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(718) 585-7117 • Fax (718) 292-0558 • Email: BX01@CB.NYC.Gov

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March 10th, 2025

William Pfister
Program Manager
NYS Office of Addiction Services & Support (NY OASAS)
NYC Regional Office
501 7th Avenue
New York, New York 10018-5970

Dear Mr. Pfister:

I write in support of the relocation of the Lincoln Recovery Center from NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health site – Belvis to NYC Health + Hospitals/Lincoln main building. The Lincoln Recovery Center has always been an integral component of the NYC Health and Hospital/Lincoln. However, located offsite from the main building, and originally named the Lincoln Detox Community Program, it successfully pioneered the use of acupuncture and Reiki as an alternative to methadone for treating heroin addiction.

With the tradition of the use of unorthodox methods to serve the underserved population of the South Bronx. The Lincoln Detox center offered counseling, a variety of therapeutic and educational services, and community space. During the time of its inception, it led the field in treatment of substance abuse disorder and became the model for the nation.

Due to the fentanyl and Opioid crisis, the Bronx has experienced an explosion of drug use. The impact is enormous and requires a fresh look at the treatment of this crisis. By returning to the main hospital, the program will offer integrated health care services, in addition to counseling and supportive services. The larger space will also provide individuals/group counseling services and supportive services for families who are secondary patients of substance usage.

I believe that the restoration of the Lincoln Recovery Center to the main campus will serve as an active component to addressing and reducing the harmful impact of this disease in the South Bronx, one of the poorest communities within New York City and New York State. I look forward to a positive response.

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With every best wish, I remain respectfully.

Sincerely,



Clarisa M. Alayeto
Chairperson



Marilyn Pena
Committee Chair of Health & Human Services



Anthony R. Jordan
District Manager