Staff Connections
Employee Newsletter
Oct 2016

MHHC and Affinity invites you to

Gear UP for the Future

Youth Event
October 22nd 2016 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Special guests include:
Ceaser & Dutchess (Black Ink)
Shaun Derik

Motivational Speaker • Workshops • Entertainment • Food & Drinks

RSVP Required:
Yoram Rodriguez
yrodriguez@mhhc.org
www.mhhc.org

Location
Bronx Community College
Gould Memorial Auditorium / Colston Hall
2155 University Avenue, Bronx, NY 10453

Ages 16 - 21

PROMO CODE:
The First Annual Youth Conference is geared up and ready!

The Gear-Up for the Future mission is to create a forum that focuses on youth (ages 16-21); provide health related workshops and opportunities to engage our leaders of academic institutions in the Bronx; and, to provide informational sessions on civic and social issues, while encouraging parental involvement.

The Gear-Up Youth Event will lay the framework for the MHHC Youth Institute that will center on health, learning and life skills - providing a place for inner-city youth to receive health care services, college and career exploration opportunities, financial literacy workshops and after-school recreational programs.

Gearing Up & Knowing Your Rights

This panel discussion will focus on how youth can protect their rights and themselves, in possible or perceived social injustice situations. The overall goal is to address the reality of police practices that affect young people of color.

Gearing Up & Staying Healthy

This panel discussion will focus on how youth can stay healthy and serve as advocates for their health. Panelists will report on various health areas pertaining to youth and how youth might be able to address health challenges they face while noting areas for support within the community.

Gearing Up & Starting a Business

This panel discussion will focus on preparing our youth for future success, regardless of their career path. Celebrity panelists will discuss various aspects of their successes and their journey to that success - highlighting components of education and college life.

Panel Discussion on youth (16-21) related issues, include:
- Physical and Mental Health -
- Career Exploration and Development -
- Higher Education Pursuance -
- Police and the Community -
  And More...

Break Out sessions with community experts in various fields of health, education, employment, as well as Entertainment, music, talent show, culminating keynote speaker and celebrity guests. Breakfast and lunch will be provided
Dr. Bookhardt-Murray was Associate Medical Director and Director of Adult Medicine and HIV Care when she left to assume the role of Chief Medical Officer at Harlem United, Inc. Dr. Lois Bookhardt-Murray has now returned to MHHC as the Chief Medical Officer after a twelve year absence.

Dr. Bookhardt-Murray began her career with a Bachelor of Arts degree at Andrews University in Michigan. She completed her Doctor of Medicine education at University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and her Internship and Residency at Harlem Hospital Center in NYC. She is board certified in Internal Medicine. Dr. Bookhardt-Murray’s special interest are in the clinical areas of the treatment of Diabetes, HIV/AIDS, Mental Illness and Substance use. Dr. Bookhardt-Murray’s work in the treatment of HIV/AIDS has included serving as Medical Consultant to the Office of the Medical Director at the NY State Department of Health/AIDS Institute. Throughout her clinical career, Dr. Bookhardt-Murray has served as Preceptor for Medical, Physician Assistant, Nurse Practitioner and Pharmacy students, at Hunter College and Touro College of Pharmacy. She has served as an Adjunct Professor at CUNY Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Program. She has participated in research and publications. Her awards include The Linda Laubenstein Award for Excellence in HIV Care from NYS DOH/AIDS Institute in 2007, and Distinguished Faculty Award from Harlem Hospital PA Program.
WELCOME
New Additions to the MHHC Family

Dr. Sandra Denis
Chief Behavioral Health Officer

Sandra Denis, MD is the Chief Behavioral Health Officer ("CBHO") at Morris Heights Health Center with the responsibility to oversee and continue the development of Behavioral Health Services system-wide. She joined MHHC in September 2016. Prior to that, she worked as Chief Medical Officer (CMO) at Clarks Summit State Hospital in Pennsylvania, reporting to the CEO and leading a team of professionals including the Chief of Psychiatry, the Medical Director, the Director of Social Services, the Chief of Pharmacy and the Director of Psychology where she played an integral role in restructuring the Clinical Services Department. Prior to joining Clarks Summit State Hospital, she was in private practice in Schuylkill County, PA where she provided Child, Adolescent and General Psychiatry Outpatient Services. Dr. Denis was also the Medical Director at Drug and Alcohol Counseling Centers in Schuylkill County, PA and Levittown, PA. Dr. Denis has had extensive experience in areas such as Inpatient Adult, Child & Adolescent, and Geriatric Psychiatry, Acute Partial Hospitalization, and Forensic Psychiatry.

