



# PHASE I: Letter of Intent

Last updated: 02/29/2016

## Basic Contact and Application Information

### Page 1

**Applicant groups and Existing Education Corporations interested in submitting an application to establish Regents-authorized charter schools are asked to complete this brief information sheet. The Department will use this information to plan and coordinate peer review panels with appropriate expertise to evaluate all application materials.**

**Please indicate whether an Applicant Group (operates no charter schools to date) or an Existing Education Corporation (operates a least one charter school) is submitting this Round 1 Letter of Intent.**

Applicant Group LOI to establish a single, new charter school

### Proposed Charter School Name

(Please write out the full name for the proposed charter school, and include the words "charter" and "school" in the proposed name(s)).

School Name	Hi-Tech Healthcare charter School
Grades Served (K-5, .6-8, 9-12, etc.) During Initial Term	9-12
Max Number of Students During Initial Term	450

### Proposed or Current Board Chair and Public Contact information, including mailing address, phone number, and email address.

(The entire chart may not be visible on your screen. Use the "tab" key to move from column to column. The first column will remain static as you do so).

	First and Last Name	Best Phone Number (###-###-####)	Email Address
Proposed/Current Board Chair	Emmanuel Okpalauwaekwe	██████████	██████████
Public/Media Contact Person	Dr. Francis Onukwue	314-922-7139	<a href="mailto:fonukwue12@aol.com">fonukwue12@aol.com</a>

### List of Key Design Elements

(Integral to the school model, these elements should be reflected throughout the application)

1	Emphasis on STEM-Project Learning
2	Focus on at-risk students
3	Extended School Day & Saturday Academy
4	Maintain solid sustainability and financial capacity
5	(No response)
6	(No response)

7	(No response)
8	(No response)
9	(No response)
10	(No response)

If available, please provide the URL to the website established for the proposed school or existing education corporation.

[www.htcharterschool.org](http://www.htcharterschool.org)

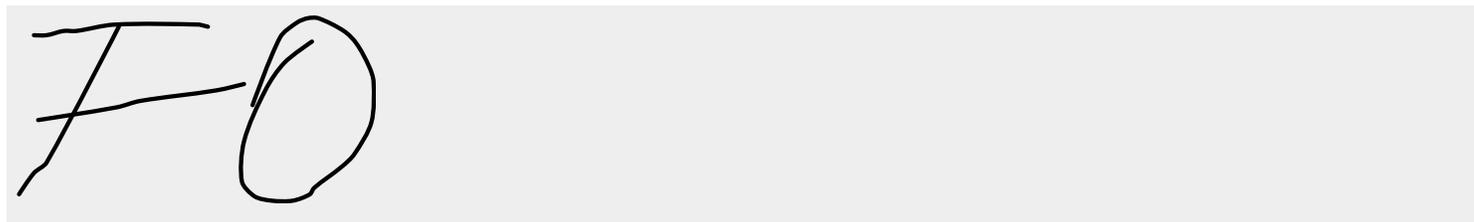
**Proposed Management and/or Partner Organization(s), such as a charter or educational management company or a university, academic program partner, or whole school change partner.**

(Refer to the application kit for definitions and guidance as only "substantial" partnerships should be listed here).

Proposed Management Company	N/A
Partner Organization 1	N/A
Partner Organization 2	N/A

**Proposed Board Chair Signature**

(Internet Explorer may not support this feature. Open the portal using Google Chrome, Firefox, or Safari).



**Date**

2016/02/29

**Thank you for completing this form.**

**HI-TECH HEALTHCARE CHARTER SCHOOL (HHCS)  
LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY**

**I. Applicant Group Information**

A. & B. Applicant Group Information: See attached **Table 1** below

C. Public Contact: Dr. Francis Onukwue; Ph: 314-922-7139; [fonukwue12@aol.com](mailto:fonukwue12@aol.com)

D. Application History: We began work on this application in 2012 and have neither submitted it to nor obtained decision from any other authorizer. The application was accepted September 11, 2013 by the NYSED but an anticipated Community Board 2 support letter was not received and so full proposal was not submitted. It was resubmitted but rejected on February 21, 2014 for lack of “sufficient information in Section IV. b. *Community Support* (initial assessment of parent interest in the proposed School).” This deficiency was corrected through better elaboration on outreach activities. In addition, more elaborate outreach to various stakeholders including parents and parents’ liaisons were carried out following the second rejection. The Letter of Intent was resubmitted again in the 2014 second round and was accepted to proceed to full proposal. Unfortunately the full proposal was rejected for not fully developing mission statement throughout the whole proposal and other matters. The 2015 Round 1 Letter of Intent was not fully submitted before deadline and Round 2 was rejected. Round 3 of 2015 was also rejected for deficiency in budget among others. These deficiencies are now identified and corrected.

**Attachment 5a**: Attachment 5a is attached showing the School Trustee Background Information and Signed Statements of Assurance, Signed Statements of Intent, Resumes, Transcripts from Highest Degree Granting Institution, Three Reference Letters. Criminal background checks will be conducted following submission of full proposal and at the request of NYSED Charter School Office.

**II. Proposed Charter School Information**

A. Proposed School Name: Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School (HHCS)

B. Proposed School Location: Possible South Bronx School Districts to be located include District 8, 12, 7 or 9. HHCS intends to request to be sited in a South Bronx NY School District facility. The institution is also planning to lease or own its property; and therefore presently working with realtors.

