

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 8**  
**MINUTES OF THE HEALTH, HOSPITALS AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Held on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**Citadel Rehabilitation and Nursing Center**  
**3400 Cannon Place, First Floor Conference Room**  
**Bronx, NY 10463**

**PRESENT**

Omar Murray  
Steven Froot  
Martin Gluck  
Julia Gomez  
Cesar Genao-Mejia  
Tao Moran

**AFFILIATION**

Chair, Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee  
CB-8 Committee Member  
CB-8 Committee Member  
Vice-Chair, Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee  
CB8-Committee Member  
CB8- Committee Member

**GUESTS**

Miguelina Calderon  
Tricia Reed  
Jaqueline Albin  
Nierma Calderon

MIRA USA  
Columbia Care  
CUNY School of Public Health  
CUNY Lehman

**ABSENT**

Karen Pesce

CB-8 Committee Member

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM. Committee members and guests signed the attendance sheet on arrival. The meeting is started by Committee members and guests introducing themselves and their affiliation.

The previous meeting minutes of October 2018 was approved.

**Vote:**

Yes: 4  
No: 0  
Abs: 1

Presentation on Medical Marijuana by Tricia Reed from Columbia Care

Medical marijuana is very closely regulated with only five dispensaries in New York state with five more coming. Medical marijuana uses both THC and CBD in different ratios depending of the needs of the patient and the illness. The prescriber needs to be registered with the state. The prescriber can then register patients who need to obtain a medical marijuana card from the state to then go to the dispensary.

Eligible patients need to have one of the qualifying illnesses with a qualifying symptom to be eligible for medical marijuana. One of the new approved uses is to assist people in getting off opioids. The dispensary then does a screening of medical conditions, other medications, and history of drug use to determine if medical marijuana is appropriate, the most effective form for the patient and the correct ratio of THC to CBD. Medical marijuana cost approximately \$250 per month, it cannot be paid for with insurance or with credit cards due to medical marijuana still being illegal on the federal level.

Presentation on Homelessness and Hunger by Jaqueline

Most food pantries in require recipients to produce photo identification and proof of address. These requirements are in place to try and prevent waste and abuse, however, for homeless individuals these can both be barriers to obtaining needed assistance. New York City does have a Guest Bill of Rights that has been approved by Food Bank for New York City, City Harvest, United Way, New York State Department of Health, New York City Human Resources Administration, and New York City Department of Health. This bill of rights is

not readily posted or obtainable in most food pantries. The city of Boston removed its identification requirement and they have not seen an increase in waste or abuse.

#### New Business

The idea of a health fair or a health forms was presented for consideration. It was discussed that the area seems to be saturated with health fairs. Ideas for the health forum were:

- Open enrollment for NY State of health – it was determined that this would be better accomplished by adding the information into an email, the CB8 newsletter, or the website
- Top health issues in CB8? – New York State put out booklets a few years ago regarding local health issues as a point to start from

Next meeting 12/12/18

Recorded by:  
Julia Gomez  
Vice- Chair,  
Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee

Submitted by:  
Omar Murray  
Chair,  
Health, Hospitals and Social Services Committee