



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose



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BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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CHAIRPERSON

ANTHONY R. JORDAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

Health & Human Services Committee Minutes

June 18th, 2024

Marilyn Peña, Committee Chairperson

DRAFT

Nutrition education and community events in the Bronx.

- Ms. Carolina Espinosa from BronxWorks presents at the Health and Human Service Committee meeting.
- Ms. Carolina Espinosa discusses Mott Haven farmstand's activities, including cooking demos and nutrition education.
- Ms. Carolina Espinosa mentions the organization's programs for older adults, young adults, and high schoolers, and how they can work with after-school programs.
- Ms. Carolina Espinosa and Member Marcelo Villagran discuss the summer concert series and visual theme, and how to reach them for collaborative programming.

Food insecurity and access to SNAP benefits in a community.

- District Manager Anthony Jordan emphasizes importance of SNAP benefits for food insecure communities.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan mentions 600,000 people applied to the recent opening of the Section 8 waiting list, with only 20,000 vouchers available.
- Committee Chair Marilyn Pena thanks District Manager Anthony Jordan for discussing the importance of accessing benefits.

Mental health services in the Bronx, including clinic services and grant funding.

- Mr. Billy Green, Senior Director of Clinical Programs at Cases, discusses the clinic services provided in the Bronx, including mental health services, diversion programs, and mobile treatment teams.
- Cases has served over 2000 Bronx residents, including 300 receiving mental health services at the outpatient clinic, 1100 in diversion programs, and 300 in young adult and youth programs.

- Mr. Billy Green explains the clinic's mission to provide holistic mental health services, including substance use treatment, under the CCBHC model.
- The clinic has received a \$3 million grant from U.S. SAMSA to expand its services and provide individual counseling, group counseling, and medication-assisted treatment.
- Mr. Billy Green discusses the organization's plans for a ribbon-cutting ceremony and invites elected officials, while acknowledging the need for more staff members.
- The organization takes clients on field trips and promotes other community organizations, despite funding limitations.

Criminal justice system and mental health services for youth and young adults.

- District Manager Anthony Jordan asks about success rate of pretrial services, recidivism rates.
- Mr. Billy Green provides information on programs for young adults and under-18s, including ACEs, Jack, Choices, and MAP YFP.
- Mr. Billy Green discusses challenges in providing mental health services to individuals in the criminal justice system.
- Programs like Police Athletic League provide services directly in communities to prevent youth from entering the criminal justice system.
- Cuts in legislation have impacted youth programming, including the impact and aces programs, leaving gaps in services.

Mental health services and accessibility.

- Mr. Billy Green: Mental health services don't share information with courts without consent.
- Mr. Billy Green: Mobile outreach and crisis program provides immediate assistance.
- Mr. Billy Green discusses the Office of Mental Health and its role in governance.
- Committee members discuss upcoming events and activities, including a health fair and disability pride month events.

Action Items

BronxWorks (Carolina Espinosa) to provide flyers about veterans being eligible for \$50 in fresh connect benefits at VA hospitals.

BronxWorks (Carolina Espinosa) and Lincoln Hospital (Marcelo Villagran) to coordinate tabling at Lincoln Hospital's upcoming summer concert series on Thursdays from 12-2pm.

CASES (Billy Green) to share details of their upcoming open house event in July with the community board.