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**Metropolitan Hospital Center Community Advisory Board Hosts 2013 Legislative Breakfast  
Congressman Rangel and NYS Assemblyman Rodriguez Among Attendees**

New York (March 22, 2013) — The Metropolitan Hospital Center Community Advisory Board (CAB) hosted local elected officials, their representatives, healthcare advocates, and community residents at its annual legislative forum on Friday, March 22. Congressman Charles Rangel and New York State Assembly Member Robert Rodriguez reported on how public health issues are being addressed by the federal and state government, respectively.

The theme of this year’s event was *Working Together We Move Forward*. Attendees discussed legislative priorities and heard presentations on the NY State budget and its impact on the 1.3 million men, women and children served by New York City public hospitals, with specific focus on Metropolitan Hospital and the communities it serves.

Congressman Rangel and Assemblyman Robert Rodriguez shared their perspectives on a number of topics including the Affordable Care Act, budget issues, and pending legislation. They each also graciously took numerous questions from event attendees. Representatives from the offices of Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, NYC Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito, Community Board 11, and the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) also addressed guests gathered for the breakfast.

“The Legislative Breakfast is an opportunity for the hospital’s stakeholders to discuss how HHC’s mission is being supported by decision makers at all levels of government,” said CAB President Jose M. Grajales. “It is also an opportunity to showcase the hospital to our community. I am very pleased to report that this year’s Legislative Breakfast was a complete success on both objectives.”

**PHOTOS**



Congressman Charles Rangel addresses attendees at Metropolitan Hospital Center Community Advisory Board annual legislative forum, at Metropolitan Hospital, Friday, March 22, 2013 (photo by Damien Kim).



Metropolitan Hospital Center Community Advisory Board President Jose M. Grajales, Metropolitan Hospital Center Executive Director Meryl Weinberg, and New York State Assemblyman Robert Rodriguez at MHC CAB legislative forum, Friday, March 22, 2013 (photo by Damien Kim).

The **Metropolitan Hospital Center Community Advisory Board (CAB)** serves as a link between the hospital and the community, facilitating access to quality healthcare for those communities served by Metropolitan Hospital Center. The CAB is committed to obtaining information regarding the hospital's needs, service areas and programs; providing a vital perspective on the development of facility plans and meaningful programs to meet the community's needs; and establishing and maintaining communications with all organizations within the service communities regarding Metropolitan Hospital Center's needs.

**Metropolitan Hospital Center (MHC)** is the community hospital of choice for residents of East Harlem, northern Manhattan and neighboring communities. Metropolitan provides culturally-sensitive care in a welcoming and hospitable setting, emphasizing primary care medicine and utilizing the latest advances in medical science. Metropolitan Hospital Center is part of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC), the largest municipal hospital and health care system in the country. For more information, please visit [www.nyc.gov/mhc](http://www.nyc.gov/mhc)

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