C. Planned Grades and Enrollment in Each Year of Proposed Charter Term: While a K-12 is planned for the fully developed school, present focus is on a 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade high school. In year one, 110 students will be recruited and enrolled in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. In year two, successful students would progress to 10<sup>th</sup> grade and a new 9<sup>th</sup> grade of same size enrolled, and on through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Qualified and continually trained staff will delivery the rigorous curriculum. Intensive remedial programs and support services will be provided to struggling students to enable them achieve their academic goals. The table below shows the 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade levels, indicating age range and enrollment for each year of initial charter term. A small margin is allowed for attrition due to transfers and other matters.

Projected Enrollment of 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades Over the Charter Term						
Grade	Age	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2018-2019
9	13-17	110	110	110	110	110
10	14-18	0	105	105	105	105
11	15-19	0	0	100	100	100
12	16-21	0	0	0	95	95
Total		110	215	315	410	410

D. Proposed Management and/or Partner Organization(s): N/A.

E. Proposed School Mission: Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School (HHCS) will provide students with rigorous curriculum and intensive instructions in core academic courses in a stimulating, safe, and nurturing environment. The School will help students develop academic and professional skills necessary to compete and perform well in the growing healthcare, science, and technology industries of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The school's goal is to graduate all students to be college ready. Students will graduate High School with Diploma and be ready to enter college and university and pursue degrees and careers in Healthcare, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and other disciplines of their choice.

F. School Overview: Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School has designed and will implement an innovative charter school. The charter school academic program and curriculum will be aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Key design elements include:

(1) *Emphasis on STEM-Project Learning*: The school will work with Lincoln Education Center to provide a practical hands-on project-based teaching and learning experience in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics that help students build their competences in these subjects and other subject areas. HHCS will design and implement STEM-Project Learning, given its ease in making math and science accessible to Students with Disabilities, English Language Learners and to those who have problem understanding traditional math and science methods.

(2) *Focus on at-risk students* – The school will target at-risk students (English Language Learners, Students with Disabilities, Free and Reduced Price Lunch), create exceptional learning environment and provide students with the skills necessary to access the 21<sup>st</sup> century global economy.

(3) *Extended School Day & Saturday Academy* - Extended schedule allows added academic support time for students with special learning needs and those lacking structured place to study outside of school. During the months of September through May, at least one Saturday per month will be reserved for students who continue to struggle academically – this is mandatory for all students needing academic enrichment support. Competent and continually trained teachers plan and work in groups to educate students in low teacher/student ratios. Students will work on reviewing and relearning areas that presented difficulty to them until attain mastery of specific course materials.

(4) *Maintain solid sustainability and financial capacity*: HHCS will seek out financial and other resources from various sources, including fundraising activities, grant writing and use of volunteers to enhance the activities and programs of the institution. The school will create a reserve fund to assure that any contingency expenses are addressed and handled without putting strain on the school budget and on school activities. Students will fare better and enjoy solid, viable, sustainable, vibrant, and financially secure academic institution that is operating at reasonable sustainability.

G. Target Population/Community to be Served: The School will be located in South Bronx, one of the neediest areas in New York. HHCS will serve all eligible students but with emphasis on low-income students eligible for free and reduced price lunch, students with disabilities, students with English as a Second Language and academically and socially underperforming children. Depending on the availability of co-location space, leased space or its own independent facility, HHCS is to be located in School District 8, 12, 7 or 9. Based on consistent feedback from parents and community members, the school will be K-12 when fully developed but is presently focused on serving 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. School Board and school leadership will attract, screen and hire appropriately qualified number of faculty and administrative staff to adequately staff all grade levels to be served. Working with Lincoln Education Center and other professional development providers, the school leadership will provide initial training and ongoing in-house and external professional development. This will assure that existing and new hires maintain the skills and competencies necessary to perform their best in meeting the academic, social and behavioral needs of students.

### **III. Enrollment and Retention, Particularly Targeted Students:**

#### **A. Strategies to attract and recruit targeted student population**

a. *Those identified in the school's mission* – HHCS aims to provide the best quality education to its students irrespective of ethnic origin, language abilities, disabilities, social and economic background. HHCS's student-focused, personalized education model will assess, identify and serve high-needs students with robust staffing supports, tutoring, social emotional learning, extended learning opportunities, and individualized pacing. Depending on the Community School District of location, HHCS plans to meet and/or exceed the enrollment targets for English Language Learners, Students with Disabilities, and Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Lunch of the local school district. For CSD 7, for example, these figures are English Language Learners 16.4%, Students with Disabilities 15.4%, and Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Lunch 90.4%; all based on school size. To attract and recruit students, materials will be presented in English and Spanish; open-house meetings will be held, local media outlets will be utilized to reach parents, churches, social organizations, and cultural institutions. Other recruitment strategies to be implemented will include among others, door-to-door flier distribution, church announcements and after service meetings with parents and community members, student-led community discussions, bulletin board publications, organizing special events and question and answer sessions and holding discussion sessions with middle-school student groups, parents and parent organizations, middle schools staff and principals, and community agencies. HHCS plans partnering with a foster children's home, Dominic's Home to refer students with special needs to HHCS, and several other such partnerships. HHCS will target Students with Interrupted Formal Education (SIFE) and recently arrived, undocumented students, including Safe Passage and the Unaccompanied Minors Program at Catholic Charities, which serve undocumented youth in the South Bronx. HHCS plans to work with parent communities, and parent associations as well as the school district's Committee on Special Education to reach and serve students with disabilities

