

Ryan Network Annual Children's Holiday Toy Party

The William F. Ryan and Ryan-NENA Community Health Centers held their Annual Children's Holiday Toy Party on Saturday, December 4, 2010. This year, over 1,500 gifts were distributed by Santa Claus to children 12 years and younger who are patients of the two Centers. Santa and Mrs. Claus were ably assisted by many Ryan Network staff, volunteers, friends, and family, who volunteered significant time during the weeks preceding the party to wrap hundreds of gifts, decorate the Centers, and serve as Santa's helpers on the day of the party distributing the gifts.

A performance by the New York City Housing Authority Youth Chorus added to the holiday spirit at the Ryan Women & Children's Center. At Ryan-NENA, SOS Gamers, a not-for-profit that provides "free of charge" electronic video-gaming to the community provided an opportunity for kids to play video games on the Nintendo Wii. Project Sunshine volunteers applied temporary tattoos to keep things festive. At



Ryan/Chelsea-Clinton and at Ryan/Thelma C. Davidson Adair, toys were distributed to children at their visit with the pediatrician. ■

A Visit from Miss Teen U.S.A.



February 14, 2011 - Miss Teen USA 2010, Kamie Crawford reading picture books to children at the Ryan Women and Children's Center. Ms. Crawford partners with Reach Out and Read of Greater New York to promote child literacy and families reading together. Three health centers in the William F. Ryan Network participate in the Reach Out and Read program, together serving around 1,600 children annually through Reach Out and Read.

Winter 2010-2011

RYAN CENTER
Community Health Center

RYAN-NENA
Community Health Center

RYAN/CHelsea-CLINTON
Community Health Center

RYAN/ADAIR
Community Health Center

Ryan Women & Children's Center Opening Reception



On October 15th, 2010, over 150 community residents, leaders, City, State, Federal and local health officials, Ryan Board members, staff and friends came together to celebrate the Grand Opening of the Ryan Women and Children's Center at 801 Amsterdam Avenue. The newly developed, LEED-certified location, houses the William F. Ryan Women's Health, Pediatrics, WIC (Women, Infants and Children), Mental Health, and Prevention Departments.

The events' speakers included: Dr. Richard Daines, former New York State Commissioner of Health; Ronald Moss, MSW, Director, HRSA U.S. Public Health Services Division; Polly Ryan, daughter of the late Congressman William F. Ryan; Congressman Charles B. Rangel; Congressman Jerrold Nadler; Assemblywoman Linda Rosenthal; Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer; Stanley Brezenoff, President and CEO, Continuum Health Partners; and Joel Pickett, President, Gotham Construction Corp.

The New York City Housing Authority Youth Chorus provided wonderful entertainment for the guests who enjoyed a wide variety of foods and drinks, generously donated by local area merchants and restaurants

including: Associated Supermarket, Benny's Lung Sheng Restaurant, Blockheads, Carmine's, Café Con Leche, Empire, Eretz, Fortago Burger Bar, Gabriela's, Kouzan, Lenny's Bagels, Malecon No. 2, Mani's Market Place, Tandoori, Thai Market, and Tropical Sensations Restaurant.

This new facility will enable the Ryan Center to continue its programs, and develop new initiatives in providing vital primary services to women and children in need. Our services and medical staff have expanded with our new space, and we want to welcome the new four pediatricians - Dr. Lucia Cristinoiu, Dr. Sonia Gidwani, Dr. Kenneth Gottesman, and Dr. Patricia Haley (formerly of St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center) who have joined



Barbra E. Minch, President & CEO, Dr. Jessica Sessions, Associate Medical Director & Director of Pediatrics, William Murphy, Chief Administrative Officer of The Ryan Women & Children's Center welcomed the many guests, friends, and elected officials.

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RYAN CENTER Community Health Center

Ryan Uptown
110 West 97 Street
(near Columbus)
212-749-1820

RYAN-NENA Community Health Center

Ryan Downtown
279 East Third Street
(between Avenues C and D)
212-477-8500

RYAN/CHelsea-CLINTON Community Health Center

Ryan Midtown
645 Tenth Avenue
(between 45 and 46 Street)
212-265-4500

RYAN/ADAIR Community Health Center

Ryan Harlem
565 Manhattan Avenue
New York, NY 10027
(212) 222-5221

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the Ryan family and the Pediatric Department's existing pediatricians - Dr. Jessica Sessions, Associate Medical Director and Director of Pediatrics, Dr. Berta Ramos-Ramirez, Dr. Sejal Majmudar, and Dr. Stephanie Shaps. In the next few months, specialists in Endocrinology and Pulminology will also be joining the Ryan pediatric medical team.

The main Ryan Center site at 110 West 97th street continues to house our Adult Medicine, Dental departments, and other specialties. The big news for this site is our upcoming major renovation in the Spring to improve patient flow and expansion of space for new specialties and staff! ■



Announcements:

Please join us in congratulating Ms. Arnel Tirado, newly appointed Executive Director of the Ryan/Chelsea-Clinton Community Health Center! Ms. Tirado previously served as the Deputy Director of Ryan/Chelsea-Clinton, and was appointed to her new position by the Board of Directors in February 2011. Although we are saddened by the departure of our former Executive Director, Karen Westervelt, we wish her all the best in her new position as Special Policy Advisor for Primary Care Development for the New York State Department of Health (DOH).

certify for food stamps. Ryan believes strongly in the notion that health care encompasses many facets of a person's day to day life, and this partnership further allows us to provide much needed services to improve the health of the community.

