



HRA/DSS PERSPECTIVE

COMMITTED TO ASSISTING PEOPLE IN REACHING THEIR MAXIMUM LEVEL OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY



COMBATING MEDICAID FRAUD AND PROTECTING NEW YORKERS

HRA's main line of defense against fraud is the Investigation, Revenue and Enforcement Administration (IREA). IREA's prime goals are to investigate, identify and prevent Public Assistance, Medicaid and Food Stamp fraud. IREA's Bureau of Fraud Investigation (BFI) investigators often work in collaboration with the New York City Police Department, district attorneys and other governmental, investigative and law enforcements agencies.

Prescription drug fraud, in particular, is a major source of misspent Medicaid and taxpayer dollars and poses a grave health threat to consumers through tainted medication. Taking the initiative against this problem, IREA established a special BFI Medicaid Prescription Drug Fraud Unit (PDF) in 1999. Since its inception, the unit has identified over \$17 million of fraud and initiated case actions and

service restrictions that have saved more than \$5.8 million.

Investigators meet with pharmacy chains quarterly and are active in the National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators (NADDI). IREA, working with the Federal



Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), has been instrumental in intercepting illegal sales of drugs such as Oxycontin, now the most diverted drug in New York City.

In September 2006, BFI's PDF unit worked with the FBI and other enforcement agencies to arrest two brothers, a doctor and a pharmacist, for defrauding Medicaid of millions of dollars by billing for HIV and other medicines never given to patients. The unit has been involved in more than 1,400 arrests since its inception.

HRA Program Updates

A STATE-OF-THE-ART HOME FOR THE JAMAICA CENTER

By the end of December, the Jamaica Job Center and Food Stamp Office, the Jamaica Medicaid Office, the APS Queens Office, as well as the Administration for Children's Services' Queens Field Office, will move from their outdated headquarters on Sutphin Boulevard into the Muss Building, a newly constructed building in the area. As part of an agency - wide renovation plan, HRA offices have been designed to achieve a highly professional workspace for staff and a convenient service center for clients. The Jamaica Job Center and Food Stamp Office, which will open as a model center, has its main entrance at 165-08 88th Avenue.



Staff looks forward to occupying the new offices and anticipates positive feedback from clients on the new environment and the improved service process. Stay tuned for more photos and news of the Jamaica Center.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES RELIED UPON

The number of survivors of domestic violence who seek assistance through HRA's non-residential programs has risen from 2,480 in Fiscal Year 2005, to 2,879 in Fiscal Year 2006. Providers say that as they have become well established in communities, they are receiving more referrals as clients become aware of the high quality of the services provided.

HRA Perspective Monthly Bulletin

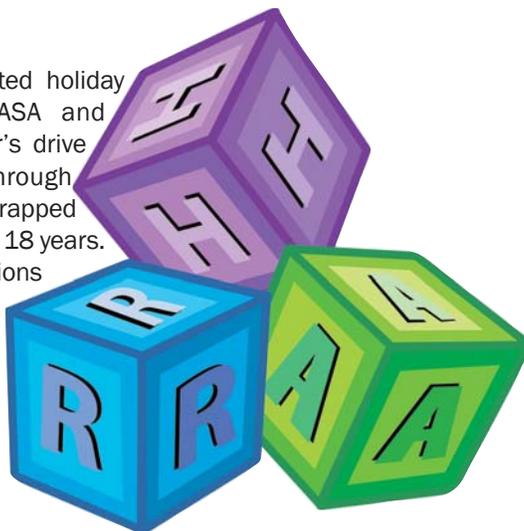
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MAKE A CHILD HAPPY

For eighteen years, HRA has contributed holiday gifts to children through HRA's HASA and Domestic Violence programs. This year's drive takes place from November 27th through December 20th. Please donate an unwrapped toy or gift for children aged six months to 18 years. For information on appropriate donations and gift collection, contact Myrna Payne at the Office of Community & Constituent Affairs, 212-331-3431.