b. *Students with disabilities* – HHCS will have on staff a person who is an expert on students with disabilities and who would be part of the team to design communication and recruitment materials targeting parents of students with disabilities and organizations that cater to students with disabilities. Partnerships will be formed with local churches and with disabilities institutions and agencies in order to reach and attract students with disabilities. HHCS is building partnerships with middle schools and their guidance counselors and special education teachers. HHCS is presently planning partnership with a foster children's home, Dominic's Home to refer students with special needs to HHCS. HHCS will work with parent communities, and parent associations as well as the school district's Committee on Special Education to reach and serve students with disabilities

c. *English language learners* – Recruitment materials will be provided in the native language of the students to enable students and parents understand the recruitment message and ponder more deeply in their own native mindset, the opportunities the school offers. Recruitment and outreach to the ethnic families, agencies, and communities carried out by bi-lingual employees and volunteers. Staff and volunteers will target particularly, Students with Interrupted Formal Education (SIFE) and recently arrived, undocumented students, including Safe Passage and the Unaccompanied Minors Program at Catholic Charities, which serve undocumented youth in the South Bronx. Plans are in the works to engage in referral partnerships immediately the charter school is approved.

d. *Students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced price lunch program* – South Bronx is known for its high poverty rate, with its student body eligible for free and reduced lunch near 90%. To attract and recruit students from the predominantly low-income families and communities of South Bronx, the recruitment methods outlined in the preceding sections will be used with emphasis placed on the **free** but **qualitative** education offered children. HHCS will work with local homeless shelters and food pantries. The school will partner with local tenant associations, working with Bronx Defenders. Fliers will be distributed door-to-door at public housing complexes and low-income neighborhoods to reach low-income families and their school-age children.

## B. Strategies to retain recruited targeted student population

a. *Those identified in the school's mission* – HHCS will work hard to retain our students by becoming a community school that works with families, social agencies and community leaders. Parents-Teachers and other organizations will be formed to foster ongoing mutual trust and collaborations. Engaging curriculum will retain students. After school tutoring, weekend classes will retain and enable struggling students gain mastery of course materials and enhance their academic performance. HHCS students will have multiple opportunities to encounter, demonstrate and master target skills with support from teachers and learning coaches. Flexible, personalized schedules ensure that students receive support through individual and group direct instruction, academic intervention software and extended learning opportunities. Each learning coach, supported by a social worker, will work alongside a teacher to advise a small group of students, build close relationships, monitor progress and engage in ongoing family communication. HHCS rites of passage program will increase belonging and ultimately academic achievement for students, and transition to higher academic and career pursuits.

b. *Students with disabilities* – Certified education professionals will be hired to provide the specialized quality services required by students with disabilities. HHCS's personalized, competency-based model provides all students with personalized learning plans so SWDs will not feel singled out or segregated. HHCS will implement a rigorous Response To Intervention (RTI) model and all students will have access to differentiated supports including assistive technology, learning coaches, targeted support and tutoring. In addition to these robust supports, students with disabilities will receive services from certified special education teachers. HHCS will prioritize building trust with families of SWDs and educating them on the benefits of these supports. HHCS will build and maintain continual relationships with disabled students' families and with agencies that address their needs.

c. *English language learners* – Culturally sensitive teaching and learning methods will be implemented along with the provision and delivery of course materials in ethnic languages that the learners understand. HHCS's project-based approach provides both cooperative learning and individualized support to boost academic achievement for ELLs. HHCS will hire bilingual learning coaches and an ELL learning specialist to support general education teachers to employ successful ELL strategies including home language support and sheltered content instruction (SIOP). Most importantly, all HHCS teachers will integrate literacy across the curriculum and within all learning environments. HHCS will create and support parent volunteer and leadership development programs that would assure parents' participation in planning and advancement of students learning.

d. *Students who are eligible applicants for the free and reduced price lunch program* – Among other retention strategies, Parents-Teachers and other associations will form to strengthen families' bonding with the school by more closely connecting parents with the school and the school with families, assuring retention. HHCS will provide early college and workplace learning opportunities that will dramatically increase first generation college-going students' exposure to college and career rigor. Learning coaches, supervised by a social worker, will develop close connections to students who may be facing challenging personal circumstances (i.e., shelters, living with relatives, interim housing situations, etc.) and connect them with local services. After-school programs will support additional learning time and opportunities for all students while meeting the needs of working families. Mentoring, advising, students' advancement and success will be assured through innovative, participatory cultural activities, healthy food programs, and **healthy lifestyle coaching**.

## **IV. Public Outreach and Community Support**

Beginning from early 2012 through this February 2016, Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School (HHCS) founding team and volunteers have carried out and continue to carry out **extensive** public, community, youth and parent outreach activities. HHCS has accepted and addressed inputs and feedbacks, integrating critical feedbacks into the school design and the proposal development.

