

Resolution endorsing increased support for NYC Health & Hospitals/Bellevue in State and City Budgets

WHEREAS, NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue serves as a tertiary care hospital for the entire New York City Health + Hospitals Corporation as well as serving the local communities, including the one encompassed by Community Board 2, Manhattan;

WHEREAS, NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue provided care to 520,000 outpatients and 110,000 emergency room patients in the past year;

WHEREAS, NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue provided access to healthcare providers via telehealth to 105,770 patients who had issues with transportation, childcare coverage, work requirements, illness or disability;

WHEREAS, NYC Health + Hospitals believes that everyone, regardless of income, insurance status, or immigration status, is entitled to care, and as such, NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue is a safety net hospital in which the payor for approximately 60% of patients is Medicaid;

WHEREAS, Medicaid reimburses only about 70% of the actual cost of care, leading to substantial financial pressure on safety net hospitals;

WHEREAS, federal and state supplemental Medicaid payments and New York City currently cover the funding shortfall for NYC safety net hospitals;

WHEREAS, H.R.1, the so-called One Big Beautiful Bill, aims to cut more than \$1 trillion dollars in healthcare spending over the next decade, the majority from Medicaid;

WHEREAS, the continued functioning of NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue is critical to residents of Manhattan because Bellevue delivers care to uninsured and Medicaid patients at a scale unmatched by NYC private hospitals, carries major trauma and behavioral-health responsibilities, stabilizes the city's public hospital network, and provides essential surge capacity during public health emergencies;

WHEREAS, the NYC Health & Hospitals/Bellevue Community Advisory Board requested support from CB2 to strengthen Bellevue's position in both State and City budget processes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 2, Manhattan, supports the positions of the NYC Health & Hospitals/Bellevue Community Advisory Board asks that our elected officials advocate for the following:

- **Make permanent the Fee-for-Service Upper Payment Limit** (instead of expiring March 31, 2026), which provides an enhanced Medicaid reimbursement rate that better reflects the actual cost and utilization of service; and
- **Make permanent the telehealth parity law** (instead of expiring March 31, 2026), which increases access by enabling Bellevue to continue to provide telehealth care to vulnerable patients; and
- **Support an overall increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates for safety net providers** because reimbursements that better reflect the actual cost of delivering care is the best method to address disparities among hospitals and to promote health equity.