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THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX  
211 EAST 43RD STREET, SUITE 1404  
NEW YORK, NY 10017

**Health and Education Committee  
Tuesday, March 26, 2019, 6:30 PM  
433 1st Avenue (NYU School of Dentistry), Room 210**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Elvy Barroso (Chair), John Keller (Vice Chair), Ahsia Badi, Dan Devine, Abigail Krusemark, Rich Mintz, Seema Shah, Claude L. Winfield

**Absent:** Louise Dankberg, Brooke Goldman, Paige Judge, Karen Moore, David Tsin, Carin van der Donk

**Guests:** Krista Fuhrmann, member of the public; Kristen Hahn, Lower Eastside Service Center; Pei Ling He, member of the public; Molly Hollister, Manhattan Community Board Six (CB6) Chair

**Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda/Previous Meeting's Minutes**

Elvy Barroso called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Chair Barroso made a motion to adopt the agenda. There were no objections to the motion and it passed.

Chair Barroso made a motion to adopt the minutes from the Tuesday, February 26, 2019 meeting. There were no objections to the motion and passed.

**Committee Business**

*Agenda Item #1: Presentation from Lower Eastside Service Center on medication-assisted treatment for those suffering with opioid use disorder*

Kristen Hahn, Program Coordinator at Lower Eastside Service Center (LESC), presented to CB6 on medication-assisted treatment for those suffering with opioid use disorder. She said the following:

- Opioid addiction is a health crisis that threatens many communities. LESG has been around for 60 years and wants to encourage members of the community to reach out to utilize their services and programs, described below.
- LESG offers outpatient and residential treatment programs that can help each person, no matter where they're coming from, to get the treatment they need. Patients

will be supported by expert clinicians, counselors and a community of peers in every stage of recovery.

- Their outpatient medication-assisted treatment (MAT) program helps adults adapt to treatment for stabilization as they continue to lead productive lives working or caring for their families. Clients may also complete the optional tapering phase, then continue with monthly support from the program.
- Their short stay residential medication-assisted treatment (MAT) program provides a consistent and focused residential environment designed to stabilize recovery over a 6-9 month period before returning to outpatient treatment.
- Their long stay residential treatment program is designed for adults with a sustained substance abuse history to taper to abstinence at a clinically appropriate pace. The 18-month program also helps them develop new skills, including vocational and life skills, for returning to their families and communities.
- Their expectant mothers residential program combines Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and prenatal care to help residents deliver a healthy baby. After giving birth, mothers continue treatment while in residence with their new babies.
- Dual recovery is a comprehensive outpatient program that can help clients address chemical dependency and mental health disorders at the same time. Dual recovery can also help close friends or family members affected by the chemical dependency of a loved one.
- Members of the committee and the public asked questions of Ms. Hahn.

*Agenda Item #2: Discussion on restoring funding for “Bridging the Gap,” a program that provides social workers who are trained to work with homeless public school students*

This agenda item was added because the Mayor has removed the funding for this program from the Executive Budget of New York City. John Keller (Vice Chair) drafted a resolution on this issue.

In short, the resolution highlights the work of New York City Department of Education “Bridging the Gap” social workers, who deliver valuable services to improve educational outcomes for students living in shelters. These social workers provide in-school counseling and academic support for public school students and their families along with advice on practices to combat absenteeism. The Mayor’s Preliminary Budget currently excludes the \$14,000,000 necessary to extend the Bridging the Gap program and CB6 advocates for the reinstatement and expansion of this funding as part of the 2020 Executive Budget.

There was a vote on a resolution in support of funding “Bridging the Gap” Social Workers in New York City Public Schools to support Students in Temporary Housing (STH) as part of the Executive Budget of New York City.

**VOTE:** 8 In favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstain 0 Not entitled

*Agenda Item #3: Updates from Committee Leads: Health, Education, Policy/Resolution Writing*

For the education lead, Committee Member Seema Shah shared that the CUNY system had appointed a new Chancellor, Félix V. Matos Rodríguez.

For the policy/resolution writing lead, Committee Member Abigail Krusemark shared that the full City Council is expected to vote on a bill to toughen a law combatting the rising numbers of Legionnaires' disease cases in New York City. That law, passed in the wake of the deadliest outbreak of the disease in New York's history in 2015, was producing mixed results. A new analysis from Council Member Ben Kallos' office suggests the situation has gotten worse; according to the latest data available from the state, Kallos found around 44 percent of landlords with cooling towers haven't had them inspected since 2017 or earlier.

***Agenda Item #4. Chair's Report***

Chair Barroso shared that the Committee will be tasked with planning the Summer 2019 Manhattan CB6 Health Fair.

CB6 Chair Molly Hollister will be reaching out to Baruch College to serve as a host location for the Fair.

We will seek to co-sponsor the event with Council Member Carlina Rivera, who serves as the Chair of the New York City Council's Committee on Hospitals.

Elvy Barroso will make a list of partners for us to consider inviting to the Fair.

***Agenda Item #5. Old/New Business***

There was no old or new business.

**Adjournment**

Elvy Barroso declared the meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Seema Shah