**A. Public Outreach** (for the most recent outreach activities and the previous outreach activities, please see attached **Table 2**):

**B. Initial assessment of parent interest:** While ten public hearing meetings have been carried out from 2013 to date [four at Resurrection and Life Pentecostal Church Outreach Center (1/12/13; 4/20/13; 8/10/14; 1/6/2015), two at High Bridge Public Library (8/23/13; 4/16/2015), two at Hunts Point Public Library (6/28/14; 5/21/2015); two at Word of Life Church (9/6/2014; 3/7/2015)] targeting parents and guardians were conducted, and three parents and guardians surveys conducted [the first being from 2/2/12 to 6/2/12 and the second 2/2/13 to 6/2/13; a third survey conducted **July 15, 2015 – September 15, 2015**] with inputs and feedbacks from these assessments integrated, as appropriate, into the school design and proposal, outcomes of the last Parents/Guardian survey and opinion sampling is summarized below. Responding to a modified version of the survey research questionnaire (see **Attachment 2a3**) for the Parents/Guardians **November 1, 2015 through November 25, 2015** survey carried out by the HHCS Planning Team, the following selected research outcomes were documented:

**Research Question One:** “Is there a perceived need for a healthcare charter school in South Bronx?” 89% of participants who responded to this question answered yes. This means that support for a healthcare charter school is very high. This validated the need for Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School in South Bronx.

**Research Question Two:** Asked whether they prefer a healthcare charter school in South Bronx that encourage rigorous academic standards and higher student academic achievements as well as promotion of health careers. 91% affirmed positive assent. This result indicated high level of agreement on the need for a healthcare charter school in South Bronx that would encourage rigorous academic standards and higher student academic achievements as well as promote health careers in South Bronx. The need for healthcare charter school was rolled into the need to break the achievement gap and transform low performing students into high achievers.

**Research Question Three:** Asked respondents to indicate their preference for a charter school that place emphasis on “Science & Technology,” “Arts,” or “Healthcare.” 76% opted for healthcare-focused charter school. The outcome result was obvious in that majority prefer healthcare to art or technology. Respondents who provide additional comments in the comment section, commented on their desires for their children to train and become nurses, doctors and other healthcare professional both because these field pay well but also because the growing baby boomer means greater job security.

**Research Question Four:** Asked respondent’s preference for elementary, middle and high school, 58% of the respondents indicated preference for high school charter school, showing higher demand for high school charter school in the area than for other grade levels.

**Research Question Eight:** In answer to question on whether they will enroll their children in the school when approved, overwhelming 98% said yes. HHCS is compiling list of prospective students.

**Research Question Nine:** To Question 9’s statement, “My preference for location of the school in South Bronx School District,” there was no evidence of preference for particular districts. Districts 7, 8 9 or 12, were all acceptable, probably because of the random nature of the sampling and the wide dispersion of the respondents across the target areas under study.

**V. Proposed Board Chairman: Signature and Date Signed**

Name	Signature	Date
Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Okpalauwaekwe		02/27/2015

**HI-TECH HEALTHCARE CHARTER SCHOOL (HHCS)  
LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY**

**Table 1: Applicant Group Information**

Table 1 is not counted toward the page limits

\***Minimum of 5** members of applicant group must be designated as Trustees

<b>Applicant Group Member Name/Phone Email Address</b>	<b>Current Employment</b>	<b>Relevant experience/ skills and role on applicant group (Key Words)</b>	<b>Proposed role(s) If any (Trustee, Employee or None)</b>	<b>Proposed Board Position (e.g., officer, trustee, constituent rep)</b>	<b>Length of Initial Term</b>	<b>Voting Member Y/N</b>
Ivydean Frazier, B.Ed; MA; M.Ed; MA; Certification [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Special Education Supervisor IS 254, Bronx	Curriculum Development, Special Educations, Education Plan Committee	Trustee	Board Member	5 years	Y
Liana Acevedo, BS, MLS; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Library Manager, Hunts Point Public Library	Curriculum Development Education Plan Committee Resources, Outreach	Trustee	Secretary, Executive Board Member	5 year	Y
Larry Robinson, AAS; BA.; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Retired Technology Professional	Parent Advocacy, Technology, Community Outreach Committee	Trustee/Parent/ Parent Representative	Parents Representative Board Member	5 years	Y
Rev. Fr. Opkala, BA; MA.; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Harlem Hospital Center	Nonprofit Governance, Human Resources Compliance	Trustee	Chairman, Executive Board Member	5 years	Y
Ibe Moses, BS, MSC, CPA.; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Ibe Moses & Associates, CPAs, Head Auditor	Accounting, Auditing Regulations, Compliance	Trustee	Board Member	5 years	Y
Joan Bucchino, BA.; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Grace Corporation, President	Education Plan, Fundraising, Outreach, Health	Trustee	Board Member	5 years	Y
Francis Onukwue MA; MBA; PhD; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Hi-Tech Charities	New charter school Start-up experience Curriculum Legal, Finance, Regulations	Employee	Charter School Executive Director	5 years	N
Emmanuel Daniel	Healthcare	Healthcare,	Trustee	Board Member	5 year	Y

BS, MSA, RN.; [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Consulting, Director	Policies and Procedures				
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**HI-TECH HEALTHCARE CHARTER SCHOOL (HHCS)  
LETTER OF INTENT TO APPLY**

**Table 2: Public Outreach Information**

Table 2 is not counted toward the page limits  
Add more rows and/or rotate page if necessary

