



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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Health & Human Services Committee

Monday March 18, 2013 6:30pm

Present: Chair Hazel Dukes, Christina Curry, Donna Gill, Jennifer Jones, Deborah Yates

Excused: Diane Henderson, Cheryl Smith

Absent: Cicely Harris, Stephen Watkins, Ibrahima Diafoune

Community Guests:

Katherine Nickson, Community Member

Linda Paige, New Health Renaissance

Michael Lancaster, W 121th BAC

Desiree Walker, SHARE

Betty Ann Lynch, St Luke's Roosevelt Hospital

Nancy Thai, Hunter College

Dr. Robert Goldberg, Touro College

Dr. Cheryl DelBridg, Touro College

Alex Zablocki, DHS

Gregory Baggett, LGBT Center

Gwendolyn Lancaster, St Luke's Roosevelt Hospital

Emily Milleb, Hunter College

The March 2013 Health & Human Services Committee meeting opened with an introduction of all committee members and visitors.

HomeBASE - New York City Department of Health Service

Mr. Zablocki, Director Homeless Services program HomeBase, came before the committee to provide an update on the services being provided. New York City is a 'right to shelter' city, anyone seeking shelter will be housed. Some trends shared were that DHS saw a significant jump in need for services from June to July 2012. Part of the HomeBase mission is to help families remain in their homes. Families are required to apply for eligibility that includes a 2-year housing history. Singles seeking housing are not required to provide housing history. There are separate central intake centers throughout the city servicing specific clients; single females, single male, adult families, families with children under 21 etc.

Mr. Zablocki reports that 60% of PATH applicants are found to be ineligible; meaning they had other housing options. There is a 'HERO' unit that works to place families with school-aged children within their school districts. Shelters are mostly located close to transit hubs. Truancy is a major concern; Department of Education liaisons are assigned to all Councilman Jackson participation

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HHS

President Obama's administration has asked for age and veteran status data to be collected during counts. (Cohorts captured: under 18 and 18-24). A 'homeless count' is conducted every 2 years, the last Monday in January to determine the number of chronically homeless. Through this HOPE COUNT, volunteers work in 1500 areas in 4 block radiuses; the data is extrapolated to estimate the number of homeless. The latest estimate of 3,000 is a decrease in the number of persons on the street but an increase of persons in subway cars. Shelters continue to be built to meet demand. As of 2011 47,000 persons were living in shelters, including 21,000 children.

There is a 311-iPhone app that allows persons to report a person in need. It guarantees that an individual will be "engaged" within 2 hours. Through a robust discussion it was learned that when the DHS tried to introduce a 1-year housing history requirement for adults the city council sued and blocked the institution. A Wall Street Journal article published March 18, 2013 was cited as an example of the need for requirements for single adults.

CB 10 has the 3rd highest number of shelters in Manhattan, with 15 of the total 73 in the borough. A list was provided to the committee with notice that 'Milbank House' may be closing its doors. There are 250 shelters in NYC; only 11 are run by New York City. Proposals are received from non-profit organizations and contracts are issued from the city. Each is required to have a Community Advisory Board.

Federal and state have different definitions of homeless. The FEMA shelter system is separate and the people displaced by Hurricane Sandy are housed in FEMA shelters.

MARCH WOMAN'S HISTORY MONTH BREAST CANCER SCREENING

The health committee is honoring women by campaigning along with American Cancer Society to encourage no-cost/low-cost mammograms at Harlem Hospital on March 9th, 16th, 23th and 30th.

St Luke's Roosevelt, Pediatric Services

Community advocates Betty Ann Lynch and Gwendolyn Lancaster came before the committee to share their efforts to save pediatric services at St. Luke's at 116th Street. They report that as a result of Hurricane Sandy Bellevue and NYU moved some services to Mount Sinai and Beth Israel. They report that there is a 'Certificate of Need' process required to move services from a facility but that the emergency is being used to move pediatric services from St Luke 114th to Roosevelt 57th St. The advocates have been working with Community Board 9 and are trying to meet with administrators from Continuum. The Committee encouraged the advocates to continue to engage the elected for the service area, especially health committee chairs from city council, state assembly and state senate.

SHARE - Self Help for Women

Ms. Walker came before the committee to share details of the efforts of SHARE, which is focused on advocacy and education. They advocate for genetic counseling at hospitals citing the issue with limited health insurance coverage for 'BRACCA' testing. New efforts include introducing programs to senior centers, nursing homes and churches. Breast cancer statistics, survivors share their stories. One message

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SHARE wants to convey is that breast cancer increases the risk for colorectal and ovarian cancers. SHARE is interested in starting a support group.

The committee will invite Ralph Lauren Center to present to in April 2013.

The Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities: *The 2013 MOPD Accessible Housing Symposium for People with Disabilities. Commissioner Victor Calise*

Date: Monday, April 1st, 2013 Time: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Registration Deadline: Capacity has been met. Registration is closed.

Place: John Jay College 860 11th Avenue, 2nd Floor New York, NY 10019 Between 58th & 59th Street

http://home.nyc.gov/html/mopd/html/home/home_text.shtml

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- WHCR, 90.3 FM City College radio station airs 'Healthy Harlem' program every Thursday 7pm
- National Urban Health Conference being held at State Office Building March 22-24th. Sponsored by New York Academy of Medicine & Touro College

Community Advisory Board Updates:

- Harlem Hospital/Renaissance CABs held legislative breakfast March 9, 2013.
- Committee is in receipt of a letter from Harlem Hospital and Renaissance CAB requesting additional CB 10 representation
- The Metropolitan Community Advisory Board representative was unavailable to provide an update.

Meeting Adjourned 8:25pm

***** NEXT MEETING: April 15th 6:30pm *****

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