



# **Count Me In FOR OUR PATIENTS**

Management has recently made the decision to close 12W Medical Surgical unit (25 bed capacity) at the Brooklyn VA. Management's decision to close 12W will cut inpatient Medical Surgical beds by 35%. It will cut access for veterans. It will cut nursing staff, which is already severely short staffed. The decision to close 12W will put veterans at risk. Now is the time for doctors, caregivers and veterans to come together and tell the VA not to put veterans at risk and keep

## **WE WILL BE THERE ON JUNE**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm • Brooklyn**

together with my fellow RNs, doctors, caregivers, and veterans to demand  
I will join with veterans, doctors and my fellow nurses and coworkers to  
informational leafleting to call attention to management's decision to close

**VA NEW YORK HARBOR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM**

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**TOWN HALL MEETING WITH DIRECTOR  
MARTINA PARAUDA**

**DATE: Wednesday, June 17, 2015**

**TIME: 2:00PM – 3:00PM**

**LOCATION: Brooklyn Campus  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Assembly Room**

**SCROLL DOWN FOR ANNOUNCEMENT**

**\*OPEN TO ALL VETERANS\***

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Dear Brooklyn VA Patients and Families.

On July 1, 2015, we will lose approximately 35 acute care ("Inpatient") beds at the Brooklyn VA Medical Center. This decision was made based solely on trying to save a few dollars. We believe this is a terrible decision and it may lead to significantly negative effects on our ability to provide you with the highest quality healthcare when you need it most; that is when you are hospitalized.

Closing 12-West will make us lose approximately 1/3 of our inpatient beds and leave us with only 45 beds to serve all of our veterans who require inpatient medical care. The expected immediate consequences of closing 12-West are:

- 1) If you need to be hospitalized and no beds are available, then you may spend an extended amount of time (hours to a day or more) in the Emergency Department.
- 2) Or you may be transferred to the Manhattan VA Medical Center. This would affect our ability to provide continuous uninterrupted care for our patients that we know best.
- 3) Tests, procedures, and surgeries may be delayed, cancelled, or transferred to other facilities if inpatient beds are not readily available to monitor patients. Again, we want to continue to provide care to our patients rather than send them to other providers or facilities.

Our mission has always been to provide our Veterans and Service Men & Women with the highest quality primary, specialty, and acute care that they deserve and expect. We believe that closing 12-West will affect our ability to continue to care for our sickest patients in a timely manner. Your access to necessary and safe inpatient services may be significantly compromised.

**You do NOT deserve this!**

**We need your help to STOP THE CLOSURE OF 12-WEST.**

**Speak up. Only your voices will lead to a change.**

**Call administration, your senator and congressmen, local officials and the Veteran Service Organizations**