

Sept. - Oct. 2023
Newsletter

East Harlem Council for Human Services, Inc.

BORIKEN
NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER

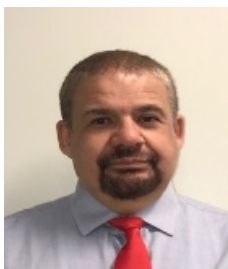
Make sure to follow us on our social media!



A Message From Our CEO

Un Mensaje de Nuestro Director Ejecutivo

Arturo Perez



Arturo Perez

Friends, staff, patients, and clients, this will be my last CEO Message to the Newsletter as I am retiring at the end of September. It has been a long and sometimes arduous journey in my almost 21 years at EHCHS/Boriken with many accomplishments and challenges. Looking back on my years at Boriken I would say my most significant and first legacy is converting this organization into a robust and financially sound entity that can survive even in the worst of times, this has been proven time and time again, more recently during the COVID pandemic. My second major legacy is making it possible to get the required \$26M of capital funding to build and move into the current 5 story brick building that we now occupy and that is a premier Community Health Center of East Harlem now and for many years to come. My last and final legacy is the incredible response to the COVID pandemic of the Boriken Neighborhood Health Center providing information and services to our patients and community during the worst periods of the pandemic and beyond.

But whatever accomplishments I have completed in all my years at Boriken I could not have done without the hard work and dedication of crucial staff and board members. For close to 50 years, we have had hundreds of staff, leaders and Board members who have tirelessly worked to shepherd Boriken to where it is today. They are too numerous to mention by name, but they know who they are. Notably, however, I would like to recognize Ms. Ellie Sanchez, former CEO, who had a dream and a vision for her community that she would not abandon despite all the odds, roadblocks and even insults that came her way. In the same way our former Board Chairs Mr. Raymond Ferreira who provided ongoing constant support and effort at all times, especially during the period of the building reconstruction as well as Ms. Rita Prats, former Board Chair and then Head Start Director who, for many years, helped save Boriken from the brink of disaster, developed the best Head Start Program of the City and the only bilingual program in New York City. I am honored to have worked alongside all of them. I will not be at Boriken to witness the changes and be a part of the change that needs to happen but will be a witness to how EHCHS/Boriken develops in the new healthcare environment and changes happening in our community with my best wishes to the organization and more importantly the good people that make it all happen.

"Great is the art of beginning, but greater is the art of ending." --H.W. Longfellow



Dr. Adam Aponte

Greeting All,

As always, we hope you and your families are doing well and staying safe. I am honored to send this communication now serving as the newly appointed Interim Chief Executive Officer for the East Harlem Council for Human- Services, Inc.- Boriken Neighborhood Health Center. I am truly humbled by the confidence that the Board has placed in me to take the helm and help shepherd our organization to new heights. I came to the Council now just over 3 years ago fulfilling my lifelong commitment to serve my community. Many of you may not be aware that I was born and raised in East Harlem, and from a very young age, I not only had the dream to become a physician but a desire to serve this wonderful community of ours, helping to address the many health disparities and the health inequities that continue to impact the residents of East Harlem. While this is not the first place in East Harlem I have worked to address these issues, I spent 8 years at North General Hospital, I am very proud to be here at Boriken at this critical time and having this platform which will allow me to bring my years of experience, expertise, passion, commitment and advocacy to this role. Our organization remains steadfast in our commitment to provide the highest quality primary and preventative care to all who need it. We pride ourselves on providing care in a culturally sensitive way, understanding the needs of our community and the barriers they face to get healthcare. We believe that healthcare is a right and not a privilege and that your income level nor your zip code should determine your health. Our health center continues to not only address the healthcare needs of our community, but we have also worked to mitigate the social influences that can impact health such as food insecurity, transportation, housing and violence to name a few. We are expanding our collaborations and partnerships with community-based organizations to help address these significant needs. We realize that we cannot do this alone and we need to work together if we truly want to improve the lives of those that we serve. We will continue to forge these relationships as well as work with elected officials, City and State Departments of Health, insurance companies and other key stakeholders to help them understand the needs of our community and how they can help us in this mission.

