



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK**  
**BOROUGH OF THE BRONX**  
**COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT    YAJAIRA ARIAS, CHAIRPERSON    KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

<b>Chair:</b>	<b>Michelle Avila</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>February 20, 2024</b>
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Mosholu Montefiore Community Center</a></u>, 3450 Dekalb Ave, Bronx, NY 10467</b>
<b>Members In Attendance:</b>	<b>✓ Michelle Avila   ✓ Alfred Grant   ✓ Chad Royer ✓ Helene Wilson   _ Emmanuel Assamoah   ✓ Tobie Buford ✓ Momodou Sawaneh</b>
<b>Minutes done by:</b>	<b>Michele Avila</b>

**Minutes:**

- I. Meeting Guidelines read by Michelle Avila**
- II. Introductions/Attendance-Quorum was met**
- III. Review of Previous Months Minutes:** There were no minutes since the committee did not meet quorum
- IV. Follow-up From Previous Month:** N/A
- V. New Business**
  - A. North Central Bronx Updates**
    - 1. Diane Arroyo - Assistant Director of Public Affairs at North Central and Jacobi Hospital
      - a) Jacobi has installed a new mammogram machine and a weapon detection system near the front entrance to scan all incoming patients
      - b) Several upcoming events include:
        - (1) A Trauma/Emergency Medicine Symposium on May 1. More details to come.
        - (2) Health Fair with Bronx House Community Center on March 14 from 11am-2pm

THIS MEETING'S MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT:

229-A EAST 204TH STREET ♦ BRONX, NY 10458 ♦ PHONE: (718) 933-5650

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(3) Every Friday, the hospital offers job positions where applicants can have on-site interviews

**B. Rina Castro, Mosholu Montefiore Community Center (MMCC)**

1. MMCC are looking for community members to join the Crime and Safety Council. Anyone aged 14 and older can join and they are looking to recruit 25 members.
2. Members identify safety issues concerning the community and how to address those concerns
3. Applications are on a rolling basis

**C. Kyshonna Hollington, LP-MFT, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic at the Jewish Board**

1. She and her two colleagues, Jim Kupel and Isabella Parea from Crescendo Consulting Group facilitated a community health need discussion
  - a) Jim asked the following questions and board members and the public gave their responses

**(1) *What comes to mind when you hear about behavioral health?***

- (a) Members said homeless people suffering with mental health, lack of access to mental health services, and violence-prone people

**(2) *What are the issues regarding availability of mental health services in your community?***

- (a) Long wait times, lack of transportation options and people who are not willing to admit they need mental health services

**(3) *What are the barriers to mental health?***

- (a) Co-pay, language barrier, health insurance, age, etc.

**(4) *What are the 3 biggest issues of mental health?***



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(a) Members responded with varying answers, such as anxiety, substance abuse, family and relationship issues, etc.

**(5) Which populations are most affected?**

(a) Hispanics, African American, veterans, people with disabilities, etc.

**(6) What is the most pressing issue in your community?**

(a) Lack of affordable housing, employment, medicine, and fresh and healthy foods

**(7) What is one thing you can change about your community or mental health?**

(a) Universal healthcare, education to youth, more affordable housing, etc.

**VI. Next Meeting Date:** March 19, 2024

**VII. Discussion on Next Agenda**

A. Michelle and the other committee members talked about bringing a partner organization who can show them narcan kits and how to safely use them

B. Chad made a suggestion about offering a letter of support to mandate certain organizations and businesses, such as community centers and pharmacies to have a minimum number of narcan kits, so that people can get access to them right away

C. Michelle will bring information regarding the illegal cannabis shops and city and state regulations

**VIII. Adjournment:** Meeting is adjourned