**A. Recent Public Outreach Information on Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School**

<b>Date of Outreach (mm/dd/yy)</b>	<b>Description of Outreach</b>	<b>Location of Outreach</b>	<b>Target Stakeholder Group</b>	<b>Feedback Obtained</b>	<b>Action Taken on Feedback</b>	<b>Number of Attendees</b>
Planned: 03/24/2016	Sending emails, distributing fliers to homes, community organizations, worship houses and individuals involved in youth development, mentoring, drug and alcohol prevention. To discuss school information and solicit feedback	Word of Life International Community Center 831 Westchester Ave	Parents, guardians, & Families with school children	Not yet	Not yet	Projected 50 families, and community members
02/25/2016 meeting date	Sent emails and fliers to community organizations and individuals involved in youth drug and alcohol prevention. Presented the school information and solicited feedback	Forward South Bronx Coalition. 871 B Westchester Ave. NYC CSD 8	Families of student with drug and/or alcohol problems, community members	Need to integrate prevention social marketing in school outreach and curriculum	Add prevention into Wellness & Health curriculum	27 families, agencies and professionals dealing with youth drug and alcohol in schools and communities in South Bx
02/10/2016	Announcements in houses of worship and agencies, fliers in neighborhoods. Presented the school and asked inputs	Resurrection Childcare Center, 1143 Tinton Ave. NYC CSD 12	Parents of school age children, community members	Asked for priority admission for families who already have a child in the school	Revised admission policy to add priority admission to sibling of existing student	31 families of students in middle school

01/03/2016	Announcements at church services presenting school, follow-on meeting solicit feedback	St. Anselm's Church 151 <sup>st</sup> St. NYC CSD 9	Parents of school age children, community members	Need for discipline to build character in students	Add model character in disciplinary policy	43 families with students in Catholic and non-Catholic Schools
01/19/2016	Sent fliers, email notices, presentation on school, discussion, and solicit feedback	UNITAS 830 Southern Blvd NYC CSD 7	Community Board #2 Education Committee members, Teachers, Parents of school age children,	Need for a full time school director	Modified proposal from half time to have full time director	13 committee members, teachers and parent with students in Schools
01/27/2016	Sent fliers, email notices, made presentation on school, discussion, and solicit feedback	Word of Life 831 Westchester Ave	Parents, Guardians, community members, families of school age children	Give priority admission to Community Board #2 families	Founding Group agree to give priority admission to Community Board #2 families if located in Board #2	47 parent and guardians with students in schools

**B. Previous Outreach Activities (just for information – feedbacks from these informed school design) –Social Agencies, Churches and Community Boards**  
– Presentations and discussions were held with social agencies and members of Community Boards #1 (9/12/2013, 2/5/2015 and various dates from 2013 through June 2015), Community Board #2 (6/12/13; 5/21/14; 6/18/14; 3/19/2015 and several dates from 2013 through June 2015), Community Board #3 (9/11/13; 10/2/2014; 5/14/2015 and several dates from 2013 through June 2015), and #4 (7/29/13; 5/27/14; 4/15/2015 and several dates from 2013 through June 2015). In these presentations, series of information were presented and discussed about our proposed healthcare charter school; the STEM-focus curriculum, the anticipation of locating school within school districts 7, 8, 9 or 12; the 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade levels to be served and clear description of the educational programs. Questions and answers sessions followed. Feedbacks received were integrated into subsequent meetings and eventually reflected in the school design. Letter of support was received from Community Board 2. Ongoing presentations and conversations continue.  
Distribution of Fliers, Brochures and Public Hearing Events Notices - Over three thousand fliers, brochures, and public hearing notices, all written in

English and Hispanic languages were produced and distributed to residents through door-to-door, churches, local businesses and stores, laundry mats, community centers, public and senior housing facilities, and other public places. *Community Events* – HHCS participated and continues to participate in Bronx business events, health and community events where information are shared and feedbacks received. Examples include Fordham University (5/28/14; 1/22/2015), Bronx Week Business Breakfast (5/14/13; 5/13/14; 2/26/2015), health fairs (5/3/13; 6/28/14, 4/16/2015 and others), and several other community fairs and events.

## Attachment 2a: Initial Samples of Public Outreach

**Attachment 2a1:** Sample evidence HHCS has informed the community about the proposed charter school including the intended location, the target student population, the grades to be served, and a description of the educational program(s) to be offered – **see sample letter of support, confirmation of announcements and commitment to continue to announce the school and its information.**



Tel.: 718-542-7293 • Fax: 718-378-1819 • E-mail: [stanthony832@aol.com](mailto:stanthony832@aol.com)

Wednesday, February 04, 2015

The Regents, University of State of New York  
Charter School Office  
89 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12234

Dear Regents:

We have made announcements about Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School in our Church's English and Spanish Services and have published the school's information in our Parish Bulletins. I am confident that families will be responding to this invitation because they are eager about their children education. On behalf of myself, the Catholic parish of Saint Anthony of Padua I am pleased to express our full commitment and support for the proposed Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School (HHCS).

We will continue to publicize the school to our Bronx Catholic Churches and to our parishioners, their families and friends and provide the necessary resources required to make the school a big success for the high students, their families and our South Bronx community. We will make announcements on Sunday services and during social and communities activities and we will take other measures to involve the community in the school activities to assure the success of the charter school.

We are glad that Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School founding team has designed and is proposing a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) charter school that would help students gain required competences in the fields of healthcare, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Students will graduate with Regent Diploma and be ready to enter college or university to pursue degrees in the fields of their choice.

To enhance students' learning experience and prepare them for college, HHCS will form partnerships with colleges, universities, hospitals and other healthcare facilities for the purposes of providing student summer learning experience to enhance their academics.

I look forward to working with you and the school in creating exceptional learning opportunity and providing our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to enter and complete college or university education.