Event Calendar

FIA/PAI Annual Ceremony

Thursday, December 14, 2006

The FIA 6th Annual PAI Ceremony will be held on Thursday, December 14th, at the Alexander Hamilton US Custom House, One Bowling Green, 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Look for the announcement of the 2006 award-winning teams and individuals.

PAI LUNCH & LEARN WORKSHOPS

Thursday, December 7, 2006

HRA Headquarters, 180 Water Street, 5th floor conference room, 1 PM. Lydia Martinez, NYPD, Special Victim Liaison Unit, on "Personal and Holiday Safety."

Friday, December 8, 2006

Union Square Food Stamp Site, 109 E. 16th St, 12 & 1 PM.

Jack Augenblick speaks about the NYC Deferred Compensation Plan.

HRA Blood Drive

Friday, December 8, 2006

Bureau of Eligibility Verification (BEV) Busmobile, 320 Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn, from 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM. To make an appointment, call Tracey Bruno at (718)473-8234.

Friday, December 15, 2006

Bureau of Eligibility Verification (BEV), 253 Schermerhorn Street, 7th Floor Conference Room, Brooklyn, 11:00 AM to 4:30 PM. To make an appointment, call Crystal Griffin-Scott at (718) 923-7939.

HRA Holiday Celebrations

Begin the holiday season by celebrating with your colleagues. December 18th, 19th and 20th have been designated for holiday celebrations at HRA. If you are not sure which date your location has selected, speak with your supervisor.

HRA McMillan Library

New Acquisitions:

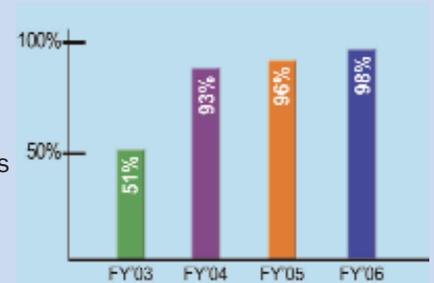
Reference: Google Power: Unleash the Full potential of Google, by Gary Sherman.

Newsletter: Managing People at Work

HRA Ranks Among the Highest Citywide in Contracts Completion

FY'03 - 51%; FY'04 - 93%; FY'05 - 96%; FY'06 - 98%. These figures tell the story of the Office of Contracts' climb to a near-perfect contract completion rate.

HRA's and all other city agencies' contracts must be awarded, renewed, replaced or amended throughout the year to insure that services are provided continuously and seamlessly. Yet, because each registered contract requires the completion of many internal and external components, with complex organizations such as HRA that involve many individuals, the contracting process can be easily stalled. As a result, in the past, some contracts were awarded retroactively citywide.



In 2003, Mayor Bloomberg charged City agencies to reorganize the complex paperwork process to remove barriers to meeting contract registration deadlines and instituted an annual compliance report. The report utilizes a critical July 1 "window in time" to measure completion success. The Mayor submits the New York City proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year on July 1 and the bulk of human services contracts fall due for registration by this deadline.

HRA's Office of Contracts, under the leadership of ACCO (Agency Chief Contracting Officer) Sandra Glaves-Morgan, rose to the challenge of reorganizing HRA's portfolio of contracts. By developing a strong management process and accountability on the part of all involved, HRA achieved an excellent compliance rate. As a result, HRA received and retains delegated authority to approve approximately 60% of its contracts without oversight of the Mayor's Office.

HRA's completion rate is among the highest citywide. In order to hold this level of completion and achieve an even higher rate in FY2007, the Office of Contracts will continue to work closely with HRA program areas. The Office of Contracts thanks the program areas for their contribution and looks forward to another successful year.



HRA's graphic designers were inspired to create a fresh, contemporary logo for PAI, reflecting the professionalism we continually strive to achieve. By taking to heart HRA's core values of Professionalism, Accountability and Integrity we have learned to improve communication and reduce stress in our work. Every day, we realize great successes in helping the people we serve reach their highest level of self-sufficiency. We hope that you will take advantage of the activities the PAI Program offers for professional and personal development and that you will carry forward the HRA/PAI logo with pride.

You can see the latest PAI Winners on the PAI Wall of Fame at 180 Water Street, on the 12th Floor.

Take a Look At Us Now!