

## Gala Proceeds Help LICH Purchase New Equipment

**E**ach year, proceeds from the LICH gala help the hospital advance its mission. Money raised at the 2008 gala allowed the hospital to purchase advanced cardiac equipment for its Emergency Department and its Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory.

LICH's purchase of a therapeutic hypothermia machine for its Emergency Department made it one of the first hospitals in New York to own this state-of-the-art device. Therapeutic hypothermia machines lower the body temperature in patients suffering from a variety of cardiac events, particularly cardiac arrest. By adding the CoolGard 3000® intravascular cooling system to its ED,



Tucker Woods, DO, and Catherine Gallogly-Simon, RN, MS

LICH joins an elite group of hospitals around the world who have adopted this life-saving technology.

Research has consistently shown that therapeutic hypothermia—cooling the body—is safe, effective and can lessen or prevent neurological damage due to

cardiac arrest and subsequent oxygen loss to the brain. “A 35-year old patient was brought to the ED in full cardiac arrest,” related Tucker Woods, DO, Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine at LICH. “We successfully re-started his heart, but he was in a coma and in danger of suffering brain damage. By lowering his body temperature and preventing swelling of the brain, therapeutic hypothermia helped him awake from the coma with no lasting damage.”

LICH also used proceeds from its gala to purchase the “Volcano” intra-vascular ultrasound system. “The Volcano makes patient care more efficient,” said Niki Kantrowitz, MD, Director of LICH’s Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory. “It allows us to streamline the number of tests a patient needs to determine the cause of chest pain and whether he or she is at risk for having a heart attack. Fewer tests means fewer interventions, which is always good for the patient. With cardiac mortality rates higher in Brooklyn than in other boroughs, improving cardiac health is a number one priority.”

## Scholarship Created in Memory of LICH Trustee Louis Valentino

**F**or more than 30 years, Trustee Louis Valentino served on the Board of Regents at Long Island College Hospital.

He gave tirelessly of his time, energy and resources to strengthen the hospital he loved, and his commitment to the LICH community was legendary.



Louis Valentino

Mr. Valentino passed away earlier this year, and in recognition of his

significant contributions to LICH, a committee made up of clinical chairmen, physicians and staff recently established a scholarship fund in his memory.

“Lou was a strong believer in the rights and dignity of ordinary citizens,” said Diane Person, PhD, a fellow LICH Trustee and a founding member of the committee. “Because of that, the committee decided to grant annual scholarship awards to LICH employees or children of employees who wish to pursue a career in the para-professional medical field.”

Mr. Valentino was particularly beloved at LICH for his courtesy to all members of the staff, regardless of the status of their positions. He was very active in the Quality of Care and Patient Safety

initiatives at LICH, and also was a strong advocate for the hospital’s service staff and was available to any of them at any time.

“He was a conciliator, always bringing factions together and finding areas of agreement,” Dr. Person said. “Through his stature and influence, many community groups and associates became familiar with LICH and its work.”

Dominick Stanzione, LICH’s Interim President, said, “Lou Valentino’s life was characterized by service. LICH was fortunate to have Mr. Valentino serve for many years on its Board of Regents. His devotion to family and community, his wise counsel and his dedication to patient safety will be long remembered.”