

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 7, 2022, 6:30 PM

Co-Chairs: Hon. LaQuita Henry (P), Hon. Edwin Torres (P)

Members: Hon. Miriam Aristy-Farer (A), Hon. Monica Dula, David Hanzal, Hon. Monique Hardin-Cordero, Hon. Jenny Garcia (A), Hon. Heather Jason, Hon. Carolina Ramirez and Hon. Patricia Ramos

Board Members Present: Hon. Victor Edwards, Hon. Deirdre McIntosh-Brown.

Call to Order at 6:35 PM by Co-Chair LaQuita Henry and 2nd by Hon. Heather Jason

Adopt Agenda: Hon. Monique Hardin-Cordero, 2nd by Hon. Miriam Aristy-Farer

Adopt Minutes from October 2022

Presentations:

Health Issues	<p>November is American Diabetes Month Presented by Hon. Edwin Torres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetes is simple to define as sugar in your blood. There are two types of diabetes: Type 1 (a chronic condition typical in young years) and Type 2 (complex disease that affects multiple organs, managing and monitor sugar levels). • Diabetes affects inappropriately BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, & People Of Color). Our neighborhood compared with NYC and wealthy neighborhoods is greatly impacted (NYC 8%, Greenwich Village & Soho 3% vs Morningside Heights & Hamilton Heights 10%; NYC DOHMH Community Health Survey 2015-2016). • Diabetes is expensive: medical expenses are approximately 2.3 times higher vs. those who do not have diabetes. Direct medical expenses in NY were estimated at \$15.1 billion in 2017. • Diabetes has many complications and risks, affecting the microvascular and macrovascular systems of the body. • Treatment & reduction in diabetes complications: screening, prevention, evaluation, and management of comorbidities. Increase patient education using technology and glycemic assessment, and weight management. Special attention to special populations such as children and older people. • Take Type 2 Diabetes Risk Test • American Diabetes Month at Montefiore Einstein: Stronger Together. https://www.montefiore.org/diabetes-month <p>Black Maternal Mortality: Infant Mortality presented by Shalawn Facey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationally, Black and Native American women are 3 times more likely than white women to die from a pregnancy-related case (removing socioeconomic status). In NYC, Black women are 8 times more likely than white women to die from a pregnancy-related cause, and nearly 3 times more likely to experience severe maternal morbidity than white women. • Black women continue to have worse outcomes than their white counterparts regardless of insurance or socio-economic status. • Lack of quality healthcare and implicit bias greatly affect Black Maternal Death/Morbidity.
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- Income and/or social status matter less than race. College-educated Black women are more likely to have severe pregnancy-related outcomes than all other women who did not attend college. “The effect of racism and sexism lead to higher maternal mortality rates among Black women in the U.S than previously realized”.
- Example Serena Williams, Childbirth Was a Harrowing Ordeal. She’s Not Alone. <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/11/sports/tennis/serena-williams-baby-vogue.html?smid=url-share>
- Everyday racism is like gunning a car and it never lets up Dr. Michael Lu, Neonatologist Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA
- Dr. Collins and Dr. David from Chicago: due to socioeconomic it affects pre-term and premature births, however, it is living life as an African-American (removing Black women born outside of the USA) is not good for pregnancy. [Unravelling the Mystery of Black-White Differences in Infant Mortality](#)
- Immigrant paradox mostly has been studied in Latinos, acculturation is making us sick.
- [The State of Doula Care in NYC 2019.](#)
- Check out: [Kim Anderson’s Story](#)
- [Aftershock Documentary Film](#)
- [Unnatural Causes: Is inequality making us sick?](#)

Uterine Cancer on Rise Among Asian, Hispanic, and Black Women presented by Lisa Jones (lisafoodbytes@gmail.com), SHARE Cancer Support Services.

- Support services to Asia, African Americans, and Latinas are available. There is a major group, but it breaks down into sub-groups.
- Chinese women have been impacted, but now we see a surge; usually Asian women will be 28% less likely than whites to be diagnosed with breast cancer. There is a lower rate of screening in Asian women.
- Black and Latina women are less likely than white women to be diagnosed but have the largest number of mortality.
- Increasing education on genetic testing is needed, especially at the ages of 50-75. In Black women, only 17% of diagnosed women understood the risk
- Social determinants of health have a great impact on women in receiving education, screening, and treatment. Health insurance, institutional racism, and comorbidities. Black women do not get the same prompt high-quality treatment compared to white women.
- Uterine cancer rate 7%/1000 women are Latina women
- Asian women experience gastric cancer or stomach cancer.
- October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and November is Lupus Awareness month.
- Promote screening at health events. Share cancer support services, and educate people not to fear the cost of treatment or the result of screening. There are financial clinics and free screening events (Ryan Health Network free mammograms-walk-ins are available)

