



# Patient Advocates Program

## April 21 Telephone Teach-in

We invite our Chapter Members, interested older persons, caregivers and Aging and Health Network Professionals to participate:

### Empowering New York Consumers in an Era of Hospital Consolidation

**Date:** Tuesday, April 21, 2020 **Time:** 10:00 am—11:00 am

**Speaker:** Lois Uttley, Community Voices for Health System Accountability and Director of Women's Health Program for Community Catalyst

**Call in number:** 1-605-562-0400; **Access code:** 4715203# Other numbers you can use to call in: 425-436-6260; 712-832-8330

### Session Overview

Health systems in NYS have undergone major changes, such as corporate mergers, closing hospitals, and downsizings and more are planned. These changes have moved many hospitals away from their original community driven missions. Many problems have resulted from the resulting reduction of hospital beds. This has proved to be a potentially lethal strategy during the current Corona Virus Pandemic. In addition, underserved patients, especially those who are low income, minorities, disabled and LGBTQ, are often most harmed by these changes which often occur with little or no community input or any regional planning. This presentation examines changes that have occurred in hospitals across New York over the last two decades, the consequences of these changes and policy proposals to improve the current process so that communities have a voice in future consolidations.

#### In this session you will learn about:

- The findings of a study of the impact of health system mergers over the last 20 years on the state's hospital bed supply and patient care.
- Hardships consolidations have caused to consumers in many neighborhoods including loss of access and loss of essential services.
- How New York State's review and approval process, known as the Certificate of Need (CON) process, compares to other state and efforts to require more consumer involvement in this process.
- The formation of a new consumer alliance known as the Community Voices for Health System Accountability (CVHSA) working to make health systems accountable to their non-profit missions of service to the community.

**STATE**  **WIDE**

**New York StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc.**



**ALL TEACH-INS RUN  
FROM 10:00—11:00 AM.**

### **REMINDERS:**

- May 19, Difficult Decisions for Patients and Caregivers About Post-Acute Care and Why They Matter, United Hospital Fund
- June 23, Take CHARGE Campaign; 5 Steps to Patient Empowerment
- If you missed any of our previous teach ins, visit our Web site to hear a recorded playback.

## **Caller Instructions and Other Information**

- The sessions are in presentation mode but the line will be opened for participant questions and comments after the speaker has finished their presentation.
- Materials from Teach Ins are posted on our website [www.nysenior.org](http://www.nysenior.org)
- When on our website,
  1. On the navigation bar, click on **Our Helplines**
  2. In the drop down menu, click on **Patient's Rights Helpline**
  3. Under "**Information for Hospital Patients**", click on **Telephone Teach-in**. This will take you to additional information about past Teach ins, powerpoint presentations and other important notes.

# **Call 800-333-4374 to reserve your spot!**

### **NY STATEWIDE SENIOR ACTION COUNCIL**

is a not-for-profit grassroots membership organization made up of individuals and organizations with an interest in improving the lives of senior citizens.

*Funding for our Patient Advocates Program is being provided through the generous support of the NYS Legislature and administered by the NYS Office for the Aging*

**STATE  WIDE**  
New York StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc.

The **Helpline** is toll free at  
**800-333-4374**

Information is also available on the StateWide website at  
**www.nysenior.org**

**E-mail questions to:**

StateWidePatientsRights@gmail.com