WOMEN: TAKING THE LEAD TO SAVE OUR PLANET
The Annual Women’s History Month Award ceremony took place on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center in the J. Cesar Galarce Auditorium. Jose R Sanchez, LMSW, LCSW, Senior Vice President and John M. Palmer, Ph.D., Executive Director paid tribute to the honorees and women at large through their eloquent and sometimes humorous remarks.

Milagros Batista, MSW, Clinical Director of Family Services for Alianza Dominicana, Inc. was the guest speaker for the event and Ms. Elena M. Franklin, M.A, RN., Senior Associate Director of Human Resources, served as Mistress of Ceremonies. Nancy Simmons, Community Health Educator performed a beautiful and fitting musical selection for the occasion.

We would like to congratulate the honorees from Harlem Hospital Center for their invaluable contribution to the patients and the

Generations+/Northern Manhattan Health Network:
Alison Benjamin, RNC
Stacey Bennett, Patient Navigator
Debra Gomes, RN, BC, MS
Doreena Lesanics, Ph.D.

NETWORK WOMEN’S HISTORY HONOREE WANDA SANTAELLA
Each year one Network employee is honored during Women’s History Month. Wanda Sanataella, LCSW-R has been with this Network for 7 years serving in leadership roles, and most recently as Network Director of Social Work, Discharge Planning, and Pastoral Care. She is also Co-Chair of the Network Behavioral Health Committee.

Under her leadership, during Fiscal Year 2008, the Network Social Work Dept focused on improving timely discharge planning and implementation; carefully monitoring absenteeism; recruitment and retention of qualified staff; staff skills enhancement; and better integration with community based agencies to provide integrated care for our patients. Successfully. Thank you and congratulations.
IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Michelle Rahimi, Intern Coordinator

There is a newly opened library in the Ronald H. Brown Pavilion on the 4th floor called "The Pearl", The Patient Education And Resource Library. It was designed to inform, educate, and assist patients who come to Harlem Hospital Center with information on health related issues. Dr. Brenda Merritt, Associate Medical Director and Director of Ambulatory Cares Services, and Debra Williams, Director HIV Services, spearheaded the project, but it is Ms. Williams’ Intern Coordinator, Ms. Michelle Rahimi who took it to the next level.

Ms. Rahimi is an intelligent young woman with great compassion for people, who is articulate, smart, kind, and generous. She has worked tirelessly to put together the library and open its doors. She wrote a proposal resulting in a grant of $1,000 from the Harlem Auxiliary. She has reached out to many receiving donated books and magazines on health related topics. She organized working group meetings and established a weekly schedule of coverage across disciplines to aid in the distribution of information to our patients.

A student at East Carolina University Greenville, in North Carolina, she will graduate on May 8, 2009 with a degree in Community Health Education and Promotion.

Below, unsung heros and heroines who, when Ms Rahimi called, said “yes.”

LIBRARY WORKING GROUP: - Debra Williams, Beverly Celestin, Eugenia Graham, Escott Solomon, Joycelyn Daly, Stacey Bennett, Vanessa Austin, Deborah Nelthroppe, Regina Hughes, Olubunmi Sonubi, and Dr. Brenda Merritt, JoAnn Young, Hector Lewis, Lenora Green, and Ernest Borno.

SOCIAL WORK TEAM

On Monday March 23rd, the Department of Social Work celebrated 100 years of Social Work with a presentation honoring the late Dr. Maurice V. Russell, Social Work Director of Harlem Hospital Center (1964-1970).

Hospital based social work services emerged in the first decade of the 20th century because of an increasing awareness of the link between public health issues and social problems. Settlement houses provided community based social services in the major urban areas of Boston, New York, and Chicago and other locales. Collaboration developed between hospital and settlement house leaderships that provided coordination and interagency referral systems that ensured the safe discharge of patients back to communities beset by poverty and substandard housing. Academic social service programs began in 1898 at the New York School of Philanthropy. As the curriculum grew to include new fields of knowledge in the bio-psychosocial sciences, the program became the New York School of Social Work, and was later incorporated into Columbia University.

Danna Wood-Webb, MS, Esq. Keynote Speaker
GIVE A SISTAH A HAND
The Charlene Draper Wellness Program hosted their "Sixth Annual Women's History Month Celebration, Tea and Afternoon Social held at the Hansborough Center (135th Street) on Wednesday, March 25th. Ms. Sylvia White, Chief of Staff at Harlem Hospital Center (above left) was honored for her many contributions to our community.

NEW EMPLOYEES WELCOMED!
Office of Public Affairs

Ms. Sherri Holman, MPH

Ms. Sherri Holman has joined Harlem Hospital Center as the new Associate Director of Public Affairs. Ms. Holman earned a BA in Biology from the University of North Carolina in Greensboro, and graduated from New York Medical College with a Masters in Public Health (Health Management and Policy). For the past couple of years Ms. Holman's work has focused on reducing the incidence of cardiovascular diseases and the elimination of health disparities within the Harlem community. Welcome.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT
Thomas Roberts joined Harlem Hospital Center as the Associate Executive Director for Facilities Management in January. He can be reached at extension 2484. His email is robertsta@nychhc.org.

Nyasha Benjamin has joined the staff at Harlem Hospital Center as the Coordinating Manager for Facilities Management. Her extension is 2485, email is nyasha.benjamin@nychhc.org.

