

**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
JOINT WITH GENERATIONAL CULTURAL & ETHNIC DIVERSITY
COMMITTEE
JANUARY 27, 2009**

Community Services

Members

In Attendance: Lois Bronz, Chair, Ken Jenkins, Vito Pinto, Judy Myers.

GCED

Members In

Attendance: Bernice Spreckman, Chair, Vito Pinto, Ken Jenkins, Lois Bronz and Judy Myers.

In Attendance: CE: Bill Randolph DOH: Cheryl Archbald BOL: Rose Vinci, Harry Spreckman and Melanie Montalto

Items Discussed: County HIV programs

Minutes

Chairwoman Bronz called the Community Services Committee meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.

Chairwoman Spreckman called the Generational Cultural & Ethnic Diversity Committee to order at 10:18 a.m.

Moved by Legislator Pinto and seconded by Legislator Jenkins the minutes of November 12, 2008 for the Community Services Committee passed with a vote of 5-0.

Moved by Legislator Pinto and seconded by Legislator Myers the minutes of December 16, 2008 for the Generational, Cultural, and Ethnic Diversity Committee passed with a vote of 5-0.

Cheryl Archbald, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Health gave an update on the County HIV prevention and detection programs. She stated that the County is providing free rapid testing on scheduled dates at colleges, senior centers, cultural festivals, health clubs, faith based organizations, housing developments, and now hair salons.

Ms. Archbald stated that they are currently working with twelve hair salons, who are each scheduled for 3-4 screenings which include blood pressure, cholesterol, Diabetes, and HIV testing. The Department of Health provides the salons with information on all health topics and condoms that they can give out in their bathrooms. The Department has tested 36 people at the hair salons since December.

Ms. Archbald stated that the Department believes there could be as many as 1 in 5 people walking around with HIV who are not aware of it. She said they have identified 4 positive

residents so far, but through the partnership identification program, there is a larger impact, when all of the positive persons partners are notified.

A discussion ensued regarding in which situations people could be mandated to take an HIV test. Ms. Archbald stated that it is a New York State Public Health Law that everyone must fill out a form before they receive a HIV test. This was originally designed to protect the privacy of the test taker, but it has proven to be a deterrent.

Moved by Legislator Pinto and seconded by Legislator Myers the Committee on Community Services adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Moved by Legislator Pinto and seconded by Legislator Myers the Committee on Generational Cultural & Ethnic Diversity adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

A complete audio recording of the meeting is available for review upon request.