We continue to appreciate the support of our community and the trust you have placed in us. We do not take this responsibility lightly and promise to continue to strive towards excellence and work hand-in-hand with you all. We believe that East Harlem is an incredible, vibrant community rich in culture and pride. The residents of this community have proven themselves to be resilient, overcoming adversities that many could not. There is a sense of community that is palpable everywhere you go, in our schools, bodegas, places of worship, the corner and our housing developments. Next year our health center will reach a significant milestone, 50 years of service to this community. I look forward to leading us into the next 50 years and building on our legacy of commitment and compassion.

Thank you for your support and for allowing us to serve you all.

Boriken Open Streets

Open Streets En Boriken

Boriken hosted weekly **Open Streets** sponsored by the **Dept. of Transportation** during the months of July-September. Providing the community a space to enjoy **music, health screenings, kids activities, resources, and more!** We would like to say thank you to **Maria Cruz, Francisco Lantigua, Dept. of Transportation, PSA 5,** & all the organizations, staff, & the community that either participated or visited our first Open Streets.

We can't wait for next year!

Boriken organizó **Open Streets** semanales patrocinado por el **Departamento de Transporte** durante los meses de Julio a Septiembre. Brindando a la comunidad un espacio para disfrutar de **música, exámenes de salud, actividades para niños, recursos y más!** Nos gustaría agradecer a **María Cruz, Francisco Lantigua, Departamento de Transporte, PSA 5,** y a todas las organizaciones, el personal y la comunidad que participaron o visitaron nuestras primeras Open Streets.

No podemos esperar al próximo año!





Boriken Kids Day

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Boriken Día del los Niños

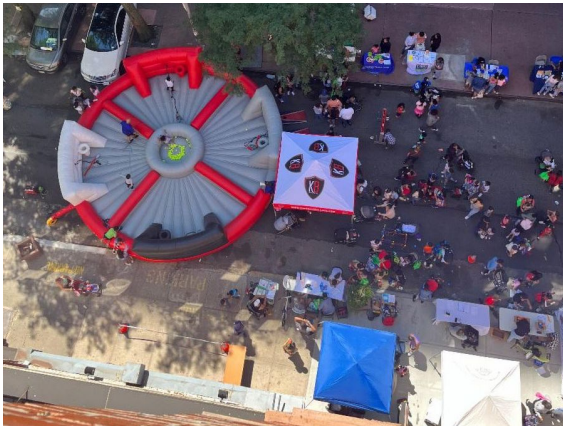
On Sept. 1st, Boriken hosted a **Kids Day & Bookbag Giveaway!** A day focused on the children in the community and having numerous activities available for them including **Face Painter, Arts & Crafts, Balloonist, Inflatable Human Hungry Hippo and of course our Bookbag Giveaway** where we handed out around **300 Bookbags** filled with a variety of supplies including pens, notebooks, folders, and more. As well, a special thank you to the 25th Precinct for your donations!

The children were all prepared & ready to go for the new school year!

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El 1 de Septiembre, Boriken organizó un **Día de los Niños y Sorteo de Mochilas!** Un día que centramos a nuestros niños de la comunidad y tuvimos actividades disponibles para ellos, incluido un **Pintor de Caras, Artes y Manualidades, Globos, Hipopótamo Humano Hambriento Inflable y nuestro Sorteo de Mochilas** donde repartimos **300 mochilas** llena de una variedad de suministros que incluyen bolígrafos, cuadernos, carpetas y más. Además, un agradecimiento especial al Distrito 25 por sus donaciones!

Todos los niños estaban preparados y listos para comenzar el nuevo año escolar!



Boriken Health Fair

Feria de Salud de Boriken

In celebration of **Hispanic Heritage Month**, on **Saturday September 16th**, Boriken hosted the **Annual Health Fair!** Every year the fair turns out amazing & this year was nothing less than that. With live music, health screenings, **resources, activities, raffles, and more** available for the community to enjoy!

