive care units.

Dr. Gasperino's focus encompasses several departments in overseeing the perioperative (pre-surgical, surgical and post-surgical phases) and hospitalist medicine (see next page for more). Finally, as Associate Chief Medical Officer, he



supports the Chief Medical Officer in credentialing physicians and providing clinical oversight for the hospital.

"In my new position, I plan to capitalize on TBHC's many strengths to make it the premiere hospital in Brooklyn for high quality, evidence-based, patient-centered care. Our whole organization is going to be focused on the patient experience and delivering services with an emphasis on inter-professional teams at all levels of care," says Dr. Gasperino.

Dr. Gasperino previously served as Hospital Director of Critical Care Services and Chief of the Division of Critical Care Medicine with NewYork-Presbyterian/Queens. There, he implemented a number of important programs, including transforming intensive care services to a model that embraced patient safety, quality and cost reduction. He implemented a high-intensity ICU staffing model, endorsed by the Leapfrog Group for Patient Safety, and he designed a critical care outreach service that provided ICU resources to patients located anywhere in the hospital.

TBHC AT CHURCH AVENUE

The address is different, but the care remains the same. The health center's new location at 2244 Church Avenue offers primary health care and additional services for your family's needs.

Just steps away from its former site, the relocated Church Avenue Center offers more space, in a new building providing greater access to care. The Center provides the same comprehensive primary care as always, with the addition of several new services, including dental, podiatry and gynecology care. Primary care includes preventive care and screenings and assistance with behavioral health and social services needs. The Center cares for the whole person, and provides management of chronic health conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma, obesity and HIV.

The Church Avenue Center coordinates high quality health care and takes responsibility arranging care with other health professionals when necessary, making

sure all caregivers are aware of a patient's medical history, prescriptions, lab test results and radiology images. We offer same-day appointments whenever possible and access to after-hours care. Education, counseling and self-management options are routinely provided and explanations are made in an easy-to-understand way. Importantly, the staff is committed to caring for its patients with respect, kindness and sensitivity to religious and cultural beliefs.

There will be a series of events celebrating the formal opening in February. Keep your eyes out for a ribbon-cutting and more. The center is located at 2244 Church Avenue in Flatbush/Ditmas Park. Call 718-826-5656 for hours and more information or visit tbh.org/locate-center.

TWO NEW SERVICES AT TBHC

A Hospitalist Service coordinates in-hospital care, and our Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center launched to meet the needs of those with chronic wounds.

TBHC'S HOSPITALIST

SERVICE is dedicated to providing high quality, comprehensive care to patients during their hospital stay. The hospitalist team is responsible for the patient experience from admission to discharge. The team cares for patients who either do not have a personal doctor or have a doctor who has arranged for the hospitalist team to oversee the in-hospital experience. The hospitalists work closely with the physician to communicate the status of the patient.

"The hospitalist visits patients and works with specialists, ancillary services like radiology or the lab, nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, nurses, and social workers," says Jonathan Martinez-Dalmasi, MD, director of the hospitalist team, shown above. "We make sure all patients are seamlessly discharged back to their own doctor's care."

Specific goals of the service are: early discharges within the day ("home by noon"), decreased length of stay and readmission rates, and improved patient outcomes and patient satisfaction. "This new hospitalist service is important because it allows more patients to have a physician advocate on site in the hospital overseeing their care during their stay," adds Dr. Martinez-Dalmasi.

We also speak your language! The hospitalist team collectively speaks Spanish, Chinese (Cantonese and Taisan), Russian, Urdu, Hindi and Farsi. Our hospitalists are board certified in internal medicine and family medicine. The team is available on site at all times, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



TBHC'S WOUND CARE & HYPERBARIC CENTER

opened in late summer. This Center delivers comprehensive care, coordinating traditional and advanced therapies that aid and accelerate the healing process, including:

- Hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) therapy, which provides a chamber for patients to breathe high-pressured oxygen. This simple, non-invasive and painless treatment causes an

increase in plasma and tissue oxygen, which stimulates the body's natural ability to fight infection. Because of this effect, doctors often recommend HBO for chronic wound care as both a primary therapy and in conjunction with other therapies. Hyperbaric oxygen can also be used in treating stroke, some brain trauma and neurological conditions.

- Debridement, which is the removal of damaged tissue.
- Negative pressure wound therapy, which uses a vacuum dressing to promote healing.
- Bioengineered tissue alternatives.
- Specialty dressings and wraps.
- Compression therapy.
- Topical medications.

TBHC's Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center treats all chronic wounds associated with, but not limited to: diabetic, venous, arterial and pressure ulcers; surgical, traumatic, radiation and crush wounds; and post-surgical flap or graft wounds.

For more about TBHC's Wound Care & Hyperbaric Center, call 914-372-3150 or visit tbh.org/wound-care.

LET'S CONNECT! There are lots of ways to connect with The Brooklyn Hospital Center on line, whether it be through one of the popular social media sites or our own website. Visit us at:



tbh.org



Facebook/[brooklynhospitalcenter](https://www.facebook.com/brooklynhospitalcenter)



@[bkhospital](https://twitter.com/bkhospital)



@[bk_hospital](https://www.instagram.com/bk_hospital)

NEW TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

Brooklyn is known for its great restaurants, beautiful blocks and friendly neighbors. Moving here also means reconsidering the best and most convenient way to take care of your family's wellness. The Brooklyn Hospital Center can help, providing you with top-notch medical services, right in your own backyard.

**Looking for a primary care physician?
A good OB/GYN? A great pediatrician?
A wide range of specialists?**

Call 1-877-TBHC-DOC to find the right doctors for you.
Or visit www.tbh.org/find-physician to request an appointment on line.

While you're on our web site, learn more about The Brooklyn Hospital Center, Keeping Brooklyn Healthy for 170 Years and Counting!

