



Greater New York Hospital Association

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GNYHA Section on Children's Health Applauds Governor Spitzer's CHP Funding Proposal

New Work Group Will Offer Collective Advocacy Voice for Institutions that Provide Care to Children

January 18, 2008... In its first official action, the Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA) Section on Children's Health applauds Governor Spitzer's decision to expand Child Health Plus (CHP) funding in his proposed 2008-09 Executive Budget. The new advocacy group is committed to working with the Executive Branch and the New York State Legislature to ensure that the CHP eligibility expansion passed last year but rejected by the Bush Administration will finally result in coverage for more New York children.

The January 2008 launch of the Section on Children's Health marks the first time GNYHA has convened a group focused exclusively on institutions that address the special health care needs of children. The group's members represent the entire continuum of children's health care in New York, from acute care hospitals to long term care and rehabilitation facilities to institutions that offer very specialized services, such as care for children with HIV/AIDS. The Section on Children's Health's goal is to ensure that the special needs of children's health care institutions have a voice in Albany and Washington.

"The GNYHA Section on Children's Health and its members are committed to working at both the State and Federal level to ensure that children have meaningful access to affordable care at institutions dedicated to their specialized health care needs," said GNYHA President Kenneth E. Raske. "In launching this initiative to promote and protect children's access to the health care they need and deserve, we are affirming that New York's children are its most valuable and precious resource."

In addition to the inaugural 13 member institutions, GNYHA has also created a standing position on the Section for the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI), the national trade association for children's health care institutions. Through this collaborative effort, GNYHA will enhance the ability of New York's children's hospitals and long term care providers to influence public policy makers, advance access and quality of care and promote financial sustainability.

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Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA) is a trade association representing more than 250 not-for-profit hospitals and long-term care institutions, both voluntary and public, in the New York metropolitan area. The GNYHA Section on Children's Health is a workgroup within GNYHA that launched in January 2008 with 13 members: Blythedale Children's Hospital, Elizabeth Seton Pediatric Center, Incarnation Children's Center, Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, LIJ-Schenider Children's Hospital, Maimonides Infants & Children's, Maria Fareri Children's at Westchester Medical Center, Morgan Stanley Children's at New York-Presbyterian, NYU Department of Pediatrics, The Children's Hospital at Montefiore, St. Mary's Hospital for Children, Winthrop University Hospital, and Women's & Children's Hospital of Buffalo (Kaleida).