



Ruben Diaz, Jr.  
Borough President

## BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 10

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Joseph Russo  
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz  
District Manager

Health and Human Services

October 29, 2020

**Present:** Debbie Hunt, G. Havarnek, Col. Chin. M. Bufano, R. Barbarelli, T. Smith, M. Sajous, Hannah Acampora, Terence Franklin, Bishop N. Rosario

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Paulette Spencer, Mariela Salazar, Darlene Mulero, Lourdes Cartagena

Paulette Spencer of the Bronx Community Health Network gave a PowerPoint presentation on Covid 19 research from a webinar with Dr. Nandi about the potential vaccine. Discussed participating in a clinical trial and a research study. The importance of clinical trials and provided information of the procedure of clinical trials. There is an increase in health disparities especially among minorities. Initiative to decrease health disparities by increasing research by underrepresented populations. For clinical trials go to: [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov). There is a Published document regarding legislation and Covid 19, NYC.gov/dca

Mariela Salazar, Montefiore Hospitals, gave a brief presentation. Mariela praised the PowerPoint presentation and informed that there are various clinical trials at Einstein. There is a need for people of color to apply for clinical trials. You can go to [www.montefiore.org](http://www.montefiore.org) click tab Clinical Trials. Montefiore is a lead researcher in various clinical trials. The drug Remdesivir has been approved by FDA, there are 46 testing sites nationwide to conduct this trial. Covid 19 impacted pregnant women and increased pre-term labor. There was is another research for rheumatoid arthritis and cure discovered by Dr. Vern from Montefiore – Einstein, it is BCX4430.

Darlene Mulero, the Voluntary Service Specialist at Bronx VA Hospital, was next on agenda. Due to Covid 19, the volunteer program is on hold. They are currently giving away Food boxes, with non-perishable food, milk, eggs, yogurt, melons, etc. Call 718-584-9000 x5475 or 5473. For help with disability claims there is a regional office on Houston Street – DAV online or call Ms. Mulero at the same numbers. There is the Fisher House for the families of patients who are undergoing surgery

Lourdes Cartagena, of Emblem Health spoke at the end. Even with your VA benefits, you can obtain additional private health insurance at no additional cost. Enroll in EPIC for medication payment for seniors and burial insurance.

Covid testing is available in Co-op City and Jacobi.

A motion to close at 9 P.M. was proposed by R. Bieder and seconded by T. Franklin and unanimously supported.

