Braddock Hospital served our community from June 27, 1906 – January 31, 2010. Braddock Hospital merged with University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (U.P.M.C.) in 1996. In October 2009 the community found out that U.P.M.C. chose to close our hospital because it was losing money and was underutilized. Braddock Council President Jesse Brown challenged the U.P.M.C. decision to abandon our town. The office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services conducted an investigation. The final settlement allocated shuttles to health care services in a nearby neighborhood for outpatient service and extended hours at the Braddock Family Health Center. Braddock Hospital was our largest employer. Today our community does not have adequate health care, emergency care or employment opportunities. U.P.M.C. demolished our historical six-story hospital and built a new hospital (U.P.M.C. East) in an affluent suburb that a majority of our community residents cannot reach.

This series is dedicated to Braddock Council President Jesse Brown and Save Our Community Hospital.

LaToya Ruby Frazier