



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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CICELY HARRIS
Chairperson

SHATIC MITCHELL
District Manager

Health and Human Services Committee

Monday, April 20, 2020 - 6:30PM

Chair Hon. Dr. Hazel Dukes

Vice-Chair Hon. Michelle P. Booker, J.D.

Attendees: Hazel Dukes, Cicely Harris, Deborah Yates, Donna Gill, Karen Dixon, Dr. Cheryl Smith, Michelle Booker,

Shatic Mitchell

Absent: Christina Curry, Troy Gethers, Joshua Clennon

Community Members: Ms. Mondesire

Meeting Minutes

· First Corinthian Baptist Church-Hope Center (228 W. 116th St. New York, NY 10026)

The Hope Center is the vision of Senior Pastor Michael A. Walrond who established the center to address the mental health needs of the FCBC church community as well as for the Harlem Community. Currently the Hope Center is expanding to tackle the concerns of the many youth who have lost parents. Grandparents and loved ones during the Coronavirus pandemic. Dr. Dukes shared that our committee will be working with Charles Powell and Chair Cicely Harris to write a letter of support for the center.

· Letter to the Governors' Office and Elected Officials regarding Harlem Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation (30 W. 138th Street-Allure Group, parent company)

The nursing homes and long-term care facilities are regulated by the state. When a patient/resident has become critically ill or expired, with a 24-hour period the family should be notified. However, the Harlem Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation (Harlem Center) has been known to provide substandard care for its residents from

Harlem and elsewhere. The pandemic has pointed out the challenges/gaps in the care of residents and facility protocols. The chronic conditions of the Harlem Center have led this committee to draft a letter to the Governor's office, Attorney General's office, MBPO, City Council, and State elected officials to respond to the concerns, and call for an investigation into this nursing home.

Committee members also are concerned about the nursing homes and long-term care facilities in the neighborhood. We are calling for information from each center: the census population, number of beds, number of COVID19 positive infected, deaths, and presumed infected and deaths. This information is being requested so the community is informed of the status of the health and well-being of the residents in these facilities. Karen Dixon informed the committee that the Amsterdam Nursing Home has a better model. They contact families daily and provide virtual technology so families and residents can communicate with each other.

· Hospital Concerns

District Director Shatic Mitchell, on behalf of a concerned citizen reached out to Harlem Hospital to inquire whether the facility had enough ventilators. The response was, Harlem Hospital has contacted the City for support and therefore does not need any advocacy from the CB10. We know that there have been protests by the Nurses Union regarding PPEs, however that supply concern has been addressed as well.

Dr. Smith has been working at the Javits Center, which is taking in patients from hospital emergency rooms, patients who have been on chairs for 2 days to support the overflow of patients in hospitals around the city. Patients are being sent from NYU, Bellevue, and Elmhurst. There is concern about the lack of the number of patients in transit from Harlem to

Javits Center. We may need to look at a 4-6-week time period to identify if there were any issues with equity in patient transfer from hospitals in Harlem to the Javits Center.

Sydenham affiliated with Gotham Health has been a testing center in Harlem but required an appointment. Now, Sydenham has been designated by the Mayor as walk-in assessment/testing center. Donna Gill noted that community members were lined up around the block to be tested. If individuals want to get tested, they should call 311. Karen Dixon shared that the Annex on 129th/130th Street on Malcolm X Blvd. is also testing by appointment.

NYCHHC testing sites are now functioning as assessment sites. Michelle Booker, shared that, interested parties may go to a site, and a medical professional will assess the patient under an algorithm to determine if the person should be tested. Some of the

issues that are considered is if the patient is/has: over 65 yrs old, existing chronic conditions, if the person has been near someone who tested positive and how severe the symptoms are.

- Letter to Acknowledge Front Line Workers

Committee members agreed that a letter addressing the continuous efforts of Frontline workers in our community should be acknowledged and put on CB10 website.

- Concerns for the Disabled/Deaf Individuals

Concerns about how our disabled and deaf constituents, especially witnessing what happened during Sandy. The support systems to provide services was problematic, the City did not do a good job at that time. Now that many are using various social media platforms to stay connected such as ZOOM, what is available for the disabled community. The Dept of Health (DOH) is up to speed about virtual technologies to assist this population.

In closing we hope everyone is creating ways for self-care!!!

Submitted by Michelle Booker