



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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HENRIETTA LYLE
Chairperson

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District Manager

Health & Human Services Committee Report

215 West 125th Street, 4th Floor
Monday, May 18th, 2015-6:30pm
Chair – Dr. Hazel Dukes
Vice Chair – Michelle Booker

Board Attendance:

Present: Michelle Booker, Christina Curry, Ibrahima Diafoune, Camille Edelen, Donna Gill, Cicely Harris, Manny Rivera, Cheryl Smith, Deborah Yates,

Excused: Dr. Hazel Dukes

Absent: Melvin Christian, Khalifa Diop, Steven Watkins

Guests:

Dana Mindlin, The Jewish Board's Child Development Center (JBCDC)

Jamilia Sly, Mount Sinai- PhD Instructor Icahn School of Medicine

Karen Jarrett, NYSNA

Robert Goldberg, Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine

Valene Wright, Harlem Hospital

1. **Election of Committee Secretary-** committee agreed to wait for Dr. Dukes to appoint a new secretary.
2. **Approval of Previous Month's Minutes-** committee moved to accept the minutes with the two additional items to be added at a later time.
3. **FY'17 Agenda Items for Budget Priorities Consultation-** this is due in November 2015 for things needed in the community as related to each committee. Since the HHS committee collaborates to put on Health Fairs, this will be one of the items up for discussion. We will request the office to send us previous activities for HHS budget so we can evaluate at the June 2015 meeting.
4. **Discussion of Community District Needs as it relates to HHS-** we have a district needs statement from last year. Some of our community members have requested Nutrition & Diet guidance to tackle prevention of disease. Some other concerns are obesity, diabetes, and mental health issues. It was suggested that we reach out to Harlem Hospital for their seven (7) most common admissions and get the diagnosis for those to get an understanding of what kind of health initiatives the community actually needs. The City has this data, we can get specific data for our specific zip codes in our

specific district; in addition to Harlem Hospital we can get Mount Sinai Hospital, St. Lukes Hospital, Metropolitan Hospital and what are their most frequent hospital admissions and re-admissions. The City can provide us with the top diagnosis as well, to be broken down by age group, ethnicity, in addition to that the State has prevention goals that has a dashboard. We should adopt the State-wide prevention goals. The dashboard also gives a progress report as well. Some of them are HIV prevention and Diabetes prevention, then we can target what we would like to do as a subset of the dashboard. Dr. Smith, offered to assist with getting this information. The MBPO can align us with the person who can get that data for us, then set up a conference call. We can also look at fun initiatives like fitness and alternative preventative methods.

- 5. Dana Mindlin- JBCDC-** The Jewish Board Child Development Center is the largest center for youth with special needs. “It’s a therapeutic nursery school and an outpatient clinic that provides early childhood consultation to community based settings and a special education itinerant teacher program, with a range of developmental, neurological and/or emotional and behavioral problems. Children in our services have specific language and learning challenges, pervasive developmental disorder, autistic spectrum disorder, as well as behavioral and emotional difficulties. Individual and group services for families and caregivers are also provided.” Ms. Mindlin approached the committee seeking volunteers to commit to every other weekend as a “Big Brother-Big Sister” for support and to do additional activities with the children from 2 -8 years old, to expose the children to new experiences. The volunteers have to make a year’s commitment, most importantly to provide consistency to the child and build a relationship with a child; and to provide tutoring assistance as well. To become a Big Brother/Sister the person has to be 21 years old.

a. Some of the feedback/discussion with the committee :

- i. Risk Management Training for the Volunteers and background checks conducted
 1. They have screening process and a social worker meets with the volunteers
 2. They also constantly checking in with volunteers and provide specific training to support the volunteers and value what they do.
- ii. Reach out to the colleges in the area to solicit interns and the students may receive college credit for their service.
- iii. Provide Black & White flyers for the Visually Impaired Persons
- iv. Big Brother/Sister spends time with the child (7 to 16 years old) outside depending on the age and weather and activity; ie; a library, a bookstore, playing a game, going to a museum, etc. There is no charge to the family, so we request the volunteer to cover the costs/expenses for the activity done with the child.
- v. Receive referrals from the therapist for the child and then that child is matched with a volunteer.
- vi. Homework help, reading is done at the child development center.
- vii. Every other month their will be activities to the Big Apple Circus,, etc.
- viii. Suggested she provide information for the volunteers on the flyer, list responsibilities and the application process.

- ix. Suggested she present during the General Board Meeting to inform the committee and recruit volunteers.
- x. Suggested that the Director of the Center at 139th Street come with you to the General Board Meeting.
- xi. Find Role Models for disabled children, to teach children not to be afraid of Disabled Person

Contact

Dana Mindlin

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6. **Jamalia Sly, Mount Sinai Cancer Prevention Outreach Education-** Dr. Sly is a researcher at Mount Sinai and she works with a team of researcher for the Dept. of Oncological Sciences and Cancer Prevention and Control. Trying to promote cancer screening and broaden the outreach to the Central Harlem Area. There are two programs for Witness Cares. One is the **Witness Program of Harlem**, and has been around for 20 years and pioneered by the University of Arkansas a Faith Based program with the model to save your life. The women who survived breast cancer under this model were a part of the presentation because to see a survivor with a thriving life and cancer does not have to be a death sentence in our community. We spread the message that free services for cancer screening is available for those without health insurance. They present at churches, faith based organizations, community organizations 7 days a week at the time convenient for the organization. We have a sister program for the Latinos and Hispanics-“**Esperanza y Vida**” for breast and colon cancer screening. **Witness CARES** study is the research program for Colorectal Cancer Screening. This program seeks volunteers to participate in the assessments. This is an educational program to increase awareness and screening for colorectal cancer in minority communities, specifically African Americans ages 50 and older. They are testing educational models, the pre and post test questions are administered to assess knowledge and beliefs about colorectal cancer screening. The participants who answer all the questions receive a \$5 Metrocard and participate in a \$25 raffle gift card to Target. This research is funded by the National Cancer Institute.

a. **Feedback with the Committee**

- i. What other languages do you present in? Witness Care is trying to reach out to other cultural groups, ie. the Muslim Women community. In the near future, Beth Israel will conduct outreach to the Korean Community. At the moment English and Spanish are the only language resources they have.
- ii. Witness Cares goes to where the people are.
- iii. Witness Cares has a grant through Komen to link the women up with the right resources.
- iv. The Principle Investigator is Lina Jandorf, and you may reach us for a presentation/program.
- v. Lay Health advisors work as volunteers to assist with the educational work in the community.

- vi. A person may get a free colonoscopy at Harlem Hospital, and they provide information for all boroughs.
- vii. Because the Deaf community is overlooked, please be mindful that Beth Israel has staff interpreters.

7. Karen Jarrett, NYSNA- followed up with the situation with the Dialysis Center at Harlem Hospital. Indiana University Health Physicians provided a statement with data that show that the Dialysis Center at Harlem Hospital should not be privatized. She also informed us that Bronx Community Board 10 wrote a letter of opposition, and she has received support from Inez Dinkens, Senator Perkins, Carmen Arrol, and Letha James, Public Advocate and others for the Dialysis Center at Harlem Hospital.