

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ELMHURST HOSPITAL CENTER'S ANNUAL TURKEY DRIVE, 2013

Elmhurst Hospital staff aids over ninety needy families during Thanksgiving

(**Elmhurst, NY**) Each Thanksgiving many Elmhurst Hospital Center (EHC) patients and their families get to enjoy a complete turkey dinner thanks to the hospital's Annual Turkey Drive, which is co-sponsored by the Departments of Social Work and Engineering and Maintenance. This year was no exception. Ninety-two families in need who were identified by hospital social workers met the requirements for assistance.

Elmhurst Hospital's Turkey drive initiative began in 1998 when the Department of Social Work and the Division of Engineering and Maintenance came together to provide turkey dinners and food during the holiday season for five families in need. Since then the staff has continued the annual tradition of reaching out to the community during the holiday season.

This year the departments' employees put together boxes of turkey stuffing, cans of cranberry sauce, sweet peas, kernel corn, mixed vegetables, turkey gravy, cut sweet potatoes, bags of potatoes, apple juice and large turkeys for a complete thanksgiving dinner.

"This is an opportunity for Elmhurst Hospital Center to reach out to the community," said Wayne Zimmermann, EHC's Chief Operating Officer. "This turkey drive supports our patient care initiatives and is an extension of what the EHC team continues to strive for every day. We believe that our patients are a vital part of our community and we try to make Thanksgiving a happy day for all."

For more information about EHC's Annual Turkey Drive, please contact Shruti Kumar, Assistant Director at External Affairs, by email at kumars6@nychhc.org or by phone at 718-334-5208.

About Elmhurst Hospital Center

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. Almost 3,500 delivered at Elmhurst last year alone-the most in this region. Ensuring accessible health care is our priority.