



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6**

1932 Arthur Avenue, Room 403-A, Bronx, NY 10457

Telephone: (718) 579-6990 Email: bx06@cb.nyc.gov Website: nyc.gov/bxcb6

Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson, Bronx Borough President

Honorable Oswald Feliz, New York City Council Member

EVONNE CAPERS
Board Chairperson

RAFAEL MOURE-PUNETT, MPA
District Manager

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**

Representatives from the SBH Health System conducted a presentation about the improvements planned for the Methadone Treatment Center. SBH Health System, which includes St. Barnabas Hospital, serves a large population with mental health and substance use diagnoses. From 2019 to 2022, nearly 20% of all visits to the emergency department were related to mental health, behavioral issues, and substance use disorders.

SBH has secured funding from the state to address two main needs at their Methadone Maintenance Treatment Program (MMTP): Based on patient feedback and social determinants of health data, the MMTP will be making changes to address the need for a safe and hygienic place for patients to clean themselves, and also create a space for a new fentanyl addiction treatment program. The changes at the MMTP facility will include the construction of one additional treatment room and of two on-site showers for patient use. While the internal floor plans are changing, there is no expansion of the building or change to the exterior. The project involves condensing existing, large office spaces to create the new treatment room and showers.

The committee suggested completing enhancements for the exterior of the facility to make it appear more welcoming. Representatives from SBH Health System explained that they will be revamping the door area to make it more attractive, inviting, and secure. Additional repairs will be completed on the roof and to replace dilapidated doors on the sidewalk that go down to the cellar basement. An adjacent lot to the treatment center that is owned by SBH will be cleaned, resurfaced, and compacted to maintain the lot weed free. SBH will also paint the exterior of the building, while also keeping the brick wall graffiti-free and vandal-free.

The committee inquired into community programs to supplement the Methadone Treatment Program at SBH Health System. Representatives from SBH shared information about their coat program available for the MMTP participations, as well their soup and pantry services. Originally,

SBH requested funding to create a larger community hub with showers, expanded food pantry services, and a barber's chair, but it was not funded at the time.

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 timeline for the project is 12 months and should be completed before the end of 2026. A motion to issue a letter of support for the Methadone Treatment Center was made by Kristine Rivera and seconded by Lisa Sanchez.

