

RENSSELAER COUNTY HOSPITAL MERGER

Northeast Health has filed a certificate of need to create the Burdett Care Center. This is one of the early steps on the road to a desired merger with St. Peter's and Seton Health, creating a single provider hospital system in Rensselaer County that will be bound by the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services (ERDs).

Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood invites you to a public forum to learn what impact the merger could have on the availability of vital health services in Rensselaer County.

What are the ERDs and how do they affect health care?

What services that are currently offered in Samaritan and Albany Memorial would be banned?

Will hospital rooms be required to display Catholic ritual symbols?

Will victims of sexual assault be offered Emergency Contraception?

Will primary care offices (e.g., Family Medical Group) be required to adhere to the ERDs?

Will end of life decisions be honored and respected?

Will providers provide full information to lesbian, gay and transgender individuals and families about related health care concerns?

Will contraceptives be considered and prescribed for reasons other than birth control?

**To hear the answers, come to
A Community Forum on the Proposed Rensselaer County Hospital Mergers
Thursday, November 12, 2009 7:00pm
Kalles Commons in Sage Hall (Admissions/Student Services Bldg)
Emma Willard School, Troy NY**

Jim Reed, MD, President and Chief Executive Officer of Northeast Health will discuss the merger and will respond to questions from a panel of concerned professionals, followed by questions from the audience. Patricia McGeown, President/CEO of Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood will moderate.

Pre-registration is requested in order to provide adequate seating, refreshments and materials. To register, call 434-5678 x 137 or email rebecca@uhpp.org.



Northeast Health intends to address some of these concerns through the creation of a facility within a facility; i.e., to create “the Burdett Care Center “ on one floor of Samaritan Hospital. The Burdett Care Center would be a secular institution, not bound by the ERDs and would provide reproduction-related inpatient and outpatient services, other than abortion, including: maternity, labor, delivery and nursery services; and male or female contraceptive or sterilization services. While this is a genuine attempt to respond to community need, it leaves many questions of access unanswered.

We invite any and all concerned citizens of Rensselaer County to participate in this community forum.

