

# The **Town** Report

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## **Amoruso & Amoruso, LLP and NorMet Hospital Association host "Coordination of Care" conference**

"Coordination of Care from Hospital to Home or Nursing Home," a conference which recently took place at the Law Offices of Amoruso & Amoruso, LLP, featured experts from a variety of disciplines in the healthcare arena. The experts covered such topics as safe patient transition, health care reform, the use of hospice in long term care and patient rights, to name a few. The event was co-sponsored by NorMet Hospital Association and Amoruso & Amoruso, LLP.

The goal of the conference was to present discussions about roles and needs of various providers in establishing a coordinated continuum of care for patients. Panelists provided an overview of the new federal and state policies, including problems with the implementation of those policies.

"Often the discharge process is abrupt, leaving patients and their loved ones unprepared for the stressful reality of long term care, resulting in poor discharge decisions and increased hospital readmissions," said Michael Amoruso. "Quality of care can no longer be defined solely as treatment. Instead, health care providers should consider a more comprehensive discharge planning process that will not only ensure a safer discharge to a home care or nursing home setting, but also will integrate compassion for the family and provide guidance to plan for long term care costs."

Panel moderator Neil Abitabilo said, "Acknowledging a shared commitment to patient care, we hope to establish new policies that will eventually impact patient care as well as the financial stability and public perception of every healthcare provider."

Hospice & Palliative Care of Westchester is located at 311 North Street, Suite 204, White Plains. For additional information, visit [www.hospiceofwestchester.com](http://www.hospiceofwestchester.com) or call 682-1484.



(L-R) Mary H. Gadomski, R.N., B.S.N., director of Community Education for Visiting Nurse Services in Westchester; Kate Colburn, M.A., executive director, Hospice & Palliative Care of Westchester; Michael J. Amoruso, Esq., Amoruso & Amoruso, LLP; Debora LeBarron, director of Continuing Care at Health Care Association of New York State; Mary Frances Barrett, CEO, Hebrew Hospital Home of Westchester; and Neil Abitabilo, president of NorMet Hospital Association.