



Executive Offices
(718) 604-5200

August 21, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

In this letter I have included a statement from the Greater New York Hospital Association released Friday, August 18th, 2017 in response to the horrific events that took place in Charlottesville, VA early this month. The statement is an unequivocal reminder that our hospital community also strongly opposes any and all forms of hate or violence and stands firm with those individuals who stand up against bigotry.

The images we saw in Charlottesville were nightmarish= crowds of torch-bearing KKK members and neo-Nazis chanting racist and anti-Semitic slogans. I would have hoped that in the year 2017 such images would be the shocking relics of the past, relegated to old newsreels footage, and the ash heap of history. Unfortunately, these events did take place and it is our collective responsibility to be completely clear and unwavering about our opposition to them.

Here at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, I believe that we are mutually dedicated to our common purpose of providing top quality health care to our community- a goal that would be impossible to realize without the dedicated collective efforts of well-meaning people of all religions, sexes, races, orientations and creeds. Our diversity is our strength and is the foundation of our noble cause in addressing the health care needs of the diverse community we serve.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kurt S. Kodroff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Kurt S. Kodroff, M.D., M.M.M.
Chief Executive Officer, Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center

**Statement of the Greater New York Hospital Association:
Diversity is our Strength**

America's diversity is our strength. Nowhere is this more true than in the New York area, which has one of the most dynamic and diverse populations in the world. Our hospitals could not provide high quality, equitable care if our workforce did not reflect the cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity of the communities we serve. We have a uniquely diverse workforce, which makes us stronger, more innovative, and better caregivers. We would have it no other way.

GNYHA is shocked and saddened by the events in Charlottesville. There is no place in our society for racism, bigotry, and hate. We condemn the actions of organized hate groups in the strongest possible terms, and would like the people of Charlottesville—and, indeed, people of good will everywhere—to know that we stand with them in support of equality, diversity, and peace.