Sincerely,



Most Rev. Josu Iriondo, S.T.L, D.D Pastor  
Auxiliary Bishop of New York

**ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
832 East 166th Street - Bronx, NY 10459

**Attachment 2a2:** Sample evidence HHCS has had a public meeting with stakeholders in the school district(s) the proposed charter school may be located – see sample notice (in English and Spanish) of invitation to public hearing and the attendance sign-in sheet

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**INVITATION TO PUBLIC HEARING**

**PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS:**

**DEAR PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS,  
YOU ARE INVITED TO  
PARTICIPATE IN A PUBLIC HEARING ON  
HI-TECH HEALTHCARE CHARTER SCHOOL,  
AN INNOVATIVE 9<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
HEALTHCARE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL BEING  
PLANNED FOR OUR SOUTH BRONX CHILDREN**

**YOUR PRESENCE AND INPUTS ARE HIGHLY NEEDED**

**DATE: Saturday, June 27, 2015**

**TIME: 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm**

**LOCATION:**

**Hunt's Point Library  
877 Southern Blvd, Bronx, NY 10459.**

**COME FIND OUT MORE AS WELL AS CONTRIBUTE TO THE  
PLANNING AND DESIGN OF THIS INNOVATIVE HEALTHCARE  
CHARTER SCHOOL FOR OUR SOUTH BRONX COMMUNITY**

**CONTACTS**

**646-915-5379 – Larry Robinson  
314-922-7139 – Francis Onukwue**

**[www.htcharterschool.org](http://www.htcharterschool.org)  
[fonukwue12@aol.com](mailto:fonukwue12@aol.com)**

Distributed 06/10/2015

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**INVITACIÓN:**  
**AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA**

**ESTIMADOS PADRES Y MIEMBROS DE LA COMUNIDAD,**  
Cordialmente queremos invitarle a participar en nuestra próxima audiencia pública a llevarse a cabo el **Sábado 27 de Junio del 2015** de 2pm a 5pm en la **Biblioteca pública Hunt'Point Library**

**Localizada en el 877 Southern Blvd Bx, NY 10459**

**Donde trataremos como tema principal el desarrollo y creación de la nueva HI-TECH HEALTHCARE CHARTER SCHOOL (9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grados)**

**HEALTHCARE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL a sido Diseñada pensando en el bienestar de nuestros niños del sur del Bronx.**

**Fecha : Sábado, 27 de junio de 2015**

**Hora : 2pm – 5pm**

**Lugar : Hunt's Point Library  
877 Southern Blvd Bronx, NY 10459.**

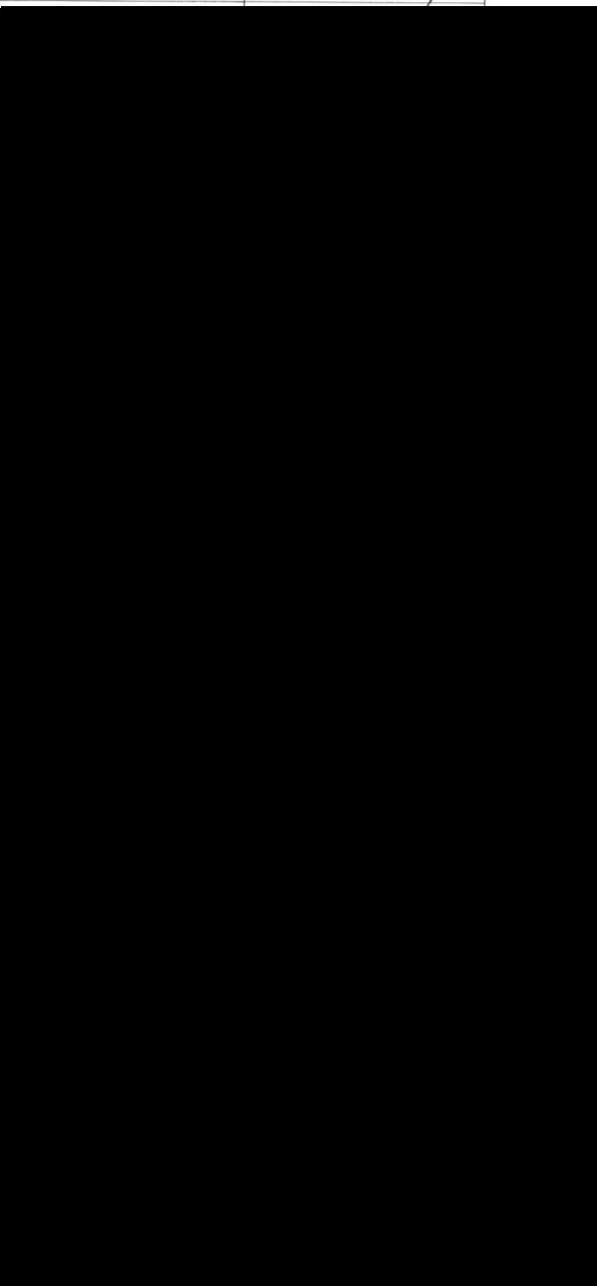
**Acompañenos y bríndenos sus sugerencias, ideas, y opiniones sobre el proyecto. Su presencia hará la diferencia en la educación de nuestros niños.**

**Para mas información  
(646) 915-5379 – Larry Robinson  
(314) 922-7139 – Francis Onukwue**

[www.htrterschool.org](http://www.htrterschool.org)  
[fonukwue12@AOL.com](mailto:fonukwue12@AOL.com)

