



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 1, 2012

Contact:

Atiya Butler, Assistant Director, External Affairs

718.334.1259

[butlerat@nychhc.org](mailto:butlerat@nychhc.org)

**ELMHURST HOSPITAL CENTER CELEBRATES 180<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

*Awards dinner and fund-raiser for new Women's Healthcare Services Pavilion to feature tributes to dynamic leaders in the fields of business, media and healthcare*

Elmhurst, NY – Elmhurst Hospital Center (EHC) will be hosting a gala in honor of its 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Thursday, May 17, 2012 from 6:30 pm to 11:30 pm at Terrace on the Park in Flushing, New York. Proceeds from the event will benefit EHC's new Women's Healthcare Services Pavilion, a state-of-the-art outpatient facility scheduled to open in the spring of 2013.

Honorees include Dr. Jasmin Moshirpur, Regional Medical Director of the Queens Health Network and Dean at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Rossana Rosado, CEO and Publisher of *El Diario La Prensa*, Eileen Auld, New York State Director of Citigroup Community Development, and Patricia Wang, President and CEO of HealthFirst.

Alan Aviles, President the Health and Hospitals Corporation of New York City, will receive special recognition for his efforts to spearhead patient safety initiatives within the nation's largest municipal healthcare organization.

The elegant evening will begin with cocktails at 6:30 PM, followed by dinner and an awards ceremony at 7:30. Special features of this milestone event, hosted by NY1 Anchor Cheryl Wills, are a silent auction and live musical entertainment provided by smooth jazz artists

Audrey Silver and the Elements Jazz Trio. Tickets are \$175 each and can be purchased either by calling (718) 334-3845 or by visiting [www.elmhursthospitalauxiliary.org](http://www.elmhursthospitalauxiliary.org).

Over the course of almost two centuries, Elmhurst Hospital Center has evolved into a Level I Trauma Center that serves as one of New York City's busiest medical facilities. The hospital has won numerous awards for providing quality medical care in key areas such as Cardiology, Emergency Medicine, Women's Health, Pediatrics, and Rehabilitation Medicine.

"Since its inception 180 years ago, Elmhurst Hospital Center has delivered vital healthcare services to diverse groups of people—from Civil War veterans, to New York City's poor, to newly-arrived immigrants," says Chris Constantino, Elmhurst Hospital Center's Executive Director. "As we enter the next phase of our history and expand to meet the demands of our growing patient population, we will continue our commitment to excellence and our ongoing mission to provide safe, easily-accessible, high-quality healthcare to all those who need it."

The roots of what would become Elmhurst Hospital can be traced back to 1832 and a facility on Blackwell's Island (later known as Roosevelt Island). Originally called Charity Hospital, it was rebuilt following an 1858 fire. In 1862, the City of New York negotiated a contract with the United States government to provide care to wounded Union soldiers. By 1870, the hospital's name had been changed again to City Hospital and the building expanded to include a full-fledged maternity unit that developed safer methods to control puerperal or "childbed" fever and substantially reduce maternal deaths.

As the 20<sup>th</sup> century dawned, the hospital would retain its role as a pioneering healthcare organization. It treated victims of the 1918 flu pandemic, developed innovative lab research techniques, and established America's first children's healthcare center. Relocating from Roosevelt Island to Queens in 1957, City Hospital was renamed Elmhurst Hospital and in 1964 became affiliated with Mount Sinai Hospital and School of Medicine. Since then Elmhurst Hospital Center has undergone several expansion projects and is now one of New York City's premier acute care facilities.

For additional information about attending EHC's 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration or to become an event sponsor, please contact Atiya Butler, Assistant Director of External Affairs, at (718) 334-1259 or by email at [butlerat@nychhc.org](mailto:butlerat@nychhc.org).