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
Welcome new Nursing Staff:
- Tierra Anderson, RN - ICU
- Chad Augustus, PCT - AER
- Marlene Castigo, RN - Hemodialysis
- Patricia Darley, RN - OB-GYN
- Michael Horlick, RN - Psychiatry
- Karen Lawlor, RN - ICU
- Nanette Rubio, RN - Rehab Medicine
- Binu Thomas, RN - Medicine

Congratulations to the Nurses who were PROMOTED:
- Felicity Ekprudu, LPN to RN - Psychiatry
- Jane Otoo, LPN to RN - Pediatrics
PATIENT SAFETY SURVEY

Thank each of you for participating in the recent hospital-wide Patient Safety Culture Survey. According to the preliminary results released by the Central Office, this year our overall response rate was 78%, which is better than last year and has surpassed the HHC average of 65%.

The annual patient safety culture survey is a core component of the patient safety program and measures the organizational culture change over time. Our response rate clearly indicates more staff are tuning into the hospital patient safety efforts than they were last year. The final results of the survey will be shared when they become available.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Environmental Services Staff Meeting will be held in the Herbert G. Cave Auditorium
On: Wednesday April 15, 2009
At: 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Annual Volunteers Recognition will be held in the Herbert G. Cave Auditorium
On: Tuesday April 21, 2009
At: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Local 1549 Lunchtime Meeting will be held in the Herbert G. Cave Auditorium
On: Wednesday April 22, 2009
At: 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Administrative Professional’s Day - April 22, 2009

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK IS APRIL 19 - 25, 2009

Harlem Hospital Center truly appreciates the dedication and unselfish acts of our volunteers and wishes them a happy volunteer week. "Volunteers: Hands That Serve, Hearts That Care"

ORAL CANCER WALK

On Saturday April 18, 2009 the Fourth Annual Oral Cancer Walk will begin from Marcus Garvey Park Auditorium, 122nd Street and Mt. Morris Park West. Registration is at 9:00 a.m., the walk begins at 11:00 a.m. Save time by going on-line: www.oralcancerwalknyc.org or call Dr. James King at extension 2882. Oral cancer kills approximately 7,000 Americans each year. The key to survival is prevention and early detection.

BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY 2009

Harlem Hospital Center’s Bring Your Child to Work Day 2009 will take place on Thursday, April 23, 2009 from 9:30am to 1:30pm in MLKP, 2nd Floor Auditorium. Boys and girls ages 8 to 12 are welcomed (no exceptions). Please obtain your supervisors’ permission prior to the event because the Employee Recognition Committee cannot give permission to have your child(ren) at your work site.

At 9:00am we will “Meet & Greet” in the Auditorium. Then at 10:00am the children will have a Schomburg Center Tour and a Movie. (A $5.00 donation
For each child is required for this activity.) At 12:30pm parents must provide a Bag Lunch for their child (MLKP 2 Cafeteria). Pick up and return to parent’s work site is at 1:30pm. For additional information contact Jo-Ann Young, extension 2482.

YOUR LEGACY IS OUR LEGACY
Donate to the Donor Wall. Honor the memory of a loved one, family, group or organization with the purchase of a plaque to be placed in the MLK Pavilion Lobby. Stamps, Mugs and Postcards are on sale with your favorite Mural scene.

Mural Mugs
With your donation, you can become a part of the Modernization Project at Harlem Hospital Center. In addition your donation is tax deductible. For more information contact the Development Office at Harlem Hospital Center at extension 1390.

"PROTECTING INFORMATION: IT'S A TOP PRIORITY"
Health Information Privacy and Security Week is April 12, 2009 - April 18, 2009.

CHILD SAFETY SUMMIT
The NYC Child Safety Medical Summit takes place on Friday, April 3, 2009 at Lincoln Hospital’s Auditorium. This invitation is extended to those who are instrumental in providing care to children in need.

The idea for Medical Summits originated from a proposal by the Interagency Task Force on Child Welfare and Safety, a working body organized as a result of recent tragic deaths of children secondary to abuse and neglect. The purpose of the Medical Summit is to draw the agencies and medical personnel together in order to review current protocols, practice problems and best practice issues. The belief is that if different agencies cohesively collaborate to develop best interdisciplinary practice, children’s lives can be saved.

EIGHTH ANNUAL URBAN HEALTH CONFERENCE
It’s official. The Eight Urban Health Conference will take place on Thursday evening, June 11, and Friday all day, June 12, 2009 at a new location - the Essex House, located at 160 Central Park South between 7th and 6th Avenues.

Every year the Conference takes on an increasingly larger role in our attempt to eliminate health disparities in urban communities. Your participation is always important to its success. CME credits will be available (see statement below). You will hear
more about how to register, the conference program, costs, poster exhibitions, speakers and more. For additional information, go to http://www.nyc.gov/html/hhc/downloads/pdf/uhc-save-the-date-2009.pdf

CME STATEMENT
"Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center is accredited by the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center designates this educational activity for a maximum of 6 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. Physicians should claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity."

WELCOME
We are pleased to announce that Katherine Martinez from Rehab Medicine has delivered her new bundle of joy. Isaiah Andrew was born March 11th, weighing in at 7lbs. 11oz and measuring 21 inches long. What a great birthday present! Kathy is a member of the Employee Relations Committee.

UNIVERSOUL CIRCUS TIME
Tuesday, April 28, Showtime 7:30 pm at the Orchard Beach (Bronx) parking lot. Tickets are $19 each. Call (718) 829-3327 to reserve your tickets. Call between 9 am to 9 pm and leave a clear message with a contact number at the Legacy Coalition or speak to Beverly Pinkney.

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT
Ms. Rita Potter
After 39 ½ years at Harlem Hospital Center, Food Services, Ms. Rita Potter would like to announce her retirement and say farewell to her co-workers and the individuals that she has met throughout the years. Ms. Potter began her tour here at the age of 22 on September 2, 1969. We wish her a Happy, Healthy and Joyous Retirement!

PASSING...
We regret to announce the passing of Prudent Baptiste, father of Antonine Baptiste-Lamarre, RN, Interventional Radiology. Services were held March 25, 2009.