Poverty unit hits patient shift to home

The Staten Island Community Corp. last night opposed transfering Willowbrook State School patients to an unaccredited nursing home, expressed concern over the planned move by two hospitals from the North Shore, and endorsed the homosexual rights bill now before the City Council.

Executive director Rick Surpin said the Willowbrook patient shift to the Island View Care Home in Concord breaks "a number of agreements they made with the Willowbrook Benevolent Association."

Attacking the plan to move 240 patients, he said, "if you are going to have community board and community participation, then the community should be consulted before decisions are made — not after the fact."

Turning to the possible relocations of Staten Island Hospital and St. Vincent's Medical Center, the antipoverty unit urged the Staten Island Comprehensive Health Planning Board to establish a comprehensive ambulatory care clinic on the North Shore.

Board chairman Tom Wilson charged that CHPB has not been accessible to the anti-poverty unit.