



Chairman Mohammed Mujumder – District Manager: William Rivera

Social Services Committee Meeting Summary

March 4, 2025

Committee Members Present: Nellie Santiago-Rivera, Linda Soto, Chandra Moore, Md Alauddin

Committee Description: The social services committee represents the community's interests with regards to social services including senior services, disability, and veterans concerns and acts as a liaison between community members and the NYC Human Resources Administration, Department of Homeless Services, Department of Aging, and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The Seniors Connected Sub-Committee is under this committee.

I. Speakers

A. Beth Gardner, South Bronx Job Corps Academy

- Ms. Gardner shared that Job Corps is a 60 year old organization that assists young adults ages 16-24 looking to obtain their high school diploma or GED in earning a trade certificate. There are 120 campuses nationwide, and the South Bronx Job Corps Academy provides training in 7 different trades.
- She shared the following information about Job Corps' benefits and programs:
- For those that are eligible, Job Corps is tuition-free and provides housing, meals, basic medical care, a living allowance, hands-on training, work-based learning, and full-time employment placement. After completing the program, Job Corps also offers transitional support services.
- The community relations stakeholder services that are needed are the following: work based learning (internships, job shadowing, volunteering), employer site tours, career development/soft skills, math and reading tutoring, trade tutoring, transitional housing, childcare, and mental health consulting.
- The following services are needed for career development/soft skills: mock interviews, workplace etiquette, time management, professionally dressed, hygiene.
- The work-based learning activity progressions shows that with the work-based learning activities students achieve between 15-50% E-TAR progress in their chosen trade.
- South Bronx Job Corps offers trade programs related to culinary work/hospitality, construction/maintenance, healthcare (CMA, CNA & Phlebotomy), Homeland security/protective services, information technology (A+ Networking/AWS), and office administration.
- The cost benefits are: their living needs are covered, they receive a free metrocard, they have health insurance, free work-based learning opportunities, they can work a minimum of 6 weeks, and they immediately solve staffing shortages.
- The community service and DEI benefits are: they meet community service requirements, allows employers to become mentore, foster professional growth, empowers people with financial stability, and diversifies the workforce.

- The culinary/hospitality program is led by Chef Virgil Balles, and teaches students competencies in baking, vegetable, sauces, allergies/alternative ingredients, and menu planning/purchasing. Students also receive a primary certification: ServSafe Manager, with secondary certifications: Food Handler, ServSafe Allergens, and NYC Food Protections.
- The Construction/Building Construction Technology (BCT) program is led by Instructor Ronald Dennis, and teaches students competencies in Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, Painting, and Facility Maintenance. Students also receive a primary certification: HBI Pre-Apprentice Certificate and Residential Rooftop Solar Photovoltaic Technician, with secondary certifications: OSHA 30H, DOT Flagging, Site Safety Training. Authorized Operator Powder Actuated Tools, and CPR.
- The Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) program is led by Instructor Dr. Daniel Fink, and teaches students competencies in Patient Support and Patient Examinations. Students also receive a primary certification in: Electronic Health Records, Phlebotomy, Certified Medical Assistant, and EKG with secondary certifications in CPR/BLS.
 - Currently there are no requirements for medical assistant licensure in any state, but it is recommended that they have a diploma from an ABHES or CAAHEP-accredited school, a registry from AMT, or certification from AAMA or NHA.
- The Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program, also led by Instructor Dr. Daniel Fink, and teaches students competencies in Patient Care, Medical Administration, and ADLs. Students will also receive a primary certification: CNA State License Certification with a secondary certification: CPR.
- The Homeland Security/Protective Services Program is led by Instructor Darryl Aye, and teaches students competencies in Security Patrol, Fire Prevention, and Safety Oversight. Students will also receive a primary certification: Security Guard License with a secondary certification: FEMA ISP and Fire Guard/F01 & F02.
- The IT Networking/A+/AWS program is led by Instructors Gaston Valz & Brenda Canty, and teaches students competency in Network Administration. Students will receive primary certifications in Microsoft Office Word, Microsoft Office Excel, Microsoft Office PowerPoint, CompTIA A+ (1101 & 1102), CompTIA Network+ (N10 - 008/N10- 009, this will replace N-10- 008), and Amazon Cloud Services.
- The Office Administration Program is led by Instructor Vivian Gathers, and teaches students competencies in Administrative Skills and Copy and Printing. Students will receive a primary certification in: Microsoft Word Specialist, Microsoft PowerPoint Specialist, and Microsoft Excel Specialist with a secondary certification (Biddle Certifications) in: Basic Word Office Proficiency & Intermediate Word Office Proficiency, PowerPoint Office Proficiency, and Basic Excel Office Proficiency. All three Biddle Certifications act as a primary certification.
- For additional information please see SouthBronx.JobCorps.gov or visit their office at 1771 Andrews Ave Bronx, NY 10453.

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