



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6

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MS. EVONNE CAPERS  
Board Chairperson

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District Manager

## **LGBQI/TGNB Committee Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, April 18, 2023

John Barczak, LGBQI/TGNB Committee Chairperson

The LGBQI/TGNB Committee met on April 18, 2023 via Zoom Audio and Video Conference.

The LGBQI/TGNB Committee discussed the following information:

- **Informational presentation by Bronx Parent Housing Network (BPHN) Inc.**

The LGBQI/TGNB Committee was informed about the services offered in Bronx Parent Housing Network (BPHN) Inc.'s HIV/AIDS program. Their program serves individuals in the community who are HIV/AIDS positive and are experiencing food insecurity. To become a client of the program, one must meet specific eligibility criteria that include being HIV positive, residing in New York City, and living below the poverty level. The committee was informed that they offer a variety of services to its clients, and all services are free of charge. The pantry operates from Monday to Friday, from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM, and on Thursdays, it remains open for longer hours if needed. Clients must schedule an appointment to visit the pantry and they have 30 minutes to shop. The pantry has all the sections of a supermarket and allows clients to choose their preferred food items. The program also provides nutritional consultations to clients, and each client is paired with a nutritionist for one-on-one consultations. Clients can come to the pantry as many times in a month as they like and collect their allotted amount of groceries. The program also provides a \$60 food voucher to each client to purchase food items. The clients must use the voucher for the intended purpose, and a nutritionist oversees the process. The program also provides referrals to clients for employment, counseling, and other services that may benefit them. The program is working to offer services to undocumented community members and aims to connect them to the services they require. They also offer home delivery to clients who are unable to visit the pantry. However, to receive home delivery, a client must provide a doctor's letter explaining why they are unable to visit the pantry.

- **Informational presentation by Services & Advocacy for LGBT Elders (SAGE)**

The LGBQI/TGNB Committee was informed about SAGE. SAGE is an organization that aims to improve the lives of LGBT elders and caregivers by providing services such as art, exercise, cyber cafe, health and wellness, nutrition programs, and free lunch. With a high risk of health complications, financial insecurity, and lack of family support among LGBT elders, SAGE's advocacy arm is vital, and it operates not only in New York, but also nationwide. Their Bronx center offers intergenerational programming, where youth and elders can coordinate and participate in activities together.