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Bronx African American History Project (BAAHP)

Bronx Oral Histories

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Dr. Ernest Patti

Mark Naison

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Abstract

Summarized by Lauren Payne

Dr. Ernest Patty, an ER attending physician at St. Barnabas Hospital in the Bronx, shared his experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. He detailed the hospital's transition from a Level 1 to a Level 2 trauma center due to resource constraints. Patty described the increased patient volume, with over 100,000 patients annually, and the emotional toll of treating critically ill COVID-19 patients without visitors. He highlighted the community's support, including food donations and personal protective equipment.

Patty also mentioned the loss of colleagues and the importance of managing the pandemic.

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