



# Manhattan Community Board 9

## Senior Issues Committee Meeting Minutes – May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Present: Anthony Fletcher; Martin Wallace**

**Absent: Rev. Georgiette Morgan-Thomas; Marti Cummings**

Meeting Called to Attn: at ca. 12:30

Approved amended agenda

First Presentation: Snapilicious

Ms. Sally Ann Velez-Gutierrez presents on behalf of Health Solutions Organization re. Snapilicious

Org. addresses problem of isolated seniors needing help signing up for SNAP. We take documentation to sign up to seniors – dedicated to increasing enrollment.

(See Slide Presentation)

Offer cooking demos at senior centers; Farm Share Food boxes delivered to NYCHA at discounted cost (can pay with SNAP); Peer to Peer outreach; Referral and linkage to partner orgs. All about Access.

Income limit is \$2,000/mo. Averaged over 3 mo. Period – for 65 or older.

AF: How did you get involved in program?

Ms. Gutierrez Working here since OCT, Urban Farmer in Boston for 10 years providing food access.

Second Presentation: Medicare 101 - Michael Walker presenting

Walker runs not-for-profit at Kennedy Center – Co-founded by Rev. M-T.

ABC&D's of Medicare.

### **5 parts in Medicare**

Originally consists of Part A – Hosp. Insurance – inpatient care; SNF-HHC Hospice Care Room and Board. Part B – Medical ins. – outpatient care; preventive care – HHC – DME (Doctor Visits) Part C – Medicare Advantage Plans – (MAPD plans) – not part of orig. medicare. Offered by Medicare approved private ins. Co's. Replaces Medicare – 20% gap (Prescriptions). Part D – Medicare prescription drugs. Offered by Medicare approved private ins. Cos. Helps cover cost of drugs. You pay a premium (monthly) to lower cost of prescriptions. Medicare Supplement Insurance – AKA Medicgap Coverage  
-Works alongside Original Medicare

- They do not replace original Medicare
- They also are offered by private ins. cos.
- Designed to fill in some or all gaps in Medicare depending on plan you select. 10 plans are available.

Extra Help – EPIC – income based. 0-\$20 for prescription. Sometimes generic meds aren't an option. Allergies, etc.

### **How to Enroll –**

Part A – Automatic at 65 or disabled for 24 months and on disability. No monthly premium.

Qualifying on basis of Age –

- 1) US Citizen
- 2) Perm. Legal – greencard – 5 years in US
- 3) Greencard Holder married to fully insured citizen/greencard holder for a year
- 4) 40 quarters of work credit – 10 years enrollment

Qualifying on basis of Disability –

- 1) Kidney failure (end stage renal disease)
- 2) Lou Gehrig's Disease

Part B – Not automatic – requires a monthly premium 2019 premium is \$135. Typically the amount is based on income. Penalty of 10%/year for not signing up on time

Working beyond 65 – 20 or more employees – don't need to pay part B. Income related monthly adjustment. 185,000/yr = \$135 /mo

### **Medicare Advantage plans-**

Medicare approved private ins. Cos.

- Must include all benefits
- Replace Medicare A & B
- Offers prescription drugs and addl. Benefits – dental; vision; hearing aides; silver sneakers

### **Enrollment & Cost –**

Age 65 or receiving SSI

7 months to enroll when you turn 65

3 months before month of birthday and 3 months after. Penalty if enroll one month after birthday!

Better to enroll before.

Part A – Automatic and free

Part B - \$135 deducted from SS Check or billed every three. Months. Not automatic.

### **Freelancers –**

Not on payroll – Use 1099

Accountant is responsible for making sure you pay Medicare Tax

Open Enrollment Period – Jan 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Annual Enrollment – Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 through December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Can switch plans.

### **Options**

Leave MAPD and return to original Medicare and Part D

Switch to Different MAPD

Switch from Medicare/MapD to a Med. Adv. Plan w/o RX

One Time only in this period.

DONUT HOLE – 2021 will go away

4 stages involved in prescription drugs

- 1) Deductible - \$250/yr
- 2) Initial Coverage Limit - \$3820
- 3) Coverage Gap - \$3,821 until you reach \$5,100
- 4) Catastrophic – Pay 3.40 for generic and 8>50 for brand name drugs

What about Drug and Alcohol abuse? Inpatient and outpatient available.

### **Third Presentation from Migdalia Rodriguez – Skills Training Center**

Senior Summer Program starting – 120 hours at \$15/hr  
Deadline: May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to apply – Age 55+  
Phone Number 646-518-4760

Fourth Presentation – Miss Sandra Cobb on Dr. Melissa M. Freeman

Honoring her work – asking for proclamation from CB9 honoring her years of dedication and lifetime of service. Worked on front lines of Opioid crisis – 1<sup>st</sup> to treat woman with methadone. Practice is at 407 west 147<sup>th</sup> street. Phone number: 212-281-5613

### **Motion passed to honor Dr. Freeman**

Eutha Prince – at office. M-F 10AM to 6PM. Chair of board thanks seniors for service. They provide to community. He will join us in June. Happy Mother's Day! Thanks to Ms. Zita and 26<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Thanks for food. Mo's Korean; V & T pizza; West Side Market; Altina's Restaurant

### **Ms. Gwen Black – Visual Artist**

June 14-15 at Riverbank Park – event: Visual Arts and Jazz day 10AM to 4PM. Painting, Arts, Story Telling, Music – Stanley Banks  
June 15<sup>th</sup> – Tribute to Randy Westin

Michael – Career Recruitment Seminar Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Training to do what I do – spread word about Medicare

275 Lenox Ave Harlem Business Alliance. 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room 11AM to 1PM

April Tyler – Centering

Motion to adjourn. Ca. 1:30 PM