Dr. Denis graduated from Ross University and completed her Residencies and Fellowship at St Vincent Catholic Medical Center (Manhattan), UMDNJ (Newark) and Lenox Hill Hospital (Manhattan). She participated in research and presentations in the areas of ECT and Women's Mental Health. She also attended training at the NYU Psychoanalytic Institute Program in Psychodynamic Psychotherapy of Child and Adolescent.

Dr. Denis is a Diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and was recognized with the America's Top Psychiatrist awards in 2015, 2011, 2008 and 2007. Dr. Denis is licensed in NY, PA, and MD and is a certified Buprenorphine Physician.

When not working, Dr. Denis plays the violin and piano with her daughter. She is proficient in French. She also enjoys fishing and is currently working on a motorcycle license (don’t tell my husband!).
“HEAL OUR COMMUNITIES” EVENT

On Thursday, September 29th, President and CEO, Gabriel M. Vonleh participated in an impacting event hosted by the Amadou Diallo Foundation at Riverside Church in Harlem, NY. The event aptly named, “Heal our Communities”, is an initiative launched by Amadou’s mother and president of the Foundation, Kadiatou Diallo. The occasion focused on healing racially divided communities through education. Mr. Vonleh, along with an esteemed group of panelists, gathered to commemorate Diallo’s legacy and take part in an open panel discussion on issues of social justice, education, health, activism, and ongoing advocacy.

Panelists included:

Gabriel M. Vonleh, President and CEO of Morris Heights Health Center
Ruben Diaz, Jr., Bronx Borough President
Dr. Thomas A. Isekenegbe, President of Bronx Community College
Reverend Al Sharpton, President of National Action Network
Shaun King, Social Justice Reporter for NY Daily News
Gwen Carr, mother of Eric Garner (man killed during NYPD arrest)
Graham Witherspoon, retired detective for the NYPD

Ms. Diallo will be speaking about some of the same issues at MHHC’s First Annual “Gear Up for the Future” Youth Event, on October 22, 2016. For more information, visit www.mhhc.org.
U.S CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE HEALTH 2016

MHHC was a proud sponsor of the 4th Annual United States African Immigrant and Refugee Health Conference, held September 15th – 18th in New York City. One of the primary objectives of the conference was to highlight current trends in African immigrant’s health, including disparities in chronic diseases and access to healthcare services. Rallying around this topic, our very own President and CEO, Gabriel M. Vonleh, and Family Medicine Provider, Dr. Uche Akwuba, co-led an insightful discussion around healthcare access for immigrants and refugees that are in transition and in need of healthcare and other supportive services. Overall, the diverse and dynamic group of speakers and panelists provided in-depth understanding as well as actionable and practical tools for engagement that have been successful in working with African immigrants and refugees in the US.

EMPLOYEE FAMILY BBQ

MHHC held the First Annual Family Fun BBQ for employees and their immediate families on September 10th. This end of the summer outing was filled with laughs, friendship and good people mixed with plenty of food and activities.

Visit the full Photo Gallery at www.mhhc.org to see more pictures from the BBQ!
ACHIEVEMENT OF EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to the MHHC WIC Program!

MHHC’s WIC Program was presented with the Loving Support Gold Award of Excellence for Exemplary Breastfeeding Support and Practices at the 2016 Metropolitan Regional Coordinators Meeting on September 20. Mark E. Johnson, Northeast Regional Branch Chief of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services, presented the award.

The evaluative areas were:
Breastfeeding Performance
Effective Peer Counseling Program
Community Partnership

Morris Heights Health Center was the only WIC agency to be recognized with the “Gold Award” this year (a 4-year designation) within the Northeast Region. We commend Sonia Oluleye, WIC Director and our outstanding WIC staff!
PHOTO CONTEST WINNER & RUNNER-UP
NATIONAL COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK

MHHC’s photo was selected as a runner-up for the 2016 National Health Center Week (NHCW) Photo Contest, from among thousands of entries. (This is a first for MHHC.) As a result, our photo entry will be featured in the 2017 Health Centers calendar published by NACHC, and NACHC will send us a canvas printout of the photo.

Many thanks to all who supported our photo entry by voting for it on the NACHC website or liking it on Facebook—you all helped MHHC shine at the national level.

