

Media Placement Highlights

January – February 2024

Notable media placements:

Lake & McHenry County Scanner

“Mayor says Vista Medical Center in Waukegan is appealing trauma center designation revocation” – February 25, 2024

<https://www.lakemchenryscanner.com/2024/02/25/mayor-says-vista-medical-center-in-waukegan-is-appealing-trauma-center-designation-revocation/>

- Hospital representatives are appealing the Illinois Department of Public Health’s decision regarding the hospital’s trauma center status.
- Lake County Health Department Executive Director Mark Pfister said “it is with utmost importance” that the issues that have come forward are being addressed by Vista’s owner, American Healthcare Systems.
- Pfister said, “The hospital will have to submit a corrective action plan to IDPH following its trauma center designation loss.”
- Pfister said, “We already have enough health inequities in this area. We don’t need more.”

Lake County News-Sun

“Government officials express concerns, frustrations about Waukegan hospital’s loss of trauma center designation” – February 6, 2024

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/2024/02/06/government-officials-express-concerns-frustrations-about-waukegan-hospitals-loss-of-trauma-center-designation/>

- Vista Health System continues to work to have its hospital’s Level II Trauma Center designation reinstated by the Illinois Department of Public Health and assure authorities it can remain in the Medicare program. Public officials and creditors await answers.
- State, county, and local officials, along with members of the public, sought answers and expressed concerns Monday at a news conference at the Lake County Health Department.
- Lake County Health Department Executive Director Mark Pfister said, “The county needs a hospital in Waukegan. We are a federally qualified health center. Our patients go to Vista.”
- Pfister said, “At this point there does not appear to be any danger Medicare will not make payments to Vista for patients insured under the system.”

NBC 5 Chicago

“Vista Medical Center East in Waukegan loses trauma center status” – February 4, 2024

<https://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/vista-medical-center-east-in-waukegan-loses-trauma-center-status/3346693/>

- Vista Medical Center East in Waukegan had its designation as a Level II Trauma Center, a designation given by the Illinois Department of Public Health, status revoked by state officials.
- Lake County Health Department Executive Director Mark Pfister and Lake County Coroner Jennifer Banek are planning to address the situation at a news conference that will include findings and actions taken by IDPH.

Press Releases Issued

- [Protect Your Family and Home from Radon](#)
- [Lake County Provides Shared Expectations for Vista Medical Center East](#)

Total Media Placements

January 1 – February 29, 2024

Press Releases Sent	2
Press Release Placements	0
Other Articles Mentioning/Quoting LCHD/CHC	13