

Today's Lead: The Brooklyn Hospital Crisis

Posted on Aug 02, Posted by [David Howard King](#) Category [The Eye-Opener](#)

Yesterday Interfaith Medical Center in Brooklyn filed a [request to close in bankruptcy court](#) . Most of the patients the hospital serves are without insurance and the hospital has suffered greatly since the state slashed Medicaid reimbursements. Unless there is some sort of bailout the hospital

[will close its emergency room](#)

in September and close totally in November. The news comes as Long Island College Hospital in Cobble Hill is on the verge of closure. Public Advocate and Democratic Mayoral candidate Bill de Blasio has

[made the hospital issue a focus of his campaign](#)

and has gone to court to keep LICH open. He has also

[released a plan](#)

that would create a super-authority to oversee Brooklyn Hospitals that would be run by the mayor and governor. De Blasio has

[continued to press](#)

his long-time friend Gov. Andrew Cuomo to act to save the hospitals. Meanwhile, the Cuomo administration holds out hope that the federal government will approve a request to use \$10 billion the state saved from restructuring Medicaid payments to buoy the Brooklyn hospitals.

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