

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

March 20, 2018
583 Riverside Drive
N.Y. N.Y

Attending Committee Members:

Victor Edwards – Committee Chair,
Maxine Best – Arts/Culture Committee
Monica Dula – Health Committee Chair

Guest:

Joselinne Minaya - Manhattan D A's Office Liaison
Talib Hudson - " "
Busselle Miller- Hill " "
Jane Ariendell - State Senator Marisol Alcantra office
Kyshia Smith City Council Member Mark Levine office
Sam Rivera The Fortune Society
Evan Combs Student The New School
Daniella Arrazi Student CCNY
S. Pierre Student CCNY

Meeting was called to attention at 6:45 p.m.

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all committee members, the guests and explained that this meeting was the 3rd meeting in a series on incarceration, this meeting focusing on "Re-Entry". He continued by briefly summarizing the two prior roundtable discussions that focused on; justice reform issues and youth prevention programs.

- Sam Rivera – Fortune Society
 - Fortune Society provides supportive housing and various types' assistance at their neighborhood facility "The Castle". The goal of the organization being to reduce recidivism and assist returning residents in adjusting to re-entering their community.
 - S. Rivera described re-entry challenges:
 - Housing / obtaining proper NYS I. D. / Employment / Health care/ Reconnecting to past relationships: family and friends.
 - Fortune society services as many release inmates as possible but it's never enough in comparison to the numbers of residents that are returning to the community from prison.
- Joselinne Minaya - Manhattan D A's Office
 - The Manhattan D.A.'s office provide several programs for recently released inmates, including job fairs in conjunction wit the Strive organization, monthly forums and assistance with obtaining proper identification.
 - Youth HUBS – Five sites have been selected in Manhattan to provide services for youth as a prevention strategy. CB9 member M. Dula questioned the decision not to locate a site in closer proximity to Grant and Manhattanville Houses given the history of gang activity and massive gang arrest a few years prior. Ms. Minaya stated that there is a HUB site 3 blocks away from the Grants Houses. In addition, the effectiveness of the program would be examined as it moves forward.

- Busselle Miller- Hill - Manhattan D A's Office
 - A new NYCHA program that is allowing former NYCHA residents that were ban due to prison sentences to rejoin their families has recently been implemented.

- Follow-up issues:
 - Identify additional community programs providing services to recently released inmates.
 - Develop a space on the CB9 website to inform the community of programs related to all aspects of incarceration from prevention programs to re-entry programs
 - Examine the newly created Manhattan D.A's HUB as the program moves
 - Invite the NYCHA representative to speak about the new initiate to allow release inmates back into NYCHA developments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.