Grant Award:

Ryan was recently awarded a \$200,000 grant by the Ira W. DeCamp Foundation to ensure meaningful use of the Network's new Electronic Health Record (EHR) system. This is the second grant from Ira W. DeCamp, and the funding will directly assist the Center's patients and practitioners by ensuring that EHR is used effectively to track patient health outcomes, practitioner performance, better coordinate communication between practitioners, and provide staff reminders for needed tests, follow-ups and call-backs. In addition, Ryan was the only recipient in New York State of the US Department of Health and Human Services Patient Navigator Outreach and Chronic Disease Prevention Grant. This new program will improve healthcare outcomes for primarily minority, low-income, underinsured and uninsured individuals struggling to manage chronic diseases. ■

Partnership with the New York City Coalition Against Hunger

The William F. Ryan Community Health Center is pleased to announce a new partnership with the New York City Coalition Against Hunger (NYC-CAH). Every Thursday there is a representative on site at William F. Ryan and the Ryan Women and Children's Center to help patients and community residents apply for or re-



On Friday, February 4th, 2011, the Thelma C. Davidson Adair/William F. Ryan Community Health Center collaborated with the Eastern Star/Masonic Lodges and Ms. Wanda Johnson, a community partner and member of the Le Gree Baptist Church in Harlem, to celebrate "2011 National Wear Red Day - Go Red for Women" day. This event is sponsored annually by the American Heart Association to raise awareness, education, and community programming to benefit women about heart disease. Over 50 guests attended to hear Dr. Jonathan Okun, Ryan/Adair Supervising Physician, present on "Health Risk Factors: Heart Disease and Stroke".

Health Centers Leadership Meeting

A conversation with Congressman Rangel & HHS Regional Director Dr. Jaime Torres

On Tuesday, September 7, 2010, the Ryan Center was honored to be asked to host a community breakfast meeting at the William F. Ryan Women & Children's Center, 801 Amsterdam Avenue, that was convened by Congressman Charles B. Rangel with United States Health and Human Services Region II Director, Dr. Jaime Torres, and Community Health Centers in Congressman Rangel's district.

The purpose of the "conversation" breakfast was to engage in an active dialogue with Dr. Torres and Congressman Rangel

about the current health needs of our community, and the goals of the Community Health Centers. There was a very lively discussion with representatives from Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS)- one of the leading primary care associations in the country. CHCANYS organizes, educates and advocates on behalf of 60-plus federally qualified community health centers and look-alikes located throughout New York State. Community health centers provide high quality, affordable and accessible primary medical, dental and preventive care to more than 1.4 million New Yorkers at over 457 sites in urban, suburban and rural settings. Representatives from the Community

Healthcare Network, Harlem United, Institute for Family Health, Settlement Health & Medical Services, Boriken Neighborhood Health Center, Heritage Health, the William F. Ryan Community Health Center and other community based organizations, and Community Boards in Congressman Rangel's district, also participated. With the understanding that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, ("ARRA") has provided funding for community health centers to expand existing sites and build new sites. Dr. Torres personally wanted to hear the opinions and ideas about health needs of the community, and to bring these back to President Obama. ■



Pediatric Lecture Series Article - Ryan/Chelsea-Clinton

On December 15, 2010, the Ryan/Chelsea-Clinton Community Health Center concluded its fourth, and final event of its Pediatric Lecture Series entitled "Growing Up Happy." The series focused on Childhood Wellness, with each part of the series dedicated to a specific topic.

The topics included Childhood Development, Childhood Safety, Childhood Education, and Childhood Nutrition. Speakers at each respective event included Center physicians, the New York City Fire Department, the American Red Cross, New York City Department of Education, public school parent coordinators, Advocates for Children, nutritionists and Body Sculpt trainers.

At each event, parents and children were engaged with both the educational information and activities presented. The children were also entertained with face painters, public library storytellers, as well as arts and crafts. An average of 30-40 parents, and 40-50 children attended each lecture series, and many of them returned for all four parts of the series.



While some of the attendees were Ryan/Chelsea-Clinton patients, the events attracted many members of the community who became newly familiar with the services offered by the Ryan/Chelsea-Clinton Community Health Center. Additionally, 50 books were donated to the children who attended the first series. Based upon the overwhelming positive response from the local community, as well as the continued attendance throughout the series, the Pediatric Lecture Series was deemed not only a fun event, but a great success! ■

Ryan-NENA's Halloween Read-Aloud



In celebration of Halloween, Ryan-NENA's Reach Out and Read Program and Pediatrics Department conducted a Halloween themed read-aloud story-time on Thursday, October 28, 2010, for over 50 Pediatric patients, along with special guest Sarah Belanich, Librarian, Hamilton Fish Park Public Library. In addition to 'spooky' stories, participants enjoyed choosing books to take home, library card sign-up, and giveaways as well as a face-painter who was provided by Fidelis Care New York. ■