

Bronx Community Board No. 8
Minutes of the Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee
Wednesday, November 27th, 2024, at 7:00pm
[Meeting Recording](#)

1) Welcome & Roll Call

Present (3): Rabbi Bob Kaplan (Chair), Sebastian Chittilappily

Absent (4): Dr. Wayde Debeatham, Dr. Julia Gomez, Barbara Kail, Omar Murray

Guests: Dr. Rosa Zhou (NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene DOHMH), Kirklyn Escondo (NYC DOHMH)

Staff: Farrah Kule Rubin

Committee meeting started at 7:08p.m. Rabbi Kaplan welcomes everyone to the first meeting of the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

2) Review of Committee Meeting Times and Priorities for 2024-2025

There will be a number of people coming in to speak to us about some of the city's priorities and priorities in the health care system:

- a) Possibly, Montefiore to join us in our next meeting.
- b) Other organizations will join our meetings over the next few months.

To take a look at some of the health care priorities within the healthcare system that's serving this community as well as the governmental agencies serving this community.

3) Presentation by New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)

Kirklyn A. Escondo, MPH, Director of Community Planning and Engagement Presentation (DOHMH)

Mental Health Resources:

988: Connection to free, confidential crisis counseling, mental health and substance use support, information referrals. Toll free health line can be reached 24/7. This is a helpful and useful resource if someone is concerned about their own behavior or others.

To contact 988-

*Call or text 988

*Chat online at 988lifeline.org

Rabbi Kaplan asks what would be the next steps if someone is experiencing issues where it becomes apparent that they need further assistance/intervention.

Depending on the individual's situation.

- 1) Connection to the Mobile Crisis Team (MCT). They are teams out of the health department in collaboration with the NYPD. Always with a direct mental health provider. They will go to the location and deescalate the situation.
- 2) However, if the person poses a danger to themselves or anyone else, 911 may have to be called in.

The Office of Community Engagement and Training: (OCET) provides mental health resilience trainings to New Yorkers, namely:

1. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)
2. Promoting mental health in Asian American, Native American and Pacific Islander Communities (PMH-AANHPI)
3. Community Mental Wellness and Resilience (CMW+R)

This training is three hours long. This unit also provides community events and educational speaking engagements.

Mental Health First Aid: is a public education program that teaches the skill needed to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance abuse challenges and crises. Training teaches empathetic listening skills, to be able to get them assistance.

To register for trainings:

- Visit <https://ocet.timetap.com/>
- Contact MHFA@health.nyc.gov

This training is eight hours long

Available in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Bengali

Youth Mental Health First Aid (Youth MHFA): is a public education program that introduces participants to the unique risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents.

To register for trainings:

- Visit <https://ocet.timetap.com/>
- Contact MHFA@health.nyc.gov

Training is eight hours long

Available in English, Spanish, Mandarin

PMH-AANHPI Learning Initiative: Promoting mental health in AANHPI Communities (PMH-AANHPI) is a learning workshop that introduces participants to the history of the AANHPI community in the United States and how to access culturally relevant resources.

Available for Continuing Education Unit (CEU) for Social Workers (LCSW, LMSW)

To register for trainings:

- Visit <https://pmh-aahpi.timetap.com/>

-Contact AANHPI@health.nyc.gov

Available in English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Arabic, Korean, Bengali, Punjabi, Nepalese, Hindi

This training is three hours long.

Community Mental Wellness and Resilience: Community Mental Wellness and Resilience (CMW+R) workshop aims to provide resources for New Yorkers on community empowerment, individual and collective resilience. Workshop participants will be trained to identify mental health issues, develop support strategies and identify mental health resources within their communities.

Available for (CEU) for Social Workers (LCSW, LMSW)

To register for trainings:

-Visit <https://ocet.timetap.com/>

-Contact MHFA@health.nyc.gov

This training is three hours. It is offered in person and virtually.

Other Mental Health Educational Trainings include:

Psychological First Aid (1 Hour)

Mental Health of Asylum Seekers (1 Hour)

Burnout Prevention (1 Hour)

Dr. Rosa Zhou, Director of the Office of Faith Based Initiatives at DOHMH thanks Rabbi Kaplan and everyone for support. Looking forward to collaboration to improve Public Health Outcomes in the city. Announced that on December 18th, 2024 there will be a joint interface advisory groups from the five boroughs, from 11a.m. to 1p.m. Guest and keynote speaker Dr. H. Jean Wright II, Executive Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Mental Hygiene.

Dr. Rosa Zhou also states that in January 2025 there will be another joint Interface Advisory Group Meeting. Agency hosted a one-year anniversary. Due to COVID-19, our life expectancy is cut down by four years.

4) Update on Joint Efforts with the Special Committee on Racial Equity (SCRE)

Planned on doing a conference in the fall on the issue of hate and the impact on mental/physical health of hate and trauma. Unfortunately, due to changes at the Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes (OPHC) they are currently unstaffed. We're waiting for them to get more staff.

5) Old Business

Not discussed

6) New Business: None

7) Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 11, 2024

8) Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 7:41p.m.

Minutes recorded by Taya Jackson