Thank you to the organizations, sponsors, performers, Boriken/EHCHS Staff, and our East Harlem community for helping us on such a successful event!

If you would like to see more from our event click the button & check our website below!

Para celebrar el Mes de la **Herencia Hispana**, el **Sábado 16 de Septiembre**, Boriken tenía la **Feria Anual de Salud!** Cada año la feria resulta increíble y este año fue nada menos que eso. Con música en vivo, exámenes de salud **recursos, actividades, rifas y más** disponibles para que la comunidad disfrute!

Gracias a las organizaciones, patrocinadores, los artistas, el Personal de Boriken/EHCHS y nuestra comunidad de East Harlem por ayudarnos en un evento tan exitoso!

Si desea ver más de nuestra feria, Haga clic en el botón y visite nuestro sitio web a continuación!

[Click Here!](#)

[Haga Clic Aquí!](#)





We'll Miss You WIC!

Te Extrañaremos WIC!

After 45 years our WIC program at Boriken will be leaving! We would like to send out a HUGE thank you for everything that you all did for our parents & families at our Health Center throughout the years.

**A special shoutout to all of our WIC staff
& our WIC Director,
Lillian Borrero!**

You will all be missed dearly & we wish you the best on your future endeavors!

Después de 45 años nuestro programa de WIC en Boriken se vas! Nos gustaría darles un ENORME agradecimiento por todo lo que hicieron por nuestros padres y familias en el Centro de Salud a lo largo de los años.

**Un agradecimiento especial a todo
nuestro personal de WIC y a nuestra
Directora de WIC, Lillian Borrero!**

Los extrañaremos mucho a todos y les deseamos lo mejor en sus esfuerzos futuros!



Welcome to Boriken Ms. Jeanette DeFilippis

Bienvenidos a Boriken Ms. Jeanette DeFilippis

As of recent, Boriken has brought in a new Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner! Jeanette DeFilippis is now part of the Boriken team!

Ms. DeFilippis will be providing services during these times:

- Tuesday 8AM-4PM
- Thursday 9AM-5PM
- Friday 9AM-5PM

Recientemente, Boriken ha contratado una nueva Enfermera Psiquiátrica! Jeanette DeFilippis ahora es parte del equipo de Boriken!

L a Sra. DeFilippis brindará servicios durante estos horarios:

- Martes 8AM-4PM
- Jueves 9AM-5PM
- Viernes 9AM-5PM



Women's Group at Boriken

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Grupo de Mujeres en Boriken

Starting This Upcoming Tuesday!

On October 17th, Boriken will be organizing a Womens' Group!

From 11AM-12PM

This will be the start of a weekly come together happening every Tuesday!

Light snacks & refreshments will be served

All women are invited & welcome!

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Comenzando el Próximo Martes!

El 17 de Octubre, Boriken organizará un grupo de mujeres!

De 11AM a 12PM

Esto es el comienzo de una reunión semanal todos los Martes!

Se servirán aperitivos y refrigerios

Todas las mujeres están invitadas!



Get Your Vaccines Today!

Obtenga Sus Vacunas Hoy!

BORIKEN NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER

Avoid The Flu!

Evita La Gripe!

Get the flu shot here

Vacúnese contra la gripe aquí

Stop by our Health Center to Pasa por nuestro Centro para
get your flu vaccine today! vacunarte contra la gripe hoy!

Boriken Neighborhood Health Center

2265 3rd Ave,
New York, NY, 10035

2265 3ra Avenida,
Nueva York, NY, 10035

**Call us if you would like to set
up an appointment today!**

**Llámanos si desea reservar
una cita hoy!**

212-289-6650



Boriken Neighborhood Health Center | East Harlem Council for Human Services, Inc.

Getting Better Together



East Harlem Council for Human Services, Inc.
2265 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10035 212-289-6650

Have any questions?
Call us at: 212-289-6650

Visit our website:
www.boriken.org

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