



Matthew S. Washington
Chair

George Sarkissian
District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
1664 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10035
TEL: (212) 831-8929/30
FAX: (212) 369-3571
www.cb11m.org

Health & Human Services Committee

October 14th, 2010

Community Board 11 Office

1664 Park Avenue

New York, NY 10035

Present: David L Giordano, Deborah Quinones, Johnny Rivera, Hans Desnoyers, Joseph Goldbloom, Willie Mae Goodman & Olga Ambert,

Absent: Erik Mayor

Excused: Jewel Jones, Monica Brown, Beverly Alston, Martin Garcia

Guest(s): Solomon Escott, Cardona, Frances Mestroda, Erica Hutchek

Opening Remarks:

The H&HS Committee Chair called meeting to order welcoming committee members and guests. The Committee Chair went over Agenda items to be discussed and that there would be two presentations: one from Escott of The Institute for Family Health & Arlex Cardona of Well Care.

Discussions and Presentations:

The Institute for Family Health

Mr. Salomon Escott, Director for Outreach, The Institute for Family Health explained two purposes for presenting to the H&HS Committee, to make a formal presentation on all available health related services and clinics available through The Institute for Family Health, and inform the community that they have a Clinic available on the site of North General Hospital. Mr. Escott explained that they provide the following health care services from General Health Care, Prenatal, Pediatrics, Dental, and Mental Health they have available through their clinics and specifically those available at the Institute for family cars at North General. Mr. expressed that he was also concerned that the facility located at North General was being underutilized because the community and clients/patients did not realize nor know that they were was still health care services available on site at the North General facility and that were being operated by other agencies. Mr. Escott explained that the name, **The Institute for Family Health Care at North General**, seemed to confuse many people as they associated the clinic's name as being part of the Hospital as opposed to being a separate service and agency which is located in North General Hospital. So when people heard the hospital was closing, they did not know The Institute for Family Health Care at North General would be relocated to the facility with different entrances until the move to an annex being built at 119th street.

Well Care:

Mr. Arlex Cardona, Outreach Coordinator of Well Care. Mr. Cardona explained that Well Care is a Medicaid Managed Long Term Care services, Medical Health Plan. Their goal is to provide health and supportive services to people with chronic health illness or disabilities in order to support them to remain in living in their home. The enrollment criteria is the person must have or be eligible for Medicaid, at least 18 years old, Reside in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan or Queens, and Have a chronic Illness and/or Disability. Eligible individuals will be assessed to receive the following benefits: Nursing Services in the Home, Home Health Aide, Adult Health Care, Social Day Health, Rehabilitation Therapies and Free Transportation for Medical Appointments. H&HS Committee members offered suggestions and other potential places for outreach. Mr. Cardona mentioned that Well Care Director will be presenting at up-coming Full-Board meeting.

Mission Statement, Goals, Vision & Budget Priorities.

The Chair explained and summed up the decision to examine and develop a new committee mission statement to set the goals, direction, and the work of the H&HS Committee. The Chair once again expressed the importance of the Committees Mission be developed by the Committee Members as we represent the Board, the Community and many diverse persons and populations. The Chair reminded committee members that with the addition of sub-committees within the H&HS Committee, we do need to look at the influence the sub-committees have on the mission, goals and direction of the H&HS Committee There was some discussion again on the relationship between the H&HS Committee and the Senior's and Mental Retardation sub-committees. The H&HS Committee Chair and members felt there needs to more clarification and follow-up with regards to both Sub-Committees. The Board Chair, Vice Chair and the Committee Chair will be meeting with Sub Committee Chairs and representatives to further address these issues. The Chair then handed out the current and proposed mission statements submitted by committee members. The Committee members then reviewed each of the statements and had further discussion regarding which statement best met the overall view and mission of the committee. The overall consensus was proposal one, which seemed to really meet what the group felt should be the direction of the H&HS Committee be at this time. The Proposed H&HS Committee Mission:

- ✓ The Health & Human Services Committee Mission is to increase and improve access to quality health care and social services for all CD 11 Residents (children, youth, adults and seniors) through advocacy, research (community need assessments) and public policy.

