

# CHECK LIST

Harlem Hospital Center-Generations+/Northern Manhattan Network  
February 17, 2012-----



(l-r): Dr. Maurice Wright, Medical Director, Stephane Howze, Chair, Harlem Hospital Center Community Advisory Board, Denise C. Soares, RN, MA, Executive Director, Dr. Reynold Trowers, Director, Emergency Medicine and Ms. Laureen Goodridge, Chief Nursing Officer preparing to cut the Ribbon to the Fast Track Center with ER staff in the background

## FAST TRACK RIBBON CUTTING

On February 8, 2012, Harlem Hospital Center celebrated the opening of the Fast Track Center for the Department of Emergency Medicine with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Ms. Denise Soares, Executive Director, Harlem Hospital Center and Renaissance Health Care Network expressed her gratitude to the Emergency Department team and those who assisted in getting the Fast Track Center established.

Invited guests included Stephane Howze, Chair, Harlem Hospital Center Community Advisory Board; Nina Saxon, Manhattan Borough President Stringer's

Office, Maurice Cummings, Assemblyman Keith Wright's office, and Senior Staff of Harlem Hospital Center.

The Fast Track Center was established to service patients who present with non-urgent complaints, or require medical screening prior to referral to a Primary Care Provider (PCP). The Center will also provide assistance to patients who require some form of clinical treatment to treat or stabilize their condition until a more appropriate arena for definitive care is available.



The Fast Track Center's specific goals will be to reduce waiting time, decrease length of stay (los) and those who leave without being seen (lwbs); improve flow through the acute emergency department; provide medical screening examinations; decompress the

Emergency Department through follow-up care designated during hours of operation, and improve patient satisfaction. The Center will further improve access to care to the Harlem community.



View of the Fast track Center

The Fast Track Center will be open 12 hours a day, six days a week, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday to Saturday. Under the supervision of an Attending Physician, the center will be adequately staffed with a Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner, a Registered Nurse, and ancillary staff.

## PROFILE SECTION... BEHIND THE SCENES

The **Profile Section** features staff members/departments found working diligently behind the scenes, making the hospital function.

In this edition, we profile the Language Assistance Program.

## LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The goal of the Language Assistance Department at Harlem Hospital Center is to facilitate communication between patients, the provider and staff that can not speak the patient's language, so that

the patient can receive safe and equitable health care.

In order to accomplish this goal, the Department engages full-time interpreters, dual role interpreters, volunteers and interns. All persons in these roles are considered qualified medical interpreters by virtue of meeting the requirements of training, testing and supervised interpreter experience. (A dual role interpreter is a staff member who has chosen to receive additional training to be able to interpret within their respective units in addition to their regular job responsibilities).

Harlem Hospital Center Medical Interpreters and the language(s) they interpret are:

- **Christian Gonzalez** - Spanish
- **Sidon Sow** - French, Djoula, Bambara
- **Assana K. Coulibaly** - French, Djoula, Bambara
- **Lucila Jimenez** - Spanish
- **Vajra Kilgour** - Spanish
- **Myrna Smith** - Spanish
- **Marta Tavaréz** - Spanish
- **Rosa Rivera** - Spanish
- **Emma Koffi** - French
- **Blandine Assomou** - French
- **Marol Marmolejos** - Spanish
- **Maria Luisa Herrera** - Spanish

Thank you Ms. Lucila Jimenez, Senior Associate Director and our Medical Interpreters for bridging the language gap between our patients and their providers.





Members of the Walk It Out Senior Program



Walk It Out! Program

### **WALK IT OUT! SENIOR APPRECIATION CEREMONY**

February is National Heart Health Month. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. The Walk It Out! program here at Harlem Hospital Center seeks to significantly increase the number of senior citizens who report physical activity engagement, thereby improving their heart health.

The Walk It Out! program held an appreciation ceremony and heart healthy breakfast for all participants of our Indoor Winter Walking Challenge. The Challenge was held at the Armory at 40 W 143rd Street and the Hansborough Recreation Center at 35 West 134th Street, for three days a week from November 30, 2011 until January 31, 2012. We collaborated with New York Road Runners to provide guided fitness instruction during these sessions. The seniors who attended the most walking

sessions were rewarded with prizes such as water bottles, t-shirts, draw-string bags, and pedometers. They were recognized at an Appreciation Ceremony on February 1, 2012. All seniors received certificates of participation for their efforts to achieve health and wellness through physical activity.

To learn more about the Walk It Out! program, contact the program coordinator, Ms. Amparo Abel-Bey, MPH at extension 1894. Participation in the Walk It Out! program is free and open to all Seniors in Central Harlem.



Ms. Amparo Abel-Bey (r) awarding a senior in the WalkIt Out Program.



The "Giants" are M. Pereira, RN (Lincoln), L. Bailey, DDS, (Renaissance), H. Farooqi (Harlem) and Mr. F. Mercado, (Lincoln).

### **THE PATIENT SAFETY JEOPARDY BATTLE OF THE NETWORKS...**

**Generations+/Northern Manhattan Health Network vs. South Manhattan**

On February 1, 2012, Harlem Hospital Center opened its doors to "HHC Patient Safety Jeopardy Battle of the

Networks." The Jeopardy games tested and showcased staff's expertise in patient safety, while getting everyone prepared for National Patient Safety Awareness Week, on March 4 -10.

The competing Jeopardy teams were the Generations+/Northern Manhattan Health Network's "Giants" against South Manhattan Health Network's "The Five Rights". Both teams consisted of some of the most knowledgeable patient safety staff. This was quite an impressive and intense competition, but the Giants took the win! The Giants will participate in the Jeopardy Finals during National Patient Safety Awareness Week on March 5th at Goldwater Specialty Hospital. Congratulations Generations+/Northern Manhattan Health Network's Giants for advancing to the Finals...

#### FREEDOM'S SISTERS



Beginning February 4th and continuing until April 22, 2012, The Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center will host an exhibition entitled "Freedom's Sisters" celebrating 20 African American women who fought for freedom and changed the course of history.

During the exhibition, there will be an essay contest for students' in grades 4 - 8. The essay (250-500 words) will be "Who is your favorite freedom Sister

and Why? What are you doing to continue her legacy?" The essay can be done in Poetry, Art or Prose format.

- 1<sup>st</sup> place: \$5,000 U.S. Savings Bond
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place: \$2,500 U.S. Savings Bond
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place: \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> runners-up: (1) \$500 U.S. Savings Bond each.

Deadline for the submission of essays is March 16, 2012. Winners will be notified by April 16, 2012.

For further information, please contact (212) 568-1341. To learn more about Freedom's Sisters, please visit their website at [www.freedomssisters.com](http://www.freedomssisters.com) or [www.theshabazzcenter.net](http://www.theshabazzcenter.net).

#### JOINT LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

The Community Advisory Boards of Harlem Hospital Center and Renaissance Health Care Network invite you to attend their Joint Legislative Breakfast on Saturday, March 24, 2012 at 9 a.m. in the Herbert G. Cave Auditorium. The theme for this year's event "Harlem 2012: Healthcare Is A Right." Please help us pack the audience and learn more about the direction of healthcare.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

**President's Day**- Monday, February 20

**Mardi Gras** - Tuesday, February 21

**Ash Wednesday**- Wednesday, February 22, 2012

**Leap Day** - Wednesday, February 29