

# DOCTORS' DAY 2010

## Libertyhealth honors their doctors

**L**ibertyHealth is honoring its physicians after a year that was capped off with its flagship hospital, Jersey City Medical Center, being named New Jersey's top hospital (among those with 350 or fewer beds) by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd and Inside New Jersey.

In addition, Jersey City Medical Center has attracted over 140 new doctors in the past year and opened new centers of excellence (for stroke, epilepsy and prostate cancer, and, soon, GI). The hospital is now offering new procedures for total knee replacement, prostate surgery and GI. A new outpatient rehabilitation center recently opened and the Cristie Kerr Women's Health Center will welcome patients next month.

"Using a slogan like 'Enhancing Life,' is fine, but in order to resonate with patients and staff you need to be able to back it up," said Joseph Scott, President and CEO of LibertyHealth. "Being recognized as the best hospital in New Jersey by

Castle Connolly, one of the nation's most respected health care research and information companies, is very special to us. We're extremely proud of our physicians and staff for their skill, dedication and compassion."

The process of naming the top hospitals in the state involved reaching out to licensed physicians throughout the state and asking them to name the top hospitals for various medical conditions, as well as overall care. Jersey City Medical Center was also recognized first for stroke care, high-risk pregnancy and neurological disorders; second for treatment of pediatric cancers, congestive heart failure and coronary bypass; and third for prostate cancer.

Additionally, post-discharge ratings of New Jersey hospitals were determined by having patients rate the hospitals overall as well as on how often doctors and nurses communicate well with patients, and the cleanliness of patient rooms and bathrooms. Meadowlands Hos-



Joe Scott, President/CEO, left, and Kenneth Garay, Chief Medical Officer, shortly after the hospital received Magnet Award status for its nurses.

pital, also operated and managed by LibertyHealth, was named by consumers as among the best in the state for doctor communication.

Scott, who came to LibertyHealth in 2008 as its top administrator, has placed an emphasis with physicians and staff on the four pillars - patient safety, clinical quality, patient satisfaction and

economic health. Signs of the effectiveness of this focus have been evident in terms of a significant increase in patient census, the attraction of many highly trained physicians, and enhanced profitability.

"We are finding that many well-trained physicians from not only Hudson County but throughout northern New Jersey and New York City are now looking to bring their

patients to Jersey City Medical Center," said Dr. Kenneth Garay, the hospital's Chief Medical Officer.

A state-designated trauma center and a major teaching affiliate of Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, Jersey City Medical Center has also been successful in changing its payer mix, making the hospital less and less dependent on the shrinking state charity care dollar.