

Brooklyn Community Board 9
890 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11225

Health and Social Services Committee Meeting
October 16, 2025

Attendance (Board Members): Francisca Leopold, Committee Chair; Lisa Etienne; Bakary Tandia

Attendance (Resident Members): Karimah Griffin; Breanne Kaiser

Absent (Board Members): None

Absent (Resident Members): Richardeanea Thoedore

Guests: None

CB9 Staff: Mia N. Hilton, Assistant District Manager

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 7:05pm
 - i. Absences excused for all committee members
2. Community initiatives
 - a. Emphasis on reaching out to senior centers and new community centers. - Focus on family, men's, and women's shelters.
 - b. Plans to bring care packages and toys to children in shelters to "make the young children happy." Holiday and Donation Plans - Organizing toy donations for children at family centers. - Collaborating with elected officials to secure donations
 - c. Exploring partnerships with other organizations for support. Senior Programs and Medicaid Awareness - Planning programs for seniors in 2026, including visits to other centers. - Educating seniors on Medicaid changes and available government services to reduce expenses.
3. Mental Health Awareness and Youth Engagement
 - a. Upcoming four-part mental health awareness event in partnership with local hospitals. - Events include general awareness, youth conversations, and community discussions.
 - b. Working with schools and guidance counselors to raise mental health awareness among youth; Including healthy cooking segments at schools.
4. Action Items
 - a. Coordinate Toy Donations Reach out to directors of family shelters to organize toy donations and care packages for children during the holidays

- b. Plan Senior Programs for 2026 Develop and schedule programs for seniors, including visits to other centers and Medicaid education sessions
 - c. Organize Mental Health Awareness Events Collaborate with hospitals and schools to execute the four-part mental health awareness event and youth engagement activities
 - d. Engage with Elected Officials and Organizations Work with elected officials and community organizations to secure donations and support for upcoming initiatives. Attendance and Meeting
5. Future Meetings and Scheduling
- a. Next meeting scheduled for November. - No meeting in December due to chair's unavailability for the holiday season.
6. Adjournment
- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm