



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

3024 THIRD AVENUE

BRONX, NEW YORK 10455

(718) 585-7117 • Fax (718) 292-0558 • E-mail: brxcb1@optonline.net

SERVING PORT MORRIS • MOTT HAVEN • MELROSE



RUBEN DIAZ, JR.
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

GEORGE L. RODRIQUEZ
CHAIRPERSON

HEALTH-HUMAN SERVICES & SENIORS

MINUTES
May 8, 2018

CEDRIC L. LOFTIN
DISTRICT MANAGER

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Ms. Migdalia Ortiz, Peer Corps Member said that the areas I'm going to be talking about is two different areas one is the Family Resource Center which a lot of people don't know and this is one of the districts of high need. Its provide services for children with emotional behavior issues and that could be from a mental diagnosis, an IEP label that the Department of Education gives to children that they may think they need Special Education, Special Needs. They provide Parenting Classes they have two types of Parenting Classes one is called Circle of Security which provides training for new parents with newborns up to the age of five and they also have what they call Emotional Wellness Training for parents with children six and over to twenty-four years of age that have a mental or like I said emotional issues. I have a packet here that you could pass along with the services that the Family Resource Center provides.

I also brought information this is in English and in Spanish which is what I do with the Family Resource Center. I educate and inform parents about substance with teenagers or with a person that they live with or may know someone that has substance abuse. I have a power point presentation here that talks and gives information to parents. In the power point presentation there is data of the risk and the high number of overdose with opioids and heroin and that's another part of my training informing the public about the dangers of opioids and the overdose that is taking place. I also was trained by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in the use of Narcan this is what's used to reverse overdose. It is only used for the purpose of opioids it cannot reverse anything else. But in my power point presentation there are signs and signals to indicate if a person has overdosed and any person can go and get free training with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. They provide the training in all five boroughs it's about two hours long and then once you receive the training they'll give you this free packet. It used to be a syringe they were using and now it's a nasal spray that looks like this there's two in each packet. If you're in a position that you see someone that may have overdosed you can use this and this will reverse the overdose. But I also need to explain to you that if a person is injured from a fall or a car accident and has been administered this Narcan it has to be informed to the Para-Medics or the hospital that this Narcan was used on the person. Because if they go to the hospital and the Doctor gives them a pain medication which has opioids in it will not help them at all because it blocks the medication that has opioid in it. So it's very important that you give this information or that this information is provided to the person that's going to follow up with care. There's also in the packet resources that parents can use for their teens if they think that they're teens are using substances. In the information booklets that I passed out there is a list of all the drugs being used by teenagers today aside from alcohol which is considered a drug and tobacco which people don't discuss nicotine is an addiction as well also mentions Marijuana, LSD, Ecstasy and Speed another form of Ecstasy all the different drugs that teenagers are using today and where the risk of overdose with opioids are happening and this particular neighborhood is one of the highest. The southern part of the Family Resource Center provides services for Community Boards 1, 2 and 3 and these services are free.

Questions and Comments

NEW YORK STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

Mr. Henry Rose said that so this briefly describes the Staffing Law we're attempting to push in the State Senate and the Assembly. Senator Serrano is a supporter, Assemblywoman Arroyo is a sponsor. This Law will then dictate specific numbers for staffing and as the two members here Vice-President Sonia Lawrence and Delegate at Large Lorraine Pierre who are here will of course explain to you some of the challenges that they're facing. Staffing is a continually challenge that the staffing based upon the monies that are coming in particularly the Medicaid cuts have effected Patient Care in low income communities of color in just harmful ways. This is at least an attempt to try and address this and I will pass it on to the ladies.

