



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6
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Health and Human Services Committee Meeting Minutes
Kristine Rivera, Health and Human Services Committee Chairperson
Thursday, January 15, 2026

The Health and Human Services Committee met on Thursday, January 15, 2026, in person at the district office and on Zoom Video Communications. The following board members attended the Health and Human Services Meeting: Nicole Carter (Virtual), Maria Latimer, Magdamary Marcano, Jessii Parham, Kristine Rivera, and Lisa Sanchez.

The Health and Human Services Committee discussed the following:

- **Presentation from SBH Health System on their Methadone Treatment Center Project**

SBH has secured state funding to address two primary needs within the MMTP. Drawing on patient feedback and data related to social determinants of health; the program will create access to safe and hygienic shower facilities and establish space for a new fentanyl addiction treatment program. Interior renovations will include the construction of one additional treatment room and two on-site showers for patient use. These changes will be made by reconfiguring and condensing existing office space. There will be no expansion of the building footprint and no structural changes to the exterior.

Committee members suggested making exterior enhancements to improve the overall appearance of the facility and create a more welcoming environment. In response, SBH representatives explained that the entrance area will be upgraded to be more attractive, inviting, and secure. Planned improvements also include roof repairs and replacement of deteriorated sidewalk cellar doors. An adjacent lot owned by SBH will be cleaned, resurfaced, and compacted to prevent weed growth. In addition, the building exterior will be painted and maintained to remain free of graffiti and vandalism.

When asked about supplemental community programming, SBH representatives outlined existing initiatives that support MMTP participants, including a coat distribution program as well as soup and pantry services. They also noted that SBH previously sought funding to develop a larger community hub with showers, expanded pantry services, and a barber station, although that proposal was not funded.

SBH Health System is required by the Office of Mental Health OMH and the Office of Addiction Services and Supports OASAS to notify the Board of the construction project. The anticipated project timeline is 12 months, with completion expected before the end of 2026. A motion to issue a letter of support for the Methadone Treatment Center improvements was made by Kristine Rivera and seconded by Lisa Sanchez.

- **Review of Committee Meetings Quorum Records**

The Health and Human Services Committee reviewed and discussed committee meeting quorum records. We addressed quorum requirements and the inconsistencies in their application during

committee meetings. It was clarified that, pursuant to the New York State Open Meeting Law, meetings and votes require a majority of committee members to be physically present. Virtual participation is permitted only under limited circumstances. The Health and Human Services Committee members noted that quorums have frequently not been met, which limits the Board's ability to conduct official business. To address this, starting in February, the Board will begin enforcing stricter quorum requirements. These measures include more rigorous standards for virtual attendance and earlier quorum deadlines. Additionally, the Executive Committee will meet to review attendance and overall committee structure. The Health and Human Services Committee also discussed potential strategies to improve in-person participation, such as consolidating committees, improving communication, and adjusting member assignments. The Health and Human Services Committee members acknowledge the prior confusion regarding these rules and are committed to establishing clearer expectations moving forward.

