

## NORTHWEST COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE TO CUT JOBS



When it comes to workers in the health care field there is a bit of a paradox going on. On one hand the workers are generally in demand in any economy. After all it is not like people can simply stop getting sick when they do not have the money to pay for the visit to the hospital. To some extent however they will feel the pinch of the hard times too as patients, who are entitled to treatment whether or not they can pay under federal law, keep piling up and that means that organizations have to make cuts in order to make ends meet. For the time being the company has not outlined which jobs exactly are going to be cut from the payrolls but we do know that this round of cuts, which is the second for the hospital system this year, will be cutting back on about three percent of the current staff at the facility. These cuts are part of a larger restructuring plan that the company hopes will bring it to profitability. The Northwest Community Healthcare group has not put out a release about the loss of jobs to come to the facility. Instead a recent release was put out highlighting the **expansion of facilities** to come in the near future, "ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, Ill. (August 31, 2012) – Northwest Community Healthcare has partnered with Midwest Palliative & Hospice CareCenter to open a hospice care suite at Northwest Community Hospital (NCH) in Arlington Heights. The Midwest CareCenter Hospice Suite at NCH will open Sept. 5, providing specialized, comprehensive and supportive hospice care to seriously-ill patients and their families when it matters most, all while remaining close to home... From the décor and the furnishings to visitor amenities, the seven-bed Hospice Suite has been designed with both the patient and family in mind, creating a "home away from home" setting. Each patient room includes a daybed for a guest to stay overnight, and the Suite features a kitchenette and family lounge so loved ones can remain nearby to relax and refresh. Visitors are welcome 24 hours a day and arrangements can be made for pets to visit, too." As you can imagine this is not the only health care facility that has felt the pinch of the economy in the last couple of years. For those of you who missed out on our earlier coverage of job cuts to the Alta Bates Summit Medical Center here is an excerpt that will get you **up to speed** in no time at all, "Sadly for the patients of the facility the company is getting ready to cut back on a significant number of workers. They are cutting back on 370 jobs over two campuses in order to cut back on the costs associated with its staffing. This will be enough to qualify as at least one mass layoff action under the current federal guidelines." For the time being the facility has not said what kind of severance they plan to give to the soon to be displaced workers, if any.