Ms. Lorraine Pierre Delegate at Large said that I work at Lincoln Hospital Emergency Room Pediatric ER and the Adult ER. Let me just start with the Journal of American Medical Association has found that patient's chance of death increases by 7 percent by each additional patient a Nurse must care for at one time. The same study report is at hospitals that staff with one to eight ratio which is commonly what we experience and more to patient ratio experience five additional deaths per 1,000 patients then those staffed with a one to four Nurse to patient ratio and this is why staffing in all communities are important especially here in the South Bronx. So our Union has a tool with we call a Protest to Assignment that we tend to fill out as we as Nurses feel that we're working under circumstances that could put our patients at risk and most of the POA's are filled out by the entire unit and we take them very seriously as should management. Our Protest of Assignment are filled out every time a Nurse observes conditions that might pose safety issues.

Ms. Sonia Lawrence a Critical Care Nurse said that she has been working at Lincoln for the past 24 years in the Trauma ICU. I serve the most vulnerable of all populations and everyday our patients are placed at risk. We are sometimes staffed with one Nurse to four patients in a Critical Care ICU, one to two Nurses to fourteen patients in Medical ICU. How can we provide the quality care when there is one Nurse servicing six patients in the ICU. This has got to stop our patients are vulnerable we serve the most vulnerable patient population and they deserve quality care in a safe environment. We're here supporting Safe Staffing so I hope you will stand with us.

Ms. Sonia Ivany of the Political and Community Development Department of NYSNA said that so this issue particularly so eloquently mentioned by the Nurses who are present and also Henry Rose who's a key staff person is critical to the healthcare of our community and we know in underserved under privileged communities there is a danger of death and of serious outcomes. Healthcare facilities impacts our communities. Basically we are reaching out to the different Community Boards as yourself and at the same time we have reached out to many of the Elected Officials as Mr. Rose mentioned Assemblywoman Arroyo voted for Safe Staffing and State Senator Jose M. Serrano was one of the sponsors. The Bill passed the Assembly then it got delayed in the Senate. That happens with a lot of critical Bills because of the Republican component in the Senate it's more conservative. Things are shifting within the Legislature as we know the State Senate has five people that are retiring and at the same time there is an influx of the Democratic thinking. Governor Cuomo on April 15th officially came out in support of Safe Staffing at all State Hospitals. The way that it is now as it has been mentioned its one way one place and

Pg. 3

another at another place there is no law so what we're looking for is the law. So what we're aiming for and asking for your support in terms of the Resolution which is here. It's something that has already been supported by the Elected Officials. We have requested a meeting with Councilman Salamanca he's very supportive of our issues. So we would sincerely appreciate the support of Community Board One and look forward to working with you on this.

Questions and Comments

ARGUS COMMUNITY, INC.

Ms. Cynthia De La Rosa Vice President of Operations said that Argus Community, Inc. has assisted individuals in recovering from substance abuse disorders and demonstrated an ability to implement evidence-based treatment since 1968. It has been our mission to provide programs that will help severely disadvantaged teens and adults to free themselves from poverty and drug abuse. This we have accomplished through our medically supervised Outpatient Treatment Programs, continuing Day Treatment Programs and our intensive Residential Programs.

We recently assumed ownership of BOOM Health's three Bronx locations and is now serving as its Parent Agency. Currently BOOM Health offers Harm Reduction Services at 226 East 144th Street premises and we intend to submit a Certification Application to the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) to add a satellite Outpatient Substance Use Treatment Program at that location. Argus is a drug free safe and nurturing environment where we have 20 programs that include residential and vocational tracks preparing individuals to obtain success in both society and the workplace.

Questions and Comments

The Chairperson called for a motion of support of the Resolution Minimum Safe Staffing Ratios throughout the New York City Health & Hospital system presented by the New York State Nurses Association.

Motion made to support the Resolution on Minimum Safe Staffing Ratios throughout the New York City Health & Hospital system. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed unanimously.

The Chairperson called for a motion of support on the Argus Community, Inc. proposed addition of a satellite Outpatient Substance Use Treatment Program at the BOOM Health location of 226 East 144th Street.

The Committee decided to table any support of the proposed Argus Community, Inc. addition of a satellite Outpatient Substance Use Treatment Program at the BOOM Health location of 226 East 144th Street until they returned with more detailed information on the project.

The Chairperson called for a motion to adjourn.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED.