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7/6/12 • Publisher: NewsLanc.com, LLC • Volume II, No. 163

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## **This is what Lancaster General's trustees refuse to help fund**

*The following is the June report for a syringe exchange from a comparably sized PA city*

Twenty-one participants were tested for HIV in June.

June 2012 Report

Total contacts: 390

Total IDU contacts: 364

Total unduplicated IDU contacts: 312

Syringes: 3820

Condoms distributed: Male- 2396, Female-46, Dental Dams-54 Finger Cots-70

Demographics of unduplicated IDU contacts:

African American male: 42

White Male: 52

Latino: 92

African American female: 30

White female: 54

Latina: 42

We completed 294 referrals for various services.

This month, as a result of our 97 total D&A referrals, nine participants entered into drug treatment facilities. This indicates those of whom we are aware; there may be additional entries of which we are not aware.

## **Supreme Court decision is a windfall for Lancaster General**

On Supreme Court's largely upholding of the Affordable Care Act, the *New York Times* reports:

*"Hospitals will gain millions of paying customers. Insurers, by contrast, could face crimped profits from restrictive rules. Medical device and pharmaceutical companies will bear new taxes and other higher payouts, but they were already expecting such costs..."*

*"That will mean fewer uninsured people streaming into their emergency rooms receiving treatment for which they cannot pay."*

It is highly likely that once again LGH's 'profits' will exceed \$100 million per year. Yet this 'Public

Charity' is run by an Establishment clique with no accountability to the broader Lancaster public.

Even LGH has acknowledged that, due to its virtual monopolistic advantage, it is able to extract high payments from health insurance companies. The insurance companies in turn pass along the added cost to Lancaster residents in the form of higher premiums.

If LGH utilized its vast earnings in a responsible manner that pursued its mission of public health and education, the added insurance premiums would be conscionable. Instead, the LGH board and administration acts in a clandestine manner and, to the extent that a single federal report discloses its activities, have wasted huge sums on perks for its president and likely others.

Tom Beeman received \$1,150,000 for not working for LGH for a year, a gift of questionable legality. But the politically hobbled state attorney general's office is highly unlikely to address the issue. (As we saw from the Sandusky scandal, the AG's office even demurs at investigating child rape when politics and campaign contributions are involved!)

LGH's failure to provide transparency and to give more than token support to public health care (no

contributions for a syringe exchange) and public education (token gifts to pacify local organizations) is the greatest Lancaster scandal since the disingenuous promotion of the Convention Center Project. Yet no one but *NewsLanc* has the guts to report and editorialize about it.

Very sad. Very sad indeed.

## LETTER: Defends General Hospital

*"For the truth about what LGH does in the community, visit" <http://bit.ly/NLtSvk>*

## LETTER: Earlier efforts to develop downtown hotel

*"Your analysis of the Brunswick is dead on but we need to go back just a little bit farther to realize our foolishness. When the Brunswick was torn down for redevelopment the FIRST time, then Mayor Monohan went to the most successful local lodging group at the time, the group that had opened and was operating the Host Town, Farm and Corral.*

*"That group of private businessmen studied the potential and was willing to make an investment to open a medium sized hotel with a couple of conference rooms and a coffee shop. The response*

*from City leaders, "thanks but no thanks". That private group's vision of what was feasible was not grandiose enough.*

*"The Hilton (soon to have the old Brunswick name back) was to be part of a 3-headed behemoth with Hess and Armstrong to revitalize Lancaster City for years to come. This vision lasted 2 years. I will say that the CC did operate 3 years before default.*

*"Those who ignore history are bound (or doomed) to repeat it' "*

## **INTELLIGENCER JOURNAL NEW ERA**

Article **"Man dies in motorcycle crash on 441"** reports in part:

*"County Coroner Dr. Stephen Diamantoni said toxicology tests will be performed on the man, but an autopsy is not planned.*

*"We believe he died of multiple traumatic injuries,' Diamantoni said..."*

**WATCHDOG:** Growl. There is no mention as to whether accident victim was wearing a helmet. Why does the *Intelligencer Journal New Era* continue to omit this vital information that has the potential for savings lives?

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