



THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

April 2, 2020

Dear Dr. Corwin and Dr. Davis,

As the members of New York City Council representing the districts that contain New York Presbyterian-Brooklyn Methodist and Mount Sinai West, we are writing you to express our dismay at the current status of contract negotiations between your institutions and the housestaff represented by the Committee of Interns and Residents/SEIU.

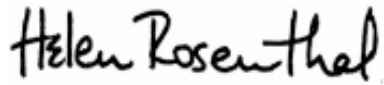
This past Tuesday, March 31, we joined members of CIR at Mount Sinai Morningside/West and NYP-Brooklyn Methodist in a virtual press conference. We were proud to offer them our support as they are on the front lines of the Coronavirus epidemic and simultaneously working to negotiate fair contracts with your institutions.

Mount Sinai Morningside/West residents have been struggling with the impact of steep rent increases, especially in the building at 515 W. 59th Street, since Mount Sinai took over St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital. Resident physicians work long hours taking care of patients and deserve to be paid a wage that grants them the ability to afford housing and other obligations such as heavy student debt. Mount Sinai must offset the rent increase by either a comparable wage increase or housing stipend in order to restore affordability to the physicians in training at Morningside and West. Similarly, salaries at Morningside and West must be comparable to salaries at Mount Sinai's main campus. There's no excuse for their starting salaries to have fallen behind those at the main campus.

Similarly, at NYP-Brooklyn Methodist, residents have been advocating for pay parity with other Presbyterian housestaff since October of 2019. Presbyterian is a world-class hospital system, and the care that Presbyterian patients receive in Brooklyn is on par with the quality of care in Manhattan. Resident salaries should reflect this, especially now as residents are working 80+ hours every week to care for COVID-19 patients. A request for equitable pay is certainly reasonable, as are the requests outlined in the residents' March 20, 2020 letter to Methodist President Robert Guimento. Presbyterian must swiftly grant these requests and agree to a fair contract for residents at Brooklyn Methodist.

It is disheartening to know that our frontline providers are still struggling to secure fair contracts from major hospital systems in our district, and we call on Presbyterian and Mount Sinai to do right by the physicians in training at your institutions, who are a key part of the defense in our communities' fight against COVID-19, and address their concerns about their wages and working conditions.

Sincerely,



Council Member Helen Rosenthal



Council Member Brad Lander