Motion:

Debra Quinones then made a motion to accept the proposed new mission statement with the changing the word *Harlem Residents* to *CD 11 Residents*. The Motion was second by Jonny Rivera and passed unanimously

The committee Chair once again thanked committee members for the submissions and all their time and effort spent to complete this important task as it will guide and shape the work we do as we examine our Budget Priorities.

The Chair then asked members to review the current Budget Priorities and to prepare to think about if these are still relevant to our work and mission and/or are there other priorities we want to think about for next year. The group examined the two current Expense Budget Priorities: Hire More Doctors/Bi-Lingual Doctors which remains a big issue and need; and Hire additional Pest Control inspectors and exterminators, especially due to the Bed Bug epidemic occurring throughout this community. After discussing these topics and priorities, we felt that both of these two budget priorities are still extremely relevant and are in line with our proposed mission statement and the work of the H&HS Committee.

The Chair then asked members to think about and prepare for the next meeting, how do we address these budget priorities and move them from paper into action? The Chair expressed that since the Committee now has created a new Mission and established our priorities, it is now important for the Committee to examine what direction we go next. How do we address and put into action what the committee identifies are the priorities, goals and direction of the committee. The Chair asked members to think about taking what assignments they can take on and again stressed being pro-active in how we approach and work at the issues put before the committee.

New Business:

During the committee meeting, an underlying theme of the Health Care Reform & Budget Cuts kept coming up. Specifically, there is a lot concern and uncertainty of what will be the changes and how will these changes impact on the Community, individuals, available services and service providers. There is also concern and uncertainty about the information and accuracy of the information that is being disseminated to the community. Many committee members agree and feel that we, as a committee need accurate and factual information so that we can better understand and convey that information to the community. The Committee members discussed asking various expertise to give presentations on their knowledge and clarification on the health care reform and budget cuts. Some of the individuals mentioned to invite are: Judy Wissler, BP Health, Dr Torres, Regional Director, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Martin Garcia Board/Committee Member. The Committee will follow-up with inviting these individuals to present at upcoming committee meetings. During the discussion, a question was raised regarding the role and responsibility of the H&HS Committee to address these issues and whether the committee is to take action. It is the Committee Chair's believe that it is the responsibility of the H&HS Committee and the Board to obtain such info, disseminates and clarify what is being put out there so that those we represent are informed, understand and can make educated decisions based on accurate and factual knowledge.

Announcements

David L. Giordano

Chair announced that H&HS Committee/Board Member Martha Wiggins was stepping down from committee. Chair wanted to officially thank Ms. Wiggins for her contributions and continued support to the committee.

Joseph Goldbloom

Announced there is a new DOH Assistant Commissioner, for Inter-Government Affairs, Sam Miller

Johnny Rivera:

1. Mr. Rivera reminded H&HS Committee about the monthly Round Table discussions at Mt. Sinai. The next luncheon will be October 21st 2010 at 12:00 pm on the topic of Cancer.
2. Mr. Rivera announced the Mt. Sinai Hospital was also looking for more Community Members and CD 11 Board Members to serve on their Mt. Sinai CAB (Community Advisory Board).
3. Mr. Rivera also announced the Mt. Sinai Adolescent Clinic is developing their own CAB and are also looking for more Community Members and CD 11 Board Members to serve on this new CAB for their adolescent services and are looking for young people starting t age 16 to serve on the CAB.

Debra Quinones:

Ms. Quinones announced that the all of the HIV Networks such as Aids Institute will be closing as of December 31st as they no longer have the money to fund this service. Ms. Quinones explained that the Health Networks have struggled and survived for the past 16 years but can no longer obtain the funding needed to continue services past December 31st, 2010.

Willie Mae Goodman:

1. Ms. Goodman mentioned the Mental Retardation Sub Committees efforts to bring in administrators to address the proposed budget cuts and advocate with Albany against MRDD going back under OMH's (New York State Office Of Mental Health) administration.
2. Announced that her daughter will be celebrating her 55 Birthday on October 26th and will be having a celebration at Terrance Cardinal Cook on November 6th.

Action Items

Debra Quinones then made a motion to accept the proposed new mission statement with the changing the word *Harlem Residents* to *CD 11 Residents*. The Motion was second by Jonny Rivera and passed unanimously

Adjournment

Ms. Quinones moved to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Joe Goldbloom and passed unanimously.