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Mass Eviction by Maimonides Hospital Threatens Dozens of Former and Current Healthcare Workers who were Employed by the Hospital for Decades

Legal Aid Represents Over a Dozen Tenants at Risk of Eviction from their Longtime Homes; Many Additional Tenants are also Facing Eviction

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society condemned Maimonides Medical Center, a non-profit hospital in Brooklyn, for attempting to mass evict dozens of current and former healthcare workers from their longtime employee residences in Sunset Park, Brooklyn.

Legal Aid represents 13 healthcare workers, many of whom are disabled and have retired after years of being employed by Maimonides Medical Center, and their family members. The hospital has filed 37 eviction cases across seven buildings so far. 21 of those cases were consolidated under [*Maimonides Medical Center v. Edwardo Silva-Fierro*](#). Additional cases are expected to be filed as other tenants have been served predicate notices threatening eviction if they do not move out of their homes voluntarily.

“Our clients and all tenants impacted by Maimonides’ mass eviction efforts have dedicated their lives to providing care for patients at Maimonides, the majority of whom are Black and Latinx low-income New Yorkers, and put their own lives at risk working on the frontlines of the pandemic” said **Nell Hirschmann-Levy, supervising attorney in the Housing Justice Unit - Group Advocacy at The Legal Aid Society**. “Some of these tenants have lived in these units for more than 30 years, and face homelessness if displaced. Maimonides Medical Center, as well

as HPD, must work together to find a viable solution for the vulnerable tenants they are endangering.”

In 2018, Maimonides sold a number of buildings that the hospital had been renting out for decades at subsidized rates to workers as a part of their employment contracts. As part of the sale, Maimonides agreed to remain the landlord of the employee apartments under a “Master Lease,” which would have allowed the building’s current tenants to retain their housing. Now, Maimonides has claimed it has become too expensive to continue subsidizing and has begun the process of evicting all current and former employees.

Moreover, the Maimonides tenants are explicitly excluded from applying for any of the 221 affordable housing units that have been set aside under a [regulatory agreement](#) between the new owner, Park Affordable L.P., and the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD).

The agreement states that tenants with subsidies and those in the shelter system are eligible for the affordable housing units, but not the Maimonides tenants. The former and current healthcare workers, many of whom are seniors, retired, or disabled, are also arbitrarily exempt from policies that protect current tenants, such as a no evict policy and [Aging in Place](#) provision in the agreement.

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The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. <https://www.legalaidnyc.org>