



Hon. Vanessa L. Gibson
Borough President

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Joseph Russo
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz
District Manager

Health and Human Services

Wednesday, October 4 at 7:00 P.M.

Present: M. Bufano, M. Musano, T. Smith, R. Barbarelli, J. Mondello, J. Grell

Absent: M. Sajous, N. Rosario, S. Hazell, D. Hunt (joined remotely)

Guests: A. Cosaj (Montefiore)

Arjeta Cosaj spoke on behalf of Montefiore and provided data to the committee regarding breast cancer rates among women. On average white women experience breast cancer more than black women while Black women experience highest mortality rate. According to Montefiore, Highest rates are in Riverdale and lowest rates are found in Morris Park area. Individuals with BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes account for 27% of breast cancer risk. Signs and symptoms are thick mass, indentation, a lump, a retracted nipple or growing veins. There are both 2d and 3D mammograms which are both covered by insurance. If you are high risk, mammograms are recommended at age 30. Ways to reduce risk is a healthy lifestyle, eating nutritious foods and taking vitamin D supplements to name a few.

J. Grell asked that Birth Justice Defenders present at our November meeting.

The meeting closed at roughly 7:45 P.M. by an unanimous vote of adjournment.