MHHC L.E.A.P. AWARD WINNERS

Team members that exemplify Leadership, Excellence, Advocacy and Passion were selected to receive the 2016 L.E.A.P. award. The L.E.A.P. Award is presented to employees during National Community Health Center Week annually. The ten LEAP award recipients are: Jonelle Chang, Johnny Ureña, Amy Xu, Merrill Alexander, Kimberly Lopez, Tommy Chen, Dr. N’Gadie Kamara Taylor, Justine Flores, Heidi Kolman, and Kay Lawrence. We congratulate the 2016 LEAP Award recipients!
2016 MHHC STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Develop Business Efficiency
   - Implement Patient Portal & EMR
   - Implementing Team Based Care
   - Achieve HRSA Clinical Measures; Diabetes Control, Depression Screening and Follow-up. Conduct Dental Sealants for Children (6-9yrs old)

2. Increase No. of New Patients
   - Increase Business & Community Partnerships
   - Increase Patient Satisfaction
   - Increase Patient Retention
   - Increase # of Patients Seen by 10% (From 52,198 to 57,418)

3. Increase Financial Stability
   - All Managers will train in Budget Management
   - Minimize Revenue Cycle
   - Implement 340B (Drug Discount)
   - Maintain Cash flow Margin of 2%

4. Workforce Development
   - Develop & Implement Internal / External Marketing Plan
   - Develop Cross Training Program for Staff
   - Develop Performance Based Policy and Incentive Program for All Staff
   - Maintain 85% Staff Retention Rate

STRATEGIC PLAN SPOTLIGHT ON GOAL NO. 1

Develop Business Efficiency

The Action Planning Team for Goal #1 has been working hard to implement the strategies developed to increase business efficiency in key areas of the organization and meet the targets established that are true measures of success. The work encompasses a wide spectrum of activities including:

- Strengthening health information technology infrastructure
- Transitioning to a team-based approach to care
- Increase our quality scores on key clinical measures

The work has been challenging but the Action Planning Team, which includes key members of the IT, Quality, Operations, Medical, Population Health and Planning teams, have been relentless in identifying and addressing barriers to implementation of strategies in an effort to clear the path toward efficiency. With three months left in 2016 and the first year of the five year plan the team has already achieved an unprecedented and impressive 72% of goal attainment.

QUIZ - How are you helping the team reach our goal?
ARE YOU DRINKING ENOUGH WATER?

MHHC has rolled out yet another “Healthy Lifestyle” initiative, filtered water bottle filling stations. Inspired by the #Not62 campaign, the “H20 Made E-Z” initiative was launched to encourage staff to pursue healthier habits, which start with drinking plenty of water. The first water bottle filling station was installed at our Burnside Site, and will soon be available at all MHHC locations. Water bottles were distributed to each employee. We hope you enjoy “H20 Made E-Z” and continuously use your water bottles!

H₂O MADE E-Z
Enjoy MHHC’s Refreshing, Tasty and Filtered Water

By using the filtered drinking fountains located at Burnside and Harrison we can boost our water intake while reducing environmental waste.

In the month of September, MHHC saved 2,166 Bottles at an average of $1.29/btl. that turns into a cost-savings of $2,794
Stop The Spread
Fight The Flu!

Get Your Flu Shot Today
and arm yourself against the flu this season

No Appointment Necessary
Stop By EHS or The Nurse at your location

www.mhhc.org
718-716-4400 EXT 2124
#wearemorrisheights
WELCOME
August New Hires

Maria Castro
Health Educator-IMRI
Health Education

Sheyla Amador
IT Help Desk Technician
Information Technology

Kasmelin Velazquez
Grant Accountant
Finance

Diana Mendez
Program Supervisor
Healthy Families

Carolina Hidalgo
Referral Clerk
Referrals

Lamont Newsome
Maintenance Worker
Facilities

Anthony Gregory
Maintenance Worker
Facilities

Luis Giuria
Maintenance Worker
Facilities

Yahina Taveras
Medical Office Assistant
Patient Care Services
WELCOME
August New Hires

Markesha Adams
Medical Office Assistant
Patient Care Services

Julinicia Rodriguez
Care Manager
Health Home

Milagros Rivera
Physician Assistant
Employee Health Services

Jasmine Wickham
Family Nurse Practitioner
Extended Care Services

September New Hires

Cynthia Hernandez
School Health Assistant
School Health

Dr. Sarah Orton
Pediatric Endocrinologist
Pediatrics

Dr. Sandra Denis
Chief Behavioral Health Officer
Executive

Dr. Lois Bookhardt-Murray
Chief Medical Officer
Executive

Deborah-Clifford Kenney
Dietitian
Nutrition