

# Beth Israel Comprehensive Cancer Center Opens In Chelsea with Much Excitement

By Jeff Jacomowitz

Beth Israel Medical Center's brand new 88,000 square foot Comprehensive Cancer Center – Westside campus in Chelsea, formerly St. Vincent's Comprehensive Cancer Center, located at 325 West 15th Street (between Eighth and Ninth Avenues) officially opened today with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The ceremony began with a tour of the new facility and the ceremony itself included many of the hospital's cancer surgeons and oncologists, plus top key administrators such as Beth Israel's president Dr. Harris Nagler, Continuum Health Partners' President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Stanley Brezenoff, Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Gail Donovan and Aptium Oncology's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Peter Jessup.

Continuum Health Partners, Inc is the corporate umbrella outfit that includes Beth Israel Medical Center, St. Luke's – Roosevelt Hospital Center, Long Island College Hospital and the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary.

Following the bankruptcy and closure of St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Centers on April 30 of this year, Aptium Oncology, the Los Angeles-based cancer development program company who provided services for the operation of the St. Vincent's Comprehensive Cancer Center (SVCCC), signed a binding letter of intent on announced on May 4 for the transfer of operations of the Cancer Center to Beth Israel.

"The Aptium and Beth Israel partnership is an outstanding collaboration that bodes well for the future of cancer care," explains

Mr. Jessup. "Helping Beth Israel build a top-tier oncology service line in this desirable community is both a privilege and a challenge, and we will work continually to earn Beth Israel's trust and confidence. The new center will forge one of the strongest and largest oncology programs in this region at a critical time in healthcare."

"We are very pleased that the hospital made this major acquisition. This beautiful new facility allows us to greatly enhance our cancer services, and to develop innovative, new approaches to cancer treatment," said Dr. Louis Harrison, Clinical Director of Continuum Cancer Centers of New York (CCCNy).

CCCNy incorporates the cancer programs of Beth Israel Medical Center at two major lower eastside sites, at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, plus uptown St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals, and at the King Highway Division in Brooklyn. CCCNY sees over 6,000 new cancer patients a year and has over 250,000 patient visits. The addition of this new Westside campus makes CCCNY one of the largest and most comprehensive multi-site cancer programs in the Northeast.

Beth Israel is expanding its clinical programs to this attractive new site, where its faculty of cancer specialists will provide the full spectrum of diagnostic and therapeutic services, including medical, surgical and radiation oncology, a dedicated breast cancer center, diagnostic imaging, cancer supportive services, and a nationally renowned clinical research program.