

# Daily Freeman

## St. Francis Hospital sale to Westchester Med praised by hospital union



St. Francis Hospital (Photo from [www.sfhospital.org](http://www.sfhospital.org))

By Mid-Hudson News Network

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POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y. – Local 1199 SEIU, a union that includes hospital workers, said it is pleased with the anticipated sale of Saint Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie [to Westchester Medical Center](#).

Saint Francis has applied for bankruptcy sale of its assets and, earlier this week, court papers were filed with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court to approve the purchase.

Local 1199 represents over 700 employees at Saint Francis. Local 1199 represents registered nurses, service and maintenance workers and business and clerical staff at St. Francis Hospital. The union does not represent workers at Westchester Med.

Union representative Mindy Berman said Thursday that the union welcomes the purchase, especially since Westchester Medical said it will negotiate with the union.

“We welcome the stability that the end of this process is bringing and we look forward to working with Westchester Medical Center and negotiating a fair contract,” Berman said. “There was quite a bit of uncertainty for the workers for several months and right now bringing that stability back into their lives can only lead to better patient care.”