



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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contact:

Atiya Butler, Assistant Director, External Affairs

718.334.1259

[atiya.butler@nychhc.org](mailto:atiya.butler@nychhc.org)

### Elmhurst Hospital Center Goes Green

In honor of Earth Week 2010, Elmhurst Hospital Center (EHC) would like to share the important steps we are taking to reduce our carbon footprint and create a healthier community. These measures, part of our ongoing “**EHC Goes Green**” initiative, include:

- ❖ **Greening Information Technology**—EHC’s Information Systems Department has been working to reduce the number of physical servers needed to run hospital computers. In the future, this will lead to a reduction in operational costs and electricity usage.
- ❖ **Using energy-efficient lighting**—Artificial lighting accounts for a large chunk of electricity use at EHC. Where appropriate, energy-saving light bulbs and fixtures that use at least 2/3rds less energy than regular lighting are being used. Other departments use motion sensor lights that automatically shut off when they’re not needed. EHC has also started to replace night lights in all in-patient areas with high-efficiency LED light fixtures. The use of these fixtures not only reduces energy consumption but also provides safety and comfort for patients.
- ❖ **Using green cleaning products**—Elmhurst Hospital uses green-certified products manufactured by JohnsonDiversey™. These products include a non-ammoniated glass and multi-purpose cleaner, a neutral citrus cleaner, and an eco-friendly bathroom cleaner and scale remover. In the future, EHC will continue to research other green products, such as floor finish, floor stripper, biodegradable toilet tissue, hand towels, and waste receptacle liners.
- ❖ **Planning for a greener future**—EHC is incorporating a green vision into our future. Upcoming capital projects, including a new Women’s Health Center and the expansion and renovation of the Emergency Department, will include sustainable materials for green building efficiency. Elmhurst Hospital Center is

also participating in PlaNYC, Mayor Michael Bloomberg's sustainability initiative designed to reduce New York City's greenhouse gas emissions by up to 30% over the next decade.

For more information about Elmhurst Hospital Center and our “**EHC Goes Green**” initiative, please contact Atiya Butler at 718.334.1259 or send an e-mail to [atiya.butler@nychhc.org](mailto:atiya.butler@nychhc.org).

## **About Elmhurst Hospital**

Elmhurst Hospital Center (EHC) is the major tertiary care provider in the borough of Queens. The hospital is comprised of 545 beds and is a Level I Trauma Center, an Emergency Heart Care Station and a 911 Receiving Hospital. It is the premiere health care organization for key areas such as Surgery, Cardiology, Women's Health, Pediatrics, Rehabilitation Medicine, Renal and Mental Health Services.

Elmhurst Hospital Center serves an area of approximately one million people. This community is recognized as the most ethnically diverse in the world. Last year, EHC received 693,600 ambulatory care visits as well as receiving 130,042 Emergency Room visits making it one of the busiest ERs in New York City. Over 4,200 babies were delivered at Elmhurst last year alone-the most in this region. Ensuring accessible health care is our priority.