

RUBEN DIAZ, JR. BOROUGH PRESIDENT

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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DISTRICT MANAGER

BETTY BRYANT-BROWN

Y BRYANT-BROWN CHAIRPERSON

HEALTH-HUMAN SERVICES & SENIORS

September 14, 2021 MINUTES

EMMA L. BOWEN COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER

Mr. Luis Laboy Director of Addiction Services and Community Engagement said that first of all I want to extend my condolences about George Rodriguez. Georgie was a good guy and we supported one another throughout probably about 20 years since I've been doing Addiction Treatment Services in this community. Second of all I've worked in the HUB area for about 15 years doing Addiction Treatment Services. I live in the community and live on 149th Street and Prospect.

The recent location that I worked on 2776-2778 3rd Avenue that has historically been an Outpatient Drug Free Program. It's currently vacant and we want to rent that space to continue to engage in outreach to the community to provide them with any resources and assistance that they might need with Addiction Treatment Services. We can provide medication assistance treatment not methadone, mental health services, vocational, parenting skills, alternatives to incarceration.

We currently have been doing outreach for a very long time in this area. We do know the Third Avenue Business Improvement District Michael Brady I have engaged him throughout the years. We know about the Roberto Clemente Plaza, 149th Street, St. Mary's, Patterson Playground, this is where we started doing heavy outreach about 5 years ago along with the Bronx Opioid Impact Project, where we were collecting needles it was close to about 1,500 hundred a week about 1,000 a week at St. Mary's and there were about 500 week at Patterson Playground. This was about when the DREAM came over with the baseball from Harlem, and we were there able to assist in whichever way we could to try and help those individuals that were sleeping and loitering in the vicinity and basically we're still doing it on a regular basis. We're doing outreach, picking up needles, giving out sandwiches and resources to the community. When I say resources, we provide resources like detox and rehab, housing, we connect with other organizations in the community that will help the clients with housing, like BronxWorks, Iris House, Communal Life and also the church that's nearby that has like a shelter there and they're very helpful to the community.

This space is vacant and being a resident of the South Bronx I visit the area constantly and reach out I want to provide the community with the best resources we have available. We want to provide these individuals with the medicine that they need with as much care, attention and love that we can actually provide to take them off the streets. That's what we want, that is our goal and my organization has

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been a bit successful at this and being that we have a community residence in Manhattan we're able to transfer some people to our community residence. We have a pre-school for 3 to 5 year olds as well as our headquarters. We get children prepared for public school, these are children that have behavioral issues and academic issues. We currently have the school open and we have some seats available. We also provide mental health services for children 6 to 18 outpatient, we have about 800 hundred kids in our program right now. We also provide mental health services for adults and seniors and we have addiction treatment services outpatient for individuals from 15 to very old age at our current location. We want to expand our services, we want to be part of the Community Board I know that there's a lot going on and I think that we would be an asset to this community. We do not receive funding from the City, State or Federal government, we charge clients for our services and are licensed by OASIS.

Questions and Answers

The Chairperson Ms. Goodwin called for a vote to provide Emma L. Bowen Community Service Center with a letter of support for their request to rent the commercial property located at 2778 3rd Avenue to provide outpatient drug free addiction treatment services.

The vote was taken with 2 yes and 2 no. The item was not approved for a letter of support.

Chairperson Ms. Goodwin called for a motion to adjourn.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED