



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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MINUTES

April 5, 2018

SAMARITAN DAYTOP VILLAGE

Ms. Sheila Greene Vice President said that I oversee External Affairs for Samaritan Daytop Village and I just wanted to take a moment to give you an overview of Samaritan Daytop Village. Samaritan Daytop Village has been around for well over 50 years and our core mission is health and human services. We do transitional housing, substance abuse treatment, we offer mental health service, we operate a senior center are located in ten counties including the five boroughs and now we have several programs in the Bronx.

We are here today to present to you our plan to relocate four programs that are currently located in the Community Board to a new building that we are looking to construct. In your packets is a power point that describes the project and Charles will walk you through it.

Mr. Charles Madray said that at Samaritan Daytop Village we were asked about two years ago to go over some programs that were distressed. On the next page you'll see the programs that we acquired and they were in very bad shape and our patients don't deserve to be in facilities like this. We've been providing services to over 1 thousand patients in these programs we have 140 to 150 staff that live and work in the community. They work for us and we wanted them to be in a better environment. So we a research and we found a Developer who was willing to develop a project which is on 148th Street and Courtlandt it's just off of Third Avenue. This is actually a vacant block there's a little bodega or restaurant on the corner and then there's a vacant lot. So based on our needs and the way we provide services at Samaritan we want our patients to be in an environment that is accommodating to them and our staff. We found a Developer that's willing to work with us to build a facility that we can consolidate all the treatment of four programs for our 7 thousand patients that will be in our facility. This is a model that the City has actually been working towards for years now to have a one-stop-shop. To have everything in one facility is much easier for patients to get all the care we provide. We have Hope Care Coordination, mental health and substance abuse programs.

Again, it's going to be a multi-service program with medical services, substance abuse and mental health programs for patients. The advantage is it's a new facility and with more comprehensive services for our patients.

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Ms. Sheila Greene said that in your packet on the last two pages is a rendering of the new facility so you can see what it would look like.

Mr. Charles Madray said that the second to last is Courtlandt Avenue and the last page actually 148th Street.

Ms. Sheila Greene said so in addition to moving the existing four programs to this new site we're calling it the Courtlandt Wellness Center. It will include Primary Care Programs, dental services, and those types of services that are sort of for the broader community beyond just mental health and substance abuse.

Mr. Charles Madray said there will be a full service clinic. Also we do have some space that will be dedicated to the community to hold meetings such as this on the top floor that will be a community room that will be able to be used for community needs.

Ms. Sheila Greene so part of what this project is it's going to involve construction so there's an opportunity for jobs, for construction jobs for members of the community who are qualified to do specific types of work in construction. Obviously with the new site you know there will be opportunities for positions within various clinics.

We think the project will help support the economics of this neighborhood as well as providing some needed services in the health area for residents. So that's the project in a nutshell.

Questions and Comments

DIABETES RELIEF CENTER

Mr. John Schulenburg said that we're bringing a new and innovative treatment therapy for diabetes to this area. It usually works alongside people's normal treatment through their regular Physician or through whoever they're seeing for their therapy. We actually started about a year ago in May investigating and researching the treatments in the existing clinics that are around the country and actually then decided that it would be a good idea to bring this therapy up to New York and we settled on the South Bronx. The clinic is run by the Medical License of Dr. Bastyr he's an Internal Medicine Doctor and has several practices in Manhattan and in upstate New York as well. He's actually the Medical Doctor on site. We have Nurse Practitioners and other RN's and others on site. We started talking about this facility in May, the lease was in June, construction started in July last year and we opened on November 14th which was actual Diabetes Day. Anybody that has a medical question can call and speak to Dr. Bastyr, one of our Nurse Practitioners or other professional staff on site.

We have information sessions available all the time and we start off with why people are here, how we can help them and what they can do to help themselves. Diabetes is a terrible disease and probably everybody in the room knows somebody that's effected by diabetes and it can bring on some terrible consequences kidney failure, stroke heart failure and blindness is a thing that we're seeing an awful lot of

and people don't realize that they're getting vision issues because of diabetes and of course there is the loss of toes, feet, legs and that type of thing. Blood sugar is just a symptom and yes it's necessary that you take care of that and you monitor and treat it and we encourage that completely. One of the things that we run into which is kind of frightening is that there are patients that come in that don't necessarily have a Primary Doctor or go to a Specialist and they really need to monitor their sugars and that's the first and foremost thing that someone needs to do is get a Primary Doctor and take care of their general overall health. These are actual before and after pictures on the brochure and you know that in the Mott Haven area of the Bronx there is a high rate of diabetes the highest in New York. Fifteen percent of the population in Mott Haven has diabetes. This is a four year old chart the most recent data. Like I said we're new to this area but this treatment is not new to the country there are 14 other facilities around the country from Florida to Las Vegas to St. Louis and others. Over the last few years there have been over 300 thousand actual treatments given without any adverse consequences. We're in the HUB at 138th and Third Avenue right across from the Roberto Clemente Plaza. Here are some pictures of the interior you can see what we've designed a beautiful very comfortable space. It's Infusion Therapy so we've made it a very comfortable inviting space with a view of the Plaza where people can't see in but you can see out.

Diabetes is something that you can't eat yourself into and what we've found it's a shameful disease people feel that they bring it upon themselves and they really don't if you're going to get diabetes you're going to get diabetes. But it really is a disease of improper metabolism you know watch your carbs and sugar, sugars bad for you. Physicians in medicine have people starve themselves of sugar the only thing the brain operates on is sugar so if you start to starve your body of sugars the brain doesn't get the nutrition and that what starts the diabetic fog and that's what this therapy can help with. So up until now it's been maintenance you know you get up take your insulin, watch your numbers and you go to the Doctor. But now there's something we can do usually a patient has to come in and first get evaluated. We don't let somebody just come off the street and start getting treated they have to be evaluated by our Medical Staff they're determined to be eligible for treatment they come in two days in a row for the first two treatments and then after that it's once a week. It's all very personalized the pump which you saw a small drawing of is about this big so once you have your IV in we encourage people to walk around we have a treadmill an exercise bike there's comfortable chairs tables so you can enjoy your time however they want to. As it turns out you have about 20 minutes down time with each of the therapies and everything is personalized to your metabolism rate.

Questions and Comments

Mr. Johnny Rivera announced and invited everyone to the Bronx Opioid Community Summit scheduled for Saturday, April 21, 2018 from 8:30 PM to 5:00 PM at the Metropolitan College of New York 463 East 149th Street, Bronx, New York 10455. The desired outcome is a joint statement of action to address the opioid crisis with a prioritized set of recommendations.

Questions and Comments

The Chairperson called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.