Distribuido 06/10/2015

Attendees

Name	Parent/Guardian (check ✓ as appropriate)			Email Contact	Signature
	Father	Mother	Guardian		
Khalif Coombs ✓					
Yomari Cruz		✓			
Frances Quinones		✓			
Jodi Nivan		✓			
Fior delia Pich		✓			
Arsenio Perez ✓	✓				
Shaquana Bell		✓			
Mohammed Ali ✓	✓				
AGYARE LORETTA					
Jasmin Montgomery		✓			
Efren Murallo ✓	✓				
Sasha Adams		✓			
* Demi Beseves		✓			
Raymar Gueck			✓		
Stephanie Contreras		✓			
Diane Brundage		✓			
Althea Brundage					
Stephanie Ramos		✓			
Nataly Rosado		✓			
<del>Carolina</del>		✓			
Florentina		✓			

**Attendees**

Name	Parent/Guardian (check ✓ as appropriate)			Email Contact	Signature
	Father	Mother	Guardian		
Kendee Vago		✓			
Kenneth Woodard	✓				
Venus Sanabria		✓			
Blanca Torres		✓			
MASIA Banks		✓			
Maribe Pariza		✓			
Yennifer Perdomo		✓			
Emilia Olvera (cell)		✓			
Diana Rodriguez		✓			
Christopher Stewart	✓				
Paula Nelson		✓			
Domonick Quevedo		✓			
James Carter			✓		
JUSTINE		✓			
<del>Yisela Batista</del>		✓			
Yisela Batista		✓			
Chanilda Hernandez		✓			
JOSE LEDE	✓				
INFAMY RIVERO					
Chinaya Fecunda					
March Patricia					

**Attachment 2a3:** Sample evidence Stakeholders in the community were given the opportunity to provide input into the design of the proposed charter school – see survey and survey interpretation indicating feedback and support for the planned high school healthcare charter school for South Bronx.

**SURVEY TO START A NEW  
CHARTER SCHOOL IN SOUTH BRONX, NEW YORK**

**July 15, 2015 – September 15, 2015**

Dear Bronx Resident/Respondent:

This survey is part of our desire, as community members of Bronx, New York to obtain your critical input towards the articulation and design of an innovative Charter School in South Bronx, New York. We ask you to volunteer a little of your time towards this important effort, ponder on the survey questions and give us your cherished honest and objective assessment and input. Choose the answer you consider most applicable or most appropriate. Your input will count and will remain confidential.

(1) Is there a perceived need for a healthcare charter school in South Bronx, New York?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, there is; \_\_\_\_\_ No, there is none; \_\_\_\_\_ I do not know.

(2) My reason for wanting a healthcare charter school in South Bronx is to encourage rigorous academic standards and higher student academic achievements as well as promotion of health careers in South Bronx:

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree; \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree; \_\_\_\_\_ I am indifferent.

(3) The charter school program should have emphasis on:

\_\_\_\_\_ Science & Technology; \_\_\_\_\_ Arts; \_\_\_\_\_ Healthcare.

(4) In my opinion the grade levels needed most in our immediate community is:

\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary; \_\_\_\_\_ Middle School \_\_\_\_\_ High School

(5) In my opinion, the number of students to be enrolled in the first year of class should be:

\_\_\_\_\_ 75-150; \_\_\_\_\_ 150-175; \_\_\_\_\_ 175-250.

(6) The most appropriate school day duration or hours of study should be:

\_\_\_\_\_ 7.30 am – 2.00 pm; \_\_\_\_\_ 8.00 am – 4.00 pm; \_\_\_\_\_ 8.00 am – 5.00 pm.

(7) There should be Saturday and summer classes for students who need more help:

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree; \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree; \_\_\_\_\_ I am indifferent.

(8) I anticipate that the planned charter school will have the following impact on other public and non-public schools in South Bronx:

\_\_\_\_\_ Positive impact; \_\_\_\_\_ Negative impact; \_\_\_\_\_ No impact.

(9) My preference for location of the school in South Bronx School District is:

\_\_\_\_\_ District 7, 8 or 9; \_\_\_\_\_ District 8, 9 or 12; \_\_\_\_\_ Any District

(10) I would like to see strictly enforced discipline through a positive and transparent set of expectations shared with families and students:

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree; \_\_\_\_\_ I disagree; \_\_\_\_\_ I am indifferent.

Please add any other comments you feel would assist with this planning process:

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**HI-TECH HEALTHCARE CHARTER SCHOOL - SURVEY OUTCOME AND INTERPRETATION:**  
**ESTABLISHMENT OF INNOVATIVE CHARTER SCHOOL IN SOUTH BRONX, NEW YORK**

As part of the planning and design of the Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School, the charter school planning team, designed a well-thought-out survey tool for use in informing, assessing the opinions of and soliciting inputs and feedback of and from the people of South Bronx, regarding the need for the establishment of and design of a new charter high school in South Bronx area. The result and outcome of the survey is hereby presented below.

