

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Elmhurst Hospital Center's Engineering and Maintenance
Division Spreads Holiday Cheer**

EHC Department Offers Much-Needed Holiday Lifeline to Local Families

(Elmhurst, NY, December 1st, 2009)--On Tuesday, November 24th, Elmhurst Hospital Center's Engineering and Maintenance Department distributed holiday turkeys and food packages to several needy area families in the hospital's auditorium. These families were pre-identified by EHC's Social Work Department and received the packages in order to supplement their food supplies during this difficult economic time.

The turkey distribution is an annual event run by Elmhurst Hospital Center's Engineering and Maintenance Department (comprised of the hospital's engineers, plumbers, painters, electricians, carpenters, and general construction and building maintenance staff), who organized bake sales, raffles, and other fundraising activities to purchase the turkeys and pantry items for the food giveaway. This year, two Vazquez Bros. Mexican Circus performers also provided entertainment for the families as they waited in line to receive their turkeys. The performers then went to the Pediatric and Geriatric clinics and other areas of the hospital to spread some holiday cheer.

For more information regarding EHC's Annual Turkey Drive, please contact Atiya Butler at 718.334.1259 or via email at atiya.butler@nychhc.org.

About Elmhurst Hospital

Elmhurst Hospital Center (EHC) is the major tertiary care provider in the borough of Queens. The hospital is comprised of 545 beds and is a Level I Trauma Center, an Emergency Heart Care Station and a 911 Receiving Hospital. It is the premiere health care organization in central and western Queens for key areas such as Surgery, Cardiology, Women's Health, Pediatrics, Rehabilitation Medicine, Renal and Mental Health Services.

Elmhurst Hospital Center serves an area of approximately one million people in one of the most ethnically diverse communities in the world. Ensuring accessible health care is our priority. For more information about Elmhurst Hospital Center, please visit us at www.nyc.gov/elmhursthospital or call 718.334.1259.