



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10**  
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**HENRIETTA LYLE**  
Chairperson

**ANDREW LASSALLE**  
District Manager

**Health & Human Services Committee**

Monday September 15, 2014 6:30pm

**Present:** Hazel Dukes, Michelle Booker, Melvin Christian, Christine Curry, Ibrahima Diafoune, Donna Gill, Cicely Harris, Jennifer Jones, Cheryl Smith, Deborah Yates  
**Absent:** Khalifa Diop, Steven Watkins

**Community Guests:** Katherine Nickson, Community Advocate, Valerie Wright, Harlem Hospital, Giovanni Puello, MBPO, Andrew Johnson, Columbia Journalism School, Hasan Muhammad, QA Foods, Robert Goldberg, Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Welcome/Introductions**

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

The Health & Human Services committee stated type 2 diabetes impacts the Central Harlem community and there should be prevention methods addressed to the community. One method discussed was obesity and weight loss prevention.

Dr. Dukes referenced the use of recreational facilities such as the Harlem Y to combat the problem of obesity and type 2 diabetes. Dr. Dukes also, mentioned healthcare provider Blue Cross Blue Shield participates in a program called “silver sneakers” in which they pay for senior citizens gym fees/membership to promote a healthy lifestyle. The committee brought to everyone’s attention the use of medical spending accounts and the use of recreational facilities.

The committee agreed to discuss the topic at meetings to get the community aware, motivated and involved.

Christina Curry stated agencies are trying to have reduced the prices for disabled patrons and seniors for recreational services.

The committee agreed on the increase of outreach within the community and the importance of finding a solution in regards to outreach within the bilingual residents of Central Harlem.

**District Needs Statement**

Dr. Dukes asked the Liaison for the Annual Report/Needs Statement from Harlem Hospital to use the data to help fortify the District Needs Statement.

Dr. Dukes stated that they would push for a fellow and work the Manhattan Borough President's office to identify data to help work on the future district needs.

The committee came to the conclusions:

- a. The use of city data should be added to the district needs statement as well as data from Harlem hospital.
- b. Mental Health should be highlighted within the District Needs Statement. We need some priorities within the District Needs Statement with Mental health, Alzheimer's, and Depression being a few of them.
- c. Prioritize HIV, Obesity, and Cardiovascular disease awareness.

### **Cornerstone, Care Counseling**

No representations for Cornerstone Care Counseling were in attendance.

Dr. Dukes stated she will be contacting Cornerstone Care Counseling informing them about the status of presenting to the Executive Committee. As of present, no letter of support will be furnished.

### **Greater Harlem Nursing Home**

Harlem Nursing Home is now owned by Allure Group headed by Joe Leck. The committee agreed on contacting the Allure Group and meet with them at a future meeting to find out what services they can provide, a list of staffing and a breakdown of operations.

### **QA Foods**

Hasan Muhammad introduced QA Foods to the Health & Human Services committee and gave a brief introduction on the services QA foods provide.

The committee discussed health concerns in regards to QA Foods.

### **WEACT**

Dr. Dukes was unable to get in contact with WEACT; in result no letter of support will be obtained.

Meeting Adjourned \*\*\* NEXT MEETING: Monday October, 20th at 6:30pm \*\*\*