



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
215 West 125th Street, 4th Floor—New York, NY 10027
T: 212-749-3105 F: 212-662-4215

HENRIETTA LYLE
Chairperson

ANDREW LASSALLE
Assistant District Manager

Health & Human Services Committee

Monday April 21, 2014 6:30pm

Present: Dianne Henderson, Melvin Christian, Cheryl Smith, Donna Gill, Deborah Yates

Excused: Jennifer Jones, Hazel Dukes

Absent: Ibrahima Diafoune, Cicely Harris, Christina Curry, Steven Watkins,

Community Guests:

Ed Hill, Mayors Office on Domestic Violence

Cheryl, Touro College

Roberto Claudio, Citicare Family Health Center

Katherine Nickson

Vincent Vann

The April Health & Human Services Committee meeting opened with an introduction of all Board Committee members and visitors.

Mayor's Office of Domestic Violence

Ed Hill from the Mayor's Office of Domestic Violence came before the committee to tell the community about the services that this office provides. The Domestic Violence Office has been in existence for 12 years. In 2013 NYPD responded to 8,106 domestic incidents in the 32nd and 28th Precincts combined which is about 22 incidents a day. The majority of the calls were within the 32nd Precinct with 5,680 calls in 2013.

The Office of Domestic Violence operates a Family Justice Center located at 80 Center Street on the 5th Floor. The Center is open Mon-Fri 9-5 and no appointment is necessary. Services provided are free and include counseling, crisis intervention and assistance with public benefits. The Center also provides counselling for children of Domestic Violence. A children's room is available for children of domestic violence parents while they talk to counselors. The Center is co located with the District Attorney's office for easy access if needed. Two specially trained policed officers stationed at the center. There is one Family Justice Center per borough open and operating except for Staten Island which is in the process of opening.

One reason victims of Domestic Abuse remain in these relationships is that housing is limited. There are very few Domestic Violence shelters. Domestic Violence Centers are confidential but if your abuser shows up at the shelter the abused victim is asked to leave.

The Office of Domestic Violence has Youth prevention programs they hire teens in college or third or fourth year of High School and train them and send them out to schools to talk about health and unhealthy relationships. For example if a person texts you 10 or 15 times a day it seems cute in the beginning of a relationship but when it escalates to 40 or 50 times a day inquiring about where you are and what you are doing the teen may not realize that this may be a control issue. The Office of Domestic Violence is in the process of hiring new teens for every borough and the application can be found on their website at www.NYC.gov/domesticviolence. They hope to have all applications to begin training by the end of June and July. The training is a week long, 8 hour day training sessions. The teen peers are not encouraged to have one on one session with teens; they are trained to recognize problems and then hand it over to a trained counselor. After the students complete the training they are paired with a more experienced counselor. The teens travel around from borough to borough and workshops are offered to parents as well. The Office of Domestic Violence had a successful session with the Blue Nile at Abyssinian Baptist Church says our board member Donna Gill. Donna Gill stated that the children were very impressed and made them think about themselves and their relationships.

Rose Pierre-Louis the new commissioner wants her staff to let the community know that the office exists and has been in existence for twelve years. They attend street fairs and churches as well. New commissioner would like to open up satellite offices in Harlem and Washington Heights as well as other communities. The office is also working on better coordination with other city agencies, NYCHA, HRA to make it easier for victims of Domestic Violence to get services.

Cheryl Smith a board member commented that the NYS Dept of Health is working on sexual health plan to be launched on the 29th and to publicize and promote it there is a video contest. The office has a partnership with C-town, Bravo grocery stores and Pet land will take flyers from the Domestic Violence Office and put it in the bags of grocers for a month of any zip code that the Domestic Violence office gives them for the past four years. C-town makes the copies at their own expense.

Ed Hill has been attempting to contact the Chairperson of NYCHA Resident Board. Dianne Henderson will give them a contact.

www.NYC.gov/domesticviolence