



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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VANESSA L. GIBSON
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ANTHONY R. JORDAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

LARISA M. ALAYETO
CHAIRPERSON

Education, Youth & Young Adults Services Committee Minutes

January 8th, 2025

Zion Baldwin, Committee Chairperson

Stephane Calzado, Co-Chairperson

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Approval of Agenda and Introductions

- Committee Chairperson Zion Baldwin calls for a motion to approve the agenda.
- The motion is seconded and approved by the members.
- Anthony Jordan reminds attendees that the meeting is being live-streamed and emphasizes the importance of clear and concise speech.

Presentation on ACS and Child Protection

- Stephanie Glendell introduces the Administration of Child Services Bronx team and outlines the focus of the presentation, which includes child protection and prevention services.
- Lisa Estrella discusses three important topics: culture shifts in child welfare, practice updates on care teams, and front door notifications.
- Shawn Blayton explains the shift from a culture of reporting to supporting families without unnecessary reports, particularly highlighting the disproportionate impact on Black and Hispanic families.
- Ms. Blayton provides data on the number of reports and the percentage of unfounded cases, emphasizing the need to reduce unnecessary reports.
- Tiffany Rivera explains the availability of prevention services and the support line for families in need.

Child Protection Updates and Care Team

- Ms. Rivera continues with an overview of the Child Protection Division and the process of investigations and assessments.
- Ms. Blayton explains the written notification of rights provided to families during investigations.
- Tomiko Scott introduces the collaborative assessment response, engagement, and support (CARES) approach, which prioritizes assessment and partnership with families.
- Committee Chairperson Zion Baldwin opens the floor for questions from board members.

Questions from Board Members

- Member Dalourny Nemorin asks about trends in over-reporting and the impact of charter schools.
- Patricia Simpson inquires about accountability for errors and the process for handling incorrect reports.
- Wendy Brown explains the standard assessment process and the role of supervision in decision-making.

Community Input and Additional Questions

- Jesse McLaughlin raises concerns about the investigatory nature of CARES and the timing of case closures.
- John Perez suggests the use of body cameras for ACS caseworkers and emphasizes the need for community input in determining preventive services.
- Amanda Perez highlights the role of family enrichment centers and the importance of community-driven programs.
- James Dobbins discusses the crisis management system at Lincoln Hospital and the need for additional funding for community-based programs.
- Cynthia Rodriguez calls for data on the most needed preventive services and emphasizes the importance of addressing systemic issues.

Final Questions and Closing Remarks

- Committee Chairperson Zion Baldwin acknowledges the contributions of community members and opens the floor for final questions.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan asks about the role of ACS in PINS cases and the importance of clear communication with families.
- The meeting concludes with a commitment to continue working together to support families and improve child protection practices.

FAP Program and PINS Cases

- Stephanie Glendell explains the FAP program, which families must connect to before filing a PINS (Person In Need of Supervision) petition.
- Stephanie Glendell mentions a resource slide that includes information on FAP and other relevant services.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan discusses the challenges families face and the need for resources to handle situations where children are at risk.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan inquires about the average retention rate for ACS caseworkers and the tools available to them.

Challenges in Retention and Safety Concerns

- Stephanie Glendell admits they don't have data on retention rates but acknowledges the difficulty in retaining staff.
- Lisa Estrella talks about regular check-ins and surveys with staff to gather feedback and improve support.
- Lisa Estrella mentions a safety app that allows staff to reach out for support if they feel unsafe, emphasizing the importance of technology in enhancing safety.

Job Fair Planning and Location Considerations

- Committee Chairperson Zion Baldwin thanks everyone for their contributions and suggests moving forward with the agenda.
- Member Joyce Pulphus discusses the need to establish a location for the spring 2025 job fair and the potential for sponsorship to cover costs.
- Member Joyce Pulphus emphasizes the importance of strategic planning to avoid conflicts and ensure accessibility.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan advises on the importance of understanding conflict of interest rules and seeking guidance from the borough president's office.

Potential Partnerships and Outreach

- Member Dalourny Nemorin suggests partnering with other nonprofit organizations in the district to gain support and resources.
- Member Dalourny Nemorin mentions the importance of early promotion for better attendance and the role of the communications director in creating flyers.
- Speaker 9 reiterates the need for a planning committee to delegate tasks and ensure collaboration.

- Committee Co-Chairperson Stephanie Calzado and others discuss the potential benefits of holding the job fair at St. Mary's Park and the logistical considerations.

Meeting Schedule and Task Delegation

- The group agrees on meeting on Thursdays at 7 PM to plan the job fair.
- Member Joyce Pulphus outlines the need for a planning committee to meet regularly and delegate tasks.
- The group discusses the timeline and the need to confirm a location by the next meeting.

Finalizing the Meeting and Next Steps

- Member Joyce Pulphus emphasizes the importance of collaboration and delegation to ensure the success of the job fair.
- The group agrees to adjourn the meeting and continue planning efforts in the next meeting.
- The meeting concludes with a motion to adjourn, and the group expresses their commitment to the job fair planning.

Action Items

Identify potential partnerships with community organizations to support the spring 2025 job fair.

Confirm a location for the spring 2025 job fair and establish a planning committee to coordinate the event.

Reach out to Bronx Works to explore their support for the job fair in terms of outreach and resources.