



THE WTC RESPONDER

Spring 2009

HEALTH WATCH

Long Island Clinical Center

Sites in both Suffolk and Nassau Counties

Islandia: 1345 Motor Pkwy, 1st Floor ★ East Meadow: Nassau University Medical Center, 2201 Hempstead Tpk ★ Hicksville: 380 S. Broadway

The Long Island Clinic:

A dedicated team of professionals serving you

Our energetic staff of physicians, nurses, social workers and support staff dedicate their days toward making your experience with us effective, easy and informative. They strive to do this work compassionately and competently. Many work behind the scenes to ensure each of you are treated with the care, professionalism and respect you deserve.

We would like to utilize a small section of each newsletter to introduce and highlight members of our staff permitting you to get to know us a little better! In today's newsletter, we wish to highlight our Clinical Administrative Manager, Sammietta Raye, MHS and our newest social worker, Michelle Hart, LCSW.

While coordinating our clinical operations for the past 2.5 years, Sammietta Raye has had a significant impact with both staff and patients. Her demeanor is always pleasant, and her approach professional. It is obvious that she truly cares about our patients and tries to promote that level of concern at each of our clinic sites. If a problem arises, she is always willing to go the extra step necessary to ensure patients' needs are met as quickly and effectively as possible.

Prior to coming to this program, Ms. Raye held the position of Clinical

Administrative Manager at one of the busiest clinics at Stony Brook University since 1994. Her background in caregiver/human services has guided her management of our clinical sites.

Her priority is to meet organizational mandates, but more importantly, to pursue the mission of providing excellent health care to our WTC responder patients. Ms. Raye believes the WTC program is extremely important and states she is very proud to play a role in helping the program effectively assist patients with their various health needs.

We also announce the arrival of our newest social worker Michelle Hart, LCSW. Michelle is part of the medical team at our Hicksville clinic. She joined our team in November 2008. Ms. Hart's expertise is working with survivors of violent and/or traumatic events and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). In addition to her work at the WTC program, she teaches courses at Hofstra University on Family, Child and Community Violence and Health Issues & Counseling Interventions. Michelle Hart enjoys working at our Hicksville clinic and finds helping patients cope with their health symptoms as well as dealing with the psychological impact on responders to be the most satisfying part of her job.

NEW CLINIC IN HICKSVILLE!

In November our Hicksville clinic opened its doors to patients. It has been a huge success!

This clinic is conveniently located between the LIE and Southern State Parkway. It complements our existing site at NUMC and has permitted us to double the number of patients we care for in Nassau County. Dr. Llobet, Michelle Hart, LCSW, Eliza Marcus, M.Ed, Suzanne Fannon, LPN, Ilene Weisswange, LPN, and office staff Lisa Smith, Janet Miles and Diana Arce make a great team.

AND we have had very good feedback from our patients. As one patient stated: "The people here are friendly, kind and professional. They listen to you. It's nice to feel like a person and not a number. I thank them".

If you live or work near Hicksville, please mention it to our staff when we call to schedule your next monitoring exam.

Monitoring and Treatment services available in Islandia, East Meadow and Hicksville.
For additional information, please call: 631-855-1200 or visit www.wtcexams.org.

Educating medical students about 9/11: Learning up close and personal

Benjamin Luft, MD, Director and Principal Investigator of the Long Island WTC Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program and a professor at Stony Brook University, knew that medical students could benefit professionally and personally by knowing more about the human impact of the WTC disaster. He developed a multi-disciplinary seminar on the effects of working at the WTC site for responders entitled: 9/11: The Anatomy of a Health Care Disaster.



To Schedule an Appointment at any of our three locations: Islandia, East Meadow or Hicksville, please call: 631-855-1200. We offer some evening appointments and periodic Saturdays for your convenience.

Ten Stony Brook medical students participated in this 8 week seminar. The students looked not only at the psychological and physical conditions of many responders, but also at the difficulty ill responders face in

receiving compensation and medical treatment. Experts in internal medicine, mental health, religious counseling, and disability law, all of whom have worked closely with WTC workers, addressed the seminar on how their specialties can help the diverse types of problems responders may face. First responders also came to discuss with the students their personal experiences and concerns associated with working at the site.

Finally, the seminar examined lingering questions about the motivations and conduct of the fast recovery effort, and about what lessons the WTC recovery has for responses to future disasters. After hearing many personal accounts, the medical students reflected in journal writings on how they as physicians can treat patients like WTC responders with the awareness and compassion they need.