

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3605**

March 29, 2018

Dr. Steven J. Corwin  
Milstein Hospital  
177 Fort Washington Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Fl.  
Executive Offices, 1HS-200

Dear Dr. Corwin,

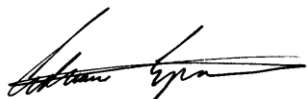
I am writing once again to reiterate my concern with New York-Presbyterian's decision to remove the 30 beds at Allen Pavilion devoted to psychiatric care. Throughout our discussions on the issue, doctors, nurses, and other residents in the community have repeatedly raised their concerns with my office, going so far as to create an online petition opposing the proposal. Furthermore, members of Community Board 12 have expressed their strong opposition of this proposal to me, in addition to unanimously voting against the closing of the 30 beds. Quality psychiatric care is important for any community hospital, but psychiatric care offered at Allen is of importance to the Inwood community given the lack of other treatment options in the neighborhood.

When I toured Allen Hospital with Mr. Paul Dunphey and other members of Presbyterian hospital, I spoke directly with the director of patient services for the psychiatric unit. In speaking with the director, he emphasized that many of the patients that are admitted to Allen are not only members of the local community, but also are individuals unlikely to receive similar quality treatment elsewhere. Furthermore, it was noted that the 30 beds devoted to psychiatric care are typically at capacity year-round, an indication that the psychiatric care provided at Allen is a vital, and constantly utilized, resource to the Inwood community.

Furthermore, I am troubled by the lack of steps taken to ensure that members of the northern Manhattan community will still be able to receive quality psychiatric treatment close to home. This proposal to close 30 beds at Allen Hospital would reduce New York-Presbyterian's total number of psychiatric beds by roughly 8 percent, and of the beds remaining approximately 78 percent of them are located at Presbyterian's Westchester campus, not easily accessible to those who rely upon public transportation. Under the current proposal, it appears as if too many northern Manhattan residents would be hard-pressed to find psychiatric care in their community, feasibly leading to disastrous repercussions.

As Allen Hospital was designed to serve the needs of the Washington Heights and Inwood community, I believe it would be incautious to remove such a crucial service from the neighborhood, without a thorough plan to ensure that the residents are provided for adequately. I hope you will reconsider the current proposal to close these 30 psychiatric beds at Allen Hospital.

Sincerely,



Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress  
New York's 13th Congressional District