

Fountain House and Brightpoint Health Announce Agreement to Operate Sidney R. Baer Jr. Center

The integration of comprehensive psychiatric and medical services will increase access to care for New Yorkers with serious mental illness.

August 24, 2017. Fountain House and Brightpoint Health announce a new affiliation agreement to operate the Sidney R. Baer Jr. Center, a community health center providing integrated psychiatric and primary care services. For the past two decades, the Sidney R. Baer Jr. Center has been serving people with serious mental illness who participate in Fountain House’s community-based mental health program. Brightpoint Health operates Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) in New York City, providing primary care, behavioral health services and substance abuse treatment. This affiliation will increase the number of people who are able to access high quality care at the Center while demonstrating the effectiveness of integrating psychiatric and primary care.

“We are thrilled to begin working with Brightpoint Health, and believe that with their leadership we will be able to serve an increased number of New Yorkers with serious mental illness and to address the issues of excess mortality and co-morbidities of this population,” said Fountain House President Kenneth J. Dudek. “The affiliation of Brightpoint Health with the Sidney R. Baer, Jr. Center reflects the shift towards integrated care that we are seeing within the city and state. Fountain House’s Comprehensive Community System of Care goes beyond integrated care to include social interventions.” Paul Vitale, President and CEO of Brightpoint Health said “The integrated care model that Brightpoint will offer at the Sidney R. Baer, Jr. Center is best practice – treating the whole person, addressing their physical, emotional, and social determinants of health.”

Recent research from New York University Health Evaluation and Analytics Lab has shown that that high-utilizers of Medicaid services have a 21% decrease in total cost of care after enrolling in NYC-based Fountain House.

The Baer Center, led by Medical Director Dr. Ralph Aquila, is a valuable psychiatry and medical services component of Fountain House’s effective community based recovery program for people with serious mental illness. The Center is located in two lower floors at 347 West 37th Street, a residential building owned by Fountain House.

ABOUT FOUNTAIN HOUSE

Since 1948, NYC-based Fountain House, recipient of the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize, has empowered people with serious mental illness to live and thrive in society.

Each year, over 1,300 members come to Fountain House to contribute their talents, learn new skills, access opportunities and forge new friendships.

Fountain House has inspired the creation of hundreds of similar programs in 34 countries that serve more than 100,000 people annually.

www.fountainhouse.org

ABOUT BRIGHTPOINT HEALTH

Brightpoint Health is a leading nonprofit provider of integrated health care and social support services to New Yorkers, especially those challenged by poverty, discrimination and lack of access to health care. With nearly 800 employees and locations throughout the five boroughs, Brightpoint serves 40,000 people with over 130,000 health care visits annually. Brightpoint is known for providing the highest quality care and improved outcomes while treating each and every patient with the kindness and respect they deserve.

www.brightpointhealth.org

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