



NEWS RELEASE

WESTERN NEW YORK HEALTHCARE SYSTEM UPDATE

BUFFALO, N.Y. (Wednesday, January 2, 2008) – Robert Gioia, chair of the Western New York Healthcare System board of directors, will travel to Albany on Thursday to meet with New York State Department of Health officials.

Gioia and the board’s outside general counsel, Robert Wild, will seek clarity from the state as to how the new board should now proceed relative to the Berger Commission recommendation involving Kaleida Health, ECMC and the University of Buffalo.

“We are asking for the Department of Health to advise us on the next steps,” said Gioia. “We need their counsel now that we do not have, as of yet, agreement with all three parties.”

Last month, the new board approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU). The ECMC Board of Directors did not find the MOU acceptable. Kaleida Health’s Board of Directors unanimously approved the MOU.

In October, the governing board unanimously selected leadership and outlined a letter of intent that represented the guiding principles necessary to create the MOU agreement for a unified system.

Western New York Healthcare System is the governing board established to unify Kaleida Health, the Erie County Medical Center and the University of Buffalo.

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