



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

**ANDREW LASSALLE**  
District Manager

**Health & Human Services Committee**

Monday June 16, 2014 6:30pm

Hon. Hazel Dukes, Chair

Hon. Jennifer Jones, Vice Chair

**Committee Members**

Present: Cheryl Smith, Donna Gill, Deborah Yates, Michelle Booker, Christina Curry,

Excused: Jennifer Jones, Cicely Harris

Absent: Ibrahima Diafoune, Steven Watkins, Melvin Christian, Khalifa Diop

**Community Guests:**

Vincent Vann

Katherine Nickson, Community Advocate

Jeffrey Collins, Argus Community, Inc.

Corwin Breeden,

Jamie Ford, Argus Community, Inc.

Doreen Howe, Harlem United

Cheryl, Touro College

Vanessa Moseley, One Body One World

Stacy Browne, VOA

Leslie Armstrong, Volunteers of America

Vincent Vann

Alvaro Salas, VOA

Robert Goldberg, Touro College

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

**Volunteers of America – Leslie Armstrong**

Corwin Breeden of MIGDOL Organization introduced Leslie Armstrong. Volunteers of America (VOA) is a National Organization with offices in NYC, NJ and Ct as well. Currently operate 4 shelters, one in Manhattan regent 140 units over 80 staff, two located in the Bronx on University Avenue residents and both located near 1561 street Lydia Hoffman 155 east 172<sup>nd</sup> street . Bushwick family residence in Bklyn just won RFP from Salvation Army. Two tier programming is not new to Volunteers of America they have been providing these services for over 10 years. Develop relationship with the MIGDOL Organization. Volunteers of America proposes to provide a full array of services to the families, on-site child care, recreation services,

social services, restorative services case management, benefits assistance and suitable housing services that the client can maintain. A Housing Coordinator who will provide support to the shelters will attend monthly meetings to discuss new housing opportunities and the difficult cases. Young adults 18-24 which make up a number of our clients do not have a wide skill set and normally work in jobs with non traditional working hours so Volunteers of America provides 24 hour child care services. VOA is hoping to get the support of CB10 Health & Human Services Committee.

The RFP just awarded to them would include an employment specialist and allow the continuation of a housing specialist, expand security case managers at each site, more monitoring and oversight of the programs. It will also allow for a Program Director as well as an Associate Program Director and a Social Services manager. There will be no expansion of the caseload because there are no additional units available. With this expansion and additional staff Migdol will be able to place families quicker into permanent housing. We are not expanding cases because we only have a limited number of units to provide services.

Clients receive services on the first day of intake continued services are based on case management. New York City has a 10 day window to investigate if the person is truly homeless and if they can help them get back into their apartment. New York City assigns the client to the shelter where there is a vacancy for their family size. Intake is done 24 hours a day 7 days a week where questions about housing history, substance abuse or mental health issues, and employment background are discussed. Program staff has a meeting where each case is assigned to a case management team who will discuss what is appropriate and meet with the family to discuss their recommendations. The Case Management team also wants to know what it is the client wants to do and where they want to go. This process takes place within the first 24-48 hours. The family must apply for public assistance even if they feel they are not qualified for assistance. With the public assistance application the client will be assigned a case number and in that way the City will be able to track the family as they move through the shelter system. Public Assistance is the longest part of the process, once paperwork is filed it can take up to 45 days before a response is received. During this 45 day period oftentimes clients will get discouraged at the process and opt out only to come back to start the process all over again. There is also an employment coordinator and everyone has access to this coordinator even if they have not qualified for public assistance and the 24 hour day care. It normally takes nine months to one year before a family is ready to move out of the shelter into what VOA hopes will be a permanent home.

Dr. Dukes recommended that the Committee provide a Letter of Support.

### Harlem United

Doreen Howe of Harlem United came to discuss their Adult Day Care Health Centers on 124<sup>th</sup> Street and one in East Harlem on 116<sup>th</sup> Street. These centers are for individuals who are HIV positive the goal is to help them stabilize their lives and in turn stabilize their health. Address the issues in the clients lives that impact their ability to take care of their health. The clients' substance abuse, mental illness, social needs and housing needs. Harlem United has

approximately 600 housing units in New York. Group and individual treatment. Groups deal with drugs. Intensive Day program where clients spend a minimum of three hours. Apply for an Article 32 OASAS grant to place two staff members in the adult day care centers on the west side and two on the east side to offer clients who don't need a day program individual and group help around their recovery. Although methadone clinics do exist current clients at Harlem United are not comfortable in those clinics and Harlem United feels this will be a great alternative service to support the client's recovery. Currently there are 400 clients in the Adult Day Care Centers, of that number 50 clients would utilize the less intensive programs. This is not a new program it is just an expansion of services already being provided. Harlem United is looking for a letter of support to provide to OASAS.

### One Body One World

Vanessa Moseley of One Body One World is offering Healthy Lifestyle Change in a supported environment. She will also be offering semi personal training services. Lifestyle workshops will be available. She will not have a location but will use space already located in the community. Dr. Dukes mentioned that Emblem Health offers healthy lifestyle programs that are free and participants need not be Emblem Health customers. Vanessa Moseley she has been a personal trainer for 5 years and doing coursework at New York University in Self Care as Primary Care. Fees would range from \$20 a week for services to lifestyle workshops that would cost \$300 per person.

### Doctor Goldberg, Touro College

Doctor Goldberg spoke about the possible partnership between Touro College and Harlem United. The proposal is for medical students at Touro College in their second year would shadow doctors at Harlem United. First year students would watch and learn and the second year students would take more hands on participation. Start program in August 2014 and an affiliation has been started.

Dr. Dukes had an email from Dr. Palmer stating that graduation going into masters program. This class has increased over the proposed 19% of under-represented minorities. 31 students enter into the masters program be invited to enter. Community Advisory Board had a modest fundraising event where Dr. Dukes encouraged the Board to try harder to raise funds. The Board took the recommendation and now there is a grant for \$150,00 given by a physician in the community, \$50,00 of which has been matched by faculty and another \$200,000 has been pledged but not collected. Touro College is looking for a Central Harlem African American applicant to take advantage of these monies.

### Youth Intervention Development

Jeffery Collins, Argus Community is looking for a Letter of Support from the Health and Human Service Committee to attached to an RFP that is due by July 7<sup>th</sup>. 262 west 145 street this program

has been in existence for over 42 years. Argus is now licensed to operate the facility but recently OASAS announced their prevention services that are being offered and expire by June 30, 2014 will need be awarded through a competitive process. This is not a new program only a request to continue an existing program. The RFP also includes proposed programs in three schools in the Harlem area so a joint letter is requested from Health and Human Services and the Education Committee. Mr. Collins will attend the Education Committee Meeting to present to that committee.

#### Needs Assessment

Needs Assessment was brought up by Dr. Cheryl Smith. We should use New York State Prevention agenda as our needs assessment for this year which has five areas of concentration. Ask New York State to look at our particular district and request a dashboard for our district tracking these five areas.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

This committee will look at the absenteeism of its members.

Meeting Adjourned

\*\*\* NEXT MEETING: Monday September 15th at 6:30pm \*\*\*