



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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November 9, 2021

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Ms. Jeanette Reed said that this is very important it's about workforce development. What I'm going to talk about is the workforce program for seniors 55 and older. I'm very excited to talk about the fact that we are actively recruiting for unemployed adults in the Bronx who are over 55 and want to go back to work. This program provides job placement services, in computer and customer service and provides a stipend at \$15 dollars an hour to our participants for 15 to 20 hours per week during their training and job search. So, it's a short-term paid workforce service and we work with each client on-on-one. We have Job Developers on staff, and we work with clients, resume's, we work with their interviewing skills, we guide them in terms of how to dress for interviews, how to search for a job so, it's really a step-by-step process. We are excited about this for unemployed seniors because it's harder for older adults to get hired than it is for younger people.

There is a separate unit at the Department of Aging, that assesses each individual after applying to the program, the participant goes through an initial assessment because there is, criteria in order to qualify you have to be over 55 and meet the financial criteria of federal income poverty guidelines.

So, the reason that I'm here is I need help to communicate this to seniors in the Bronx that there is an opportunity for them, to help them. We have a brochure and I've been distributing it to Community Boards, libraries and so forth, that's one group but we haven't been getting out to everybody that we need to reach. So, I'm looking towards folks like you to give me ideas and help me promote it because we have had a lot of success. When somebody is unemployed it's really, tough and having work gives somebody a sense of purpose, it does something to their mental health it lifts them up. I can provide as I said brochures and applications to anybody who wants to distribute this information, they can call our office 212-244-6469 or 311 and I will put all this in the chat as well.

Questions and Answers

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GOTHAM HEALTH CLINIC

Mr. Edulfo Cruz, Community Liaison Worker said that first I'd like to thank the Committee for allowing us to present. I'm Community Affairs Liaison for the Gotham Health, Gotham sites across the five boroughs. So, one of my tasks is to try to bring awareness to the community about affordable quality healthcare. Belvis is one of the Gotham sites that is part of your community and we want to make sure that the community members know of the services of Gotham Health Belvis.

Ms. Michelle Cruz Assistant Director Ambulatory Care Services said that Ms. Goodwin you've been super helpful in our efforts in trying to put together an Advisory Committee for Belvis so, I appreciate being here to speak at your Committee meeting.

We are located at 142nd at St. Ann's and Brook and we are a part of the Bronx Region. The Bronx Region now consists of Belvis, Morrisiana, Tremont and Gun Hill all servicing our community and doing the best we can to get people in whether they have or don't have insurance. We offer primary care medicine, pediatric care, women's health services, dental, podiatry, eyes, radiology and synergy, Wick services, mental health services in Morrisiana and particularly we have a very large mental health area there and a provider that comes in only once a week she helps our mental health patients virtually by appointment, but we are getting that up and running, pulmonary care and we do have brochures.

One of the questions I was asked what differentiate us from the Urgent Care Centers popping up throughout the Bronx. Urgent Care is exactly what it is when a patient has an urgent issue, we're different we offer care management, long-term care, referrals, referral tracking. A patient whose coming in and they have diabetes or hypertension or other health issues we follow up. With Urgent Care they're not really managing the patients, they're doing what they can do and then sending the patient on. We have partnerships with our local facilities. Lincoln Hospital. If we have a problem that we can't handle in our Region we will send that patient over to Lincoln first and if Lincoln is not able to handle it, we send that patient to other partners in Manhattan and Queens.

There was another question of how, do we market ourselves, we're Health and Hospitals so we really don't have a large platform of marketing through the regular channels, but we do have an Instagram which showcases what we do. If we're, opening up a new community center it will be highlighted on our Instagram page.

The last question was are there any initiatives coming up, and for right now we don't have any, but we are looking to expand and get more events happening throughout the upcoming year.

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The Chairperson Ms. Brenda Goodwin said that she would like for the members to know that she'd been over to Belvis twice to see what was going on. She had been invited by them and Gotham is also part of the City Health and Hospitals Corporation and I liked what I saw. That area is highly populated with new arrivals and some don't have citizenship status so, they're not willing to always come forth and I always like to see more outreach being done for them Any member of this committee if they choose to can work with you or do outreach with you. Michelle Cruz 646-337-4540 and Michele.Cruz@nychhc.org.

The Chairperson called for a motion to adjourn.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED