



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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HENRIETTA LYLE
Chairperson

ANDREW LASSALLE
Assistant District Manager

Health & Human Services Committee

Monday March 17, 2014 6:30pm

Present: Chair Hazel Dukes, Dianne Henderson, Christina Curry, Melvin Christian, Donna Gill, Deborah Yates

Excused: Jennifer Jones, Cicely Harris

Absent: Ibrahima Diafoune, Steven Watkins, Cheryl Smith

Community Guests:

Faruk Khwaja, Care Counseling

Susan Thomas, Cornerstone

Crystal Jordan, HV/VRAM

Helena Judd, Plai Theatre

Roberto Claudio, Citicare, Family Ctr

Ashley Umukoro, Citicare

David Bochner, Cornerstone

David Harris

Doreen Howe, VH/VRAM

Robert Goldberg, Touro College

Jackee Namwila, Citicare Family Ctr

Vincent Vann

The March 2014 Health & Human Services Committee meeting opened with an introduction of all Board Committee members and visitors.

Plai Theatre

Helena Judd explained the Plai Theatre works with special needs children with autism learning disabilities and their peers and adults. Plai is funded in part by the Lower Manhattan Arts Council in partnership with Gigis Playhouse. Plai promotes the idea that every person has an able imagination and are worthy of expressing themselves. Plai Theatre is hosting an orientation on the last Saturday in March. Staff is made up of theatre artists that pair with therapists. The therapist will acknowledge if the child is struggling in a particular area. Plai started in 2012 working with lower income families.

Dr. Dukes recommended Plai attend the Education Committee meeting and give them the opportunity to follow up

Citicare

Citicare has been a family health clinic since for 17 years. It deals with a staff of providers psycho social staff working on re-entry population and children with cognitive problems. They want to increase the service level being provided to the Harlem community located on 127 Street in a renovated building. Primary care, pediatrics and psycho social, help with housing, SSI. Board member Christina Curry's organization will send referrals over to Citicare. Individualized therapy done on site along with anger management, family therapy and programs for the LGBT community. Citicare helps Child abusers and victims. Applied for sponsorship from the greater Harlem chamber of commerce, they will be involved with the Harlem week festivities this year.

Cornerstone Care Counseling Center (CCC)

Cornerstone Care Counseling is seeking a letter of support. Faruk Khwaja the CEO of the center presented. He is in the process of taking over the operations and ownership of a substance abuse center located on 116th street that has been in existence for 4 years. Mr. Dave Bochner is the current Executive Director he is a LMSW with a background in the health care for close to 20 years. CCC Is one of the largest centers of its kind in the State of New York. NYS office of alcohol substance abuse has given its preliminary approval. CCC thought it was important to come before the Health Committee. Cornerstone has an exemplary record for the past 4 years. CCC recognizes that Harlem is a community that has a diverse need. CCC is CARP accredited which is good for three years. CCC programs fit seamless in the community, and they try to be good neighbors and take pride in what they do. Programs exist for family members of substance abusers as well. CCC has been in existence since January 2008 and was originally located at 57 west 57 street. At the outpatient program on 116th street patients are there from 1 to three hours per visit. At the 116 street location 115 people are registered and they treat 25-50 people a day. Patients are referred through the courts, churches, food pantry, walk ins., CCC takes all insurance, HIP, Medicare etc. The Center is staffed by social workers and social worker interns. A diverse staff to reflect the people they serve. Will take it to the executive committee

Harlem United

Seeking a letter of support. Harlem United Started in the basement of churches during the AIDS epidemic 26 years ago. It started as a day care for adults with AIDS until they established their first site. Harlem United recognizes the need for additional services in the community and they have added medical services, dental and mental services as well as housing placement. In 2014 has three areas a prevention arm, outreach teaching, housing unit for people with AIDS, house for people without aids, and health service arms, provides medical dental care. Harlem United has identified a need we feel the community can benefit from. Have a site on 133 and Lenox. This site will provide medical, dental and mental health service to the general population. Harlem United will serve those people who are at 200% of federal poverty level. They are in the process of applying for Article 31, because they want to expand to family counseling and group counseling. The new location has 11 exam rooms 3 dental room and a floor for counseling. Counselors will be on site to assist people with Medicaid registration. The site is built and ready

for occupancy located at 169 west 133 street. It is not a residential site it has six floors with 13,000 square feet.

A major concern of the Health Committee was this centers proximity to Harlem Hospital which offers the same services.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dianne Henderson gave an update on the upcoming Health Forum. It is scheduled for Saturday, March 22nd from 8-12pm, at the Ralph Lauren Cancer Center located at 109 E124th Street. The forum will have two panels, one covering the Affordable Care Act and another discussing Digital Health. The Committee is hoping to offer Mammograms, Blood Pressure Screenings among other things. Christina Curry asked to ensure that there is a portable mammogram machine for the disabled. There will be Healthcare Navigators available to help with questions regarding the Affordable Care Act. The facility is wheelchair accessible and the flyer will reflect accessibility. There will be health providers in attendance, Metro Plus and Emblem Health and Healthfirst. There will be pre registration offered and hope to have that online soon. Dr. Goldberg from Touro College offered to have some of his students available to provide Blood Pressure screenings. Although the Forum will end at noon we are working to ensure the services are available until 4pm. Several people in attendance offered to distribute flyers once they are completed. Press will be invited.

Meeting Adjourned

*** NEXT MEETING: Monday April 21st at 6:30pm ***