



Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

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Eleazar Bueno, Chairperson
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

March 2, 2021

Hon. Norris Cochran
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Re: Resolution in support of the Emma Bowen Community Service Center's applications for federal grants to expand substance and mental health services in Upper Manhattan

Dear Secretary Cochran:

At the General Meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, Community Board 12, Manhattan passed the following resolution with a unanimous vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting, supporting the grant applications submitted by the Emma Bowen Community Service Center (aka Upper Manhattan Mental Health Center) to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to expand its vital services to youths and families in Washington Heights-Inwood and our neighboring communities in north Manhattan.

WHEREAS: The Emma Bowen Community Service Center (aka the Upper Manhattan Mental Health Center, Inc.), founded in 1968, is licensed by the N.Y. State Office of Mental Health, N.Y. State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) and the N.Y.C. Department of Education to provide comprehensive behavioral health services, including outpatient mental health services for children, adolescents, adults and the elderly; case management; a therapeutic preschool; an outpatient substance abuse clinic; a halfway house for recovering substance abusers and a food pantry; and

WHEREAS: The Center, located at 1727 Amsterdam Ave. at W. 145th St., serves an estimated 15,000 individuals annually, 95% of whom are from upper Manhattan; and

WHEREAS: The Center reports that approximately one-third of its clients come from Community District 12-Manhattan; and

WHEREAS: The Center has submitted two applications to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, a branch of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, to expand its services to youths and families, which would help to address the incidence of mental health and substance use disorders in Washington Heights-Inwood and neighboring communities in north Manhattan; and

WHEREAS: The Enhancement and Expansion of Treatment and Recovery Services for Adolescents, Transitional Aged Youth and their Families grant would enable the Center to provide "comprehensive treatment, early intervention and recovery support services for adolescents (ages 12-18) and transitional aged youth (ages 16-25) with substance use disorders and/or co-occurring substance use and mental disorders, and their families/primary caregivers"; and

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WHEREAS: The other grant from the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative would enable the Center to "expand implementation of trauma interventions to underserved communities and service systems, such as schools, child welfare and juvenile justice settings"; and

WHEREAS: These two grants would support the Center's proposed Youth and Family Recovery Project, which would "provide training, education, and technical assistance with the goal of wide-scale dissemination and implementation of effective, evidence-based treatment and service approaches in child trauma and establish the infrastructure necessary to maintain ongoing training beyond the grant period"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: Community Board 12-Manhattan supports the grant applications submitted by the Emma Bowen Community Service Center (aka Upper Manhattan Mental Health Center) to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to expand its vital services to youths and families in Washington Heights-Inwood and our neighboring communities in north Manhattan.

Sincerely,



Eleazar Bueno
Chairperson

cc: Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Hon. Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate
Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Comptroller
Hon. Brian Benjamin, State Senator
Hon. Robert Jackson, State Senator
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President

Hon. Al Taylor, Assembly Member
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Assembly Member
Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez, Council Member
Hon. Mark Levine, Council Member