Health Presentation on Heritage Health & Housing, Inc presented by Adrienne Thomas, Sandra Gale Blundetto, and Doug Bloomberg

- Heritage Health has created a cardiovascular center and a center for behavioral health.
- Partnership with three different graduate social work schools (Columbia, Fordham & Hunter) that focus on serving children and the gerontological community. Graduate students will be supervised by a licensed therapist and will streamline in retaining staff to continuously serve the community.
- Regardless of income, sexual orientation, religion, or immigrant status we are here to serve the community
- Move to 1649 Amsterdam Avenue (built 1901), this building is owned by Heritage. The building will be renovated to accommodate Heritage Health's multi-services. The top 4th floor will stay as 84 units for SROs. Health Center will occupy the ground floor, 2nd, and 3rd floors. Internal stairs will be added, as well as an elevator. Working plans will be presented to NYC Landmark Preservation Commission (plans will also have to be presented to CB9M Landmark Preservation & Parks Committee)
- Currently implementing a new phone system, the change to the new center will be streamlined, with plenty of time to let our patients know of the change.

Columbia Presbyterian Hospital Center, The Mailman School of Public Health presented by Dr. Olajide Williams, Dr. Robert Fullilove, and Dr. Janhavi Mallaiah

- Columbia Hospital Center renewed its commitment to Anti-racism. A report from the Columbia University Irving Medical Center Task Force for addressing Structural Racism. [Check out the roadmap](#)
- Increase and improve the participation of community members in clinical trials. Currently, Columbia has about 600 clinical trials in diabetes, obesity, and cancer, among others. Racial and ethnic minorities make up 38.7% of the U.S. population, but only 2% -16% participate in clinical trials. 5% of African Americans and 1% of Latinos participate in clinical trials. If local community members do not participate in clinical trials, the data cannot be used to understand their medical needs resulting in exclusion from treatments that may improve the quality of their life.
- There are many barriers to why BIPOC does not take part in clinical trials: medical mistrust, not understanding, access, no credible sources, and culturally insensitive staff.
- Strategy implemented: Principal investigators are taking strict training programs. Recruitment of culturally sensitive staff from the community. Offering a tenure track to investigators (mentoring, recruitment, and support).
- **InToUCH Program** (Dr. Mallaiah): trains two cohorts per year, a total of 13 cohorts have graduated from the program. This program trains community members to be community health workers. They will provide basic health services to their communities and beyond. They become credible voices, sending messages that would help the community have less fear of the medical field.
- A meeting should take place between Heritage Health Center and Dr. Olajide Williams. Ms. Asia Attaide will coordinate (aa5021@columbia.edu) Sandra Gale 914-462-6205; Dr. Janhavi Mallaiah (jm4498@gmail.com 212-853-1147)

<p>West Harlem Development Corporation (WHDC) Grant Recipients</p>	<p>Three And A Half Acres Yoga presented by Nickelina Noel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and wellness focused organization. Trains yoga teachers, and partners with organization to bring their programs since 2014 • Youth are experiencing a mental health crisis according to U.S.A surgeon, yoga has been proven to help with mental health. • For additional information please contact nickelina@threeandhalfacres.org or visit https://threeandhalfacres.org/ <p>City Harvest, Receiving food for NYC presented by Jasper Gutwillig</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-pandemic City Harvest served 229,624 pounds of food, for 2022 (it has not finished), so far, we are up to 414,077 pounds of food. CB9M has five locations, one of which is Upper Manhattan Health Center (AKA Emma L. Bowen Community Service Center). • We are also having 3 upcoming Thanksgiving events and we hold virtual nutrition and cooking education classes. Check out https://www.cityharvest.org/food-map/ for locations of where to find food pantries and distribution sites.
<p>Items for the next meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to table items V and VI from the agenda for the next meeting, by Hon. Monique Hardin-Cordero, 2nd by Hon. Edwin Torres.

End of the meeting at 10:10 PM, a motion to end by Hon. Monique Hardin-Cordero, 2nd by Hon. Patricia Ramos

Additional information placed on the chat:

The NYC Poison Control Center is available 24/7/365 - fast, free, and confidential. Translation services are available in 150 languages. Call 212-764-7667 with any questions about medicines, cleaners, and disinfectants. We are also available to provide FREE workshops for community groups. If you are interested please feel to reach out to me at vdilem@health.nyc.gov

To request a community education presentation, click

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6046718/Request-a-Presentation-PCC>

Check out our website

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/poison-control.page> to register for our upcoming trainings.

To order Poison Control Center material:

<http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/poison/safety-material-order-form.pdf>

Join our monthly webinars. It is free to join us.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/environmental/healthy-homes-trainings-workshops-2022.pdf>