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Understanding the governance structure of Lakewood Hospital

What is the relationship between the city of Lakewood, the Lakewood Hospital Association, the Cleveland Clinic, and the Lakewood Hospital Foundation?

For 18 years, the Cleveland Clinic has partnered with the city of Lakewood to run Lakewood Hospital. The city, which owns the land and the building we know as the hospital, formally leases it to the Lakewood Hospital Association (“LHA”), a non-profit corporation organized for the charitable purpose of operating the Hospital and its related health care services.

Under a 1996 agreement approved by city council, LHA in turn relies on the Cleveland Clinic to manage Lakewood Hospital under the direction of the LHA governing board until the lease ends in 2026. This is quite unlike the relationship the Cleveland Clinic has with the seven other community hospitals the Clinic owns.

The Lakewood Hospital Foundation is a separate non-profit entity that, like many foundations providing philanthropic support to hospitals, does so for the benefit of Lakewood Hospital and healthcare in Lakewood. Its funds are completely separate from the city of Lakewood and the Lakewood Hospital Association.