We work at HHC facilities and hospitals because we believe in the mission of health care for all and equal access to timely, affordable and quality health care. As front-line doctors we want a HHC system that works for our patients and the communities we serve and that we feel proud to work in. We put patients first and place our patients at the center of everything we do.

We know from meeting with our members and the various surveys we have done that we need to have more input with HHC and the affiliates to be able to deliver the highest quality care to our patients and communities. And, HHC needs us to survive and thrive in the future. We also want more communication, education and training on the various on-going changes and reforms in healthcare on how this impacts our ability to practice and why it is important to HHC. These reasons are why we created our White Paper.

As a major part of our Respect campaign in achieving a new contract with HHC and the affiliates, we have been meeting with the Mayor’s Office of Labor Relations (OLR) and HHC. OLR represents the Mayor of the City of New York in addressing employee matters. Dr. Ross Wilson, HHC Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Mr. Tony Martin, HHC Executive Vice President and Corporate Chief Operating Officer (in charge of affiliations), as well the HHC Chief Financial Officer Marlene Zurack and General Counsel and head of Human Resources Sal Russo, among others from HHC, have been in the meetings.

This is historic in that this is the first time that the Mayor’s Office of Labor Relations and executive/senior personnel from HHC have met directly with Doctors Council members. In addition, it is also the first time that doctors directly employed by HHC and affiliate doctors who work at HHC facilities have met at the same time with the City and HHC.

We are making gains in our talks with HHC on implementing the vision and goals of the White Paper and are hopeful this will be part of our contract settlement in the near future.

For more information, please e-mail info@doctorscouncil.com or call 212-532-7890
“As doctors who care for our patients and the communities we work in, we are excited that what we started with the White Paper is getting closer to becoming part of our contract and to becoming operational. It is what we need to be better able to do our jobs and it is what our patients need. It is also what HHC needs.”

Dr. Aycan Turkmen, Coney Island

“We are looking at creating a system-wide committee with a Doctors Council member from identified HHC facilities and hospitals as well as local facility-based committees with a representative from each department. This structure will enable a collaborative process both across the HHC system as well as within each facility or hospital. The implementation of the White Paper can be transformative in improving how we practice and how HHC operates and can get better in order to survive and move ahead.”

— Dr. Steven Hahn, Jacobi Medical Center

“I am a newly involved member in Doctors Council and I am invested in this work. We literally have a seat at the table with senior level representatives from the City and HHC. And they are listening to us. We are able to bring the real experience from the front-line and share this directly with HHC. This can be a difference maker in terms of improving care to our patients and improving our work lives.”

Dr. Gul Nimet Bahtiyar, Woodhull

“Being able to give my input directly to HHC is empowering. Being able to share information and ideas from us doctors on the front-line to HHC and from HHC to the front-line has been long-needed. This process will not be easy and will be hard work. But together we all as doctors can make a difference and working together with HHC can make a difference for our patients, us and HHC.”

Dr. Varinder Chawla, Coler