



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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CICLEY HARRIS
Chairperson

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District Manager

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of

Monday November 20, 2017

Hon. Hazel Dukes, Chair
Hon. Michelle Booker, Vice Chair

Attendees: Hazel Dukes, Michelle Booker, Ibrahima Diafoune, Donna Gill, Karen Dixon, Cheryl Smith, Christina Curry

Committee Members Absent: Deborah Yates

Committee Members Excused: Aleah Gathings, Donna Gill, Cicely Harris

Presentation Item(s):

- **Mt. Sinai Medical Offices – Application at 160 West 124th Street**
 - Mt. Sinai Medical Office provides integrated behavioral health services. The facility is a one-stop multi-layered treatment center that provides HIV/AIDS treatment, behavioral health program for children and adults, partial hospital services, as well as, primary care for patients receiving treatment.
 - **Discussion:** Mt. Sinai is currently located on 1111 Amsterdam Avenue (114th St. & Amsterdam Avenue). Since their lease not being renewed with Columbia they are seeking to relocate to a building at 160 West 124th Street. They want to add three stories to the existing structure. In addition to the presentation on their relocation plans, they presented on the impact of HIV/AIDS in Harlem. According to the NYSDOH & NYCDOHMH an estimated 94,000 HIV infected persons and the zip codes in Central Harlem and Morningside had the highest HIV prevalence rates in 2015. Unfortunately, HIV ranks #7 in the top 10 causes of death in Central Harlem. Statistics for other sexual transmitted infections (STI) are also higher in East/Central Harlem. The federal government designated Central Harlem as a health professional shortage area which means there is an identified lack of primary care providers in the community. Mt. Sinai partners with Harlem Hospital, Institute for Family Health, and Settlement Health. They have referral agreements with these health care providers to refer patients needing

treatment. Mt. Sinai also has a behavioral health/psychiatry program for youth and adults and substance abuse.

- **Concerns:** Central Harlem has a plethora of services for this population. In addition, board members are concerned about how this relocation will impact Harlem Hospital which is currently dealing with funding issues. It was also noted that there is a shortage of Mental Health care professionals because they are receiving their education and training in New York but leave for competitive salaries out of state. Another issue is whether the psychiatry staff is diverse and reflects the population being served.

- **Harlem Independent Living Center (HILC)**

- Christina Curry presented on the services provided by the HILC. The HILC was incorporated May 31st, 1990 to function as a community-based (non-government-based) agency to provide services free of charge to individuals with disabilities. HILC also advocates for business, organizations, hospitals, and restaurants to comply with the American with Disabilities Act. Visit www.hilc.org for more information.

- **Recommendations:**

- To request Harlem Hospital to come to present on their current services in January 2018 HHS meeting.
- To request Harlem Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation to present on their facility and patient care services.
- To continue with Clean Harlem Campaign.