

**CONSUMER INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE**  
**April 13, 2018**  
**10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM, UNITED WAY OF LONG ISLAND, DEER PARK, NY**

<u>MINUTES</u>		
<u>MEMBERS PRESENT:</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT:</u>	<u>GUESTS</u>
Clara C. Co-Chair	Nancy D. Co-Chair	Dominick Lettieri
Arthur B.	Lance M.	Jaelan Parris
James H.	Angie P.	
Joseph P.	Keith A.	
Marci E.	Ed M.	
William D.	Juanita C-F	
Kevin M.	June T.	
Richard G.	Margret H.	
Gauis C.	James C.	
Ernie B.	Traci S.	
Wendy A.	Paul B.	
<u>STAFF:</u>		
Georgette Beal		
JoAnn Henn		

**Welcome/Introductions**

In her new capacity as CIC Co-Chair, Clara C. called her first meeting to order at 10:10am. She welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

**II. Approval of February 9, 2018 Minutes-**

The minutes were approved with the following corrections: Kevin M. was added to the members present column and the date of the CIC meeting was corrected to April 13, 2018.

A motion was made by Kevin M, and seconded by Wendy A.

*7 Approved    0 Opposed    4 Abstentions*

**STAT Pharmacy Presentation:-**

In addition to providing a delicious and nutritious lunch for this meeting, Mr. Dominick Lettieri and Ms. Jaelan Parris presented on the various services offered by STAT Pharmacy. Providing personalized patient care, including free delivery to residents of Queens, Brooklyn, Nassau and Suffolk County, STAT Pharmacy works with many doctors and hospitals, is familiar with Medicaid, ADAP, spend downs, and the prior authorization process in order to ensure prompt and efficient delivery of medications and supplies. These medications and supplies are not limited to HIV medications, but also include Hep C medications, vitamins, Ensure for good nutrition, blood pressure cuffs, nebulizers, and personal hygiene products.

Mr. Lettieri stressed the importance of good communication in meeting the needs of the patients. Communication should be effective and non-invasive; texting, his preferred method of

communication, is quick and is confidential. A STAT scripts form was distributed to committee members to familiarize them with the patient information that is collected.

He informed those present that there should never be a copay.

The number of doctors a patient has does not matter or complicate matters in order to provide services. STAT Pharmacy has a good relationship with many doctors and hospitals, assisting with pre-authorizations and billing matters; there is no reason for patients to be without their vital medications and supplies. Arrangements can be made if the patient is traveling, or forgets to pack medications. Last refills are clearly labeled, FDA approved vitamins, samples of which were distributed and endorsed by health care professionals, namely Dr. McGowan are also available. Questions and concerns are addressed in a timely, less intrusive manner. In order for individuals to take advantage of all the services available, it necessitates that STAT Pharmacy be their primary pharmacy. This is so that a complete health profile is available. One consumer present at the meeting gave an unsolicited endorsement of STAT Pharmacy.

The purpose of this presentation was to inform the Consumer Involvement Committee about the services that are available through STAT Pharmacy. If a consumer is happy with the pharmacy currently being used, it was stressed that there is no reason to switch. If however, needs are not being met, there are other options available. Mr. Lettieri's philosophy can be summed up in his own words: "*The patient has to be made whole at the end of the day.*"

After a question and answer period, Ms. Parris and Mr. Lettieri thanked the committee for the opportunity to come and speak to them. Contact information was given.

After the presentation, there was a moment of silence to remember those infected and affected by the disease. (As this was not done after introductions at the beginning of the meeting).

### **III. CAB Updates/EFA Eyeglass Update-**

CAB Updates- Arthur B. informed the committee that effective April 1, 2018, allowable destinations for the transportation program at EOC of Suffolk, Inc. have expanded. Program participants are allowed to utilize the transportation program to the following destinations:

- Care Management
- Dental Health Education and Risk Reduction, Pharmacy
- HIV Support Groups
- Housing Services
- Legal
- Medical Assess/Reassess
- Nutritional, Substance Use and Mental Health Services

You must call the transportation line or toll-free number: (631) 289-1614 or 1-866-234-7834 to schedule, confirm, and/or cancel transportation. Transportation hours are Monday-Thursday from 9am-3pm. Mr. Ramon Rivas can be contacted for more information.

EFA Eyeglass Update-Ms. Beal informed the committee that during the recent HRSA site visit, it was learned that eyeglasses cannot be covered under Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA). The reasoning is that glasses do not fall under the emergency category as defined by HRSA.

In response, Ms. McCummings had made a suggestion that a drive to collect unused eyeglasses and old frames be spearheaded by the CIC committee, which Ms. Beal presented to the committee. Opticians and optical offices can be contacted for possible donations, A grant can be written to help establish an emergency fund for this purpose. This idea was enthusiastically agreed to by consumers.

A list of resources for vision care and services was provided to members in the interim. The Lenscrafters program, *Gift of Sight* was inadvertently omitted. In order to be eligible for this program, individuals need to be on Medicaid and meet the requirement of being at 200% of poverty level. An updated version of these resources will be sent to consumers. It was also suggested to the committee to contact Nassau-Suffolk Law Services is having issues regarding vision care and services.

#### **VII. Other Business-**

- Marci E. informed the committee that World AIDS Day will be November 30, 2018 at The Heritage, formerly Carlyle on the Green. There will be a World AIDS Day planning meeting after the CIC meeting today.
- Marci E. told the committee about the Gospel Health Fest on Saturday, April 21 from 3pm-7pm at the Grant Campus of Suffolk County Community College. Thursday's Child will be hosting a booth at the event.
- Kevin M. had two announcements: The CART summer picnic is scheduled for Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. 12pm-4pm at Eisenhower Park, Section J. South Maples. Friends and family are welcome.
- There will be a fundraiser on Sunday evening, May 20<sup>th</sup> at Governor's Comedy Club in Levittown. Tickets are \$15 with a two item minimum. Kevin M. has tickets available.

#### **VII. Announcements/Adjournments**

A motion was made by Kevin M. and seconded by Marci E. to adjourn April 13, 2018 Consumer Involvement Committee meeting. **All in Favor-Motion carried**