Data: U. S. 2010 Census Bureau				
2010 South Bronx Population				<b>654,360</b>
Number of South Bronx Residents Surveyed				<b>750</b>
Number of South Bronx Residents Surveyed Who Responded				<b>582</b>
Percentage Response Rate 582/750*100				<b>77.6%</b>
Qn	Survey Questions	Opt 1	Opt 2	Opt 3
	<b>Key:</b> Qn=Question; Op1=Option 1 Answer; Opt2=Option 2 Answer; Opt3=Option 3 Answer – Respondents’ Choices (See Questionnaire).			
1	Is there a perceived need for a healthcare charter school in South Bronx?:	543 (93%)	31 (5%)	8 (2%)
2	My reason for wanting a healthcare charter school in South Bronx is to encourage rigorous academic standards and higher student academic achievements as well as promotion of health careers in South Bronx:	514 (88%)	22 (4%)	46 (8%)

3	The charter school program should have emphasis on:	192 (33%)	186 (32%)	204 (35%)
4	In my opinion the grade levels needed most in our immediate community is:	191 (33%)	188 (32%)	203 (35%)
5	In my opinion, the number of students to be enrolled in the first year of class should be:	160 (28%)	223 (38%)	199 (34%)
6	The most appropriate school day duration or hours of study should be:	172 (30%)	261 (45%)	146 (25%)
7	There should be Saturday and summer classes for students who need more help:	510 (86%)	70 (12%)	11 (2%)
8	I anticipate that the planned charter school will have the following impact on other public and non-public schools in South Bronx:	482 (83%)	76 (13%)	24 (4%)
9	My preference for location of the school in South Bronx School District is:	151 (26%)	162 (28%)	269 (46%)
10	I would like to see strictly enforced discipline through a positive and transparent set of expectations shared with families and students:	529 (91%)	34 (6%)	19 (3%)

A survey (see above table for survey results) research carried out between **July 15, 2015** and **September 15, 2015** by HHCS Planning Team show that there is high demand for quality charter school in South Bronx. A review of the above survey result table shows the following: (a) The 2010 U.S Census Bureau population data was used for this research survey. (b) Only 750 or 0.11% (750/654,360\*100) of the 2010 population figure was surveyed. (c) 582 or 77.6% (582/750\*100) of the 750 respondents surveyed, responded either by completing and mailing in their questionnaires or by answering questions directly from researchers.

**(1) Question 1:** Question 1 asks, “Is there a perceived need for a healthcare charter school in South Bronx, New York?” Of the 582 who responded, 543 or 93% choose option 1, “Yes”; 31 or 5% choose option 2 “No”; while 8 or 1% indicated “Don’t know” for option 3. This means that supports for a healthcare charter school is very high, showing 93% support as against the combined 7% of non-support and don’t know.

**(2) Question 2:** Asking respondents whether they “Agree,” ”Disagree,” or are “Indifferent,” question 2 states, “My reason for wanting a healthcare charter school in South Bronx is to encourage rigorous academic standards and higher student academic achievements as well as promotion of health careers in South Bronx.” Of the 582 who responded, 514 or 88% choose option 1, “Agree”; 22 or 4% choose option 2 “Disagree”; while for option 3, 46 or 8% indicated “Don’t know.” This result indicates high level of agreement on the need for a healthcare charter school in South Bronx that would encourage rigorous academic standards and higher student academic achievements as well as promote health careers in South Bronx. This is evident in the 88% agreement as against the 12% who showed disagreement or indifference.

**(3) Question 3:** Question 3 asked respondents to indicate their preference for a charter school that place emphasis on “Science & Technology,” ”Arts,” or “Healthcare.” The results are almost even at 192/33%, 186/32%, and 204/35% for Science & Technology, Arts, and Healthcare, respectively. Yet there is slight preference for healthcare charter school at 35% preference level to the 33% and 32% for the other two options.

**(4) Question 4:** To Question 4’s statement, “In my opinion the grade levels needed most in our immediate community is,” 191 or 33% of the responding 582 choose option 1 “Elementary

school,” 188 or 32% choose option 2 “Middle school,” and 203 or 35% preferred option 3, “High school.” The results indicate slightly higher demand for high school charter schools in the area.

**(5) Question 5:** Responding to Question 5’s statement, “In my opinion, the number of students to be enrolled in the first year of class should be,” 160 or 28% of the responding 582 choose option 1 “75-150,” 223 or 38% choose option 2 “150-175,” and 199 or 34% preferred option 3, “175-250.” This can be interpreted as indicating higher preference for enrollments ranging from 150-175 students for the first year of the charter school programming, given its 38% as against 28% and 34% for the other two option choices.

**(6) Question 6:** Answering Question 6’s question, “The most appropriate school day duration or hours of study should be,” 172 or 30% of the responding 582 choose option 1 “7.30am-2.00pm,” 261 or 45% choose option 2 “8.00am-4.00pm,” and 146 or 25% preferred option 3, “8.00am-5.00pm.” Implicated in this result is the preference for “8.00am-4.00pm,” with its 45% preference level, as against the other two options that indicate 30% and 25%, respectively.

**(7) Question 7:** Asked in Question 7 to indicate whether “There should be Saturday and summer classes for students who need more help” overwhelming 510 or 86% of the responding 582 choose option 1 “Agree,” only 70 or 12% and 11 or 2% choose “Disagree” and “Indifference,” for options 2 and 3, respectively.

**(8) Question 8:** In answer to Question 8’s statement, “I anticipate that the planned charter school will have the following impact on other public and non-public schools in South Bronx,” a large number and percentage 482 or 83% of the 582 who responded choose option 1 “Positive impact,” while smaller figures opted for options 2 and 3, indicating “Negative impact” 76 or 13% and “No impact” 24 or 4%.

**(9) Question 9:** To Question 9’s statement, “My preference for location of the school in South Bronx School District is,” 151 or 26% of the responding 582 choose option 1 indicating preference for Districts 7, 8 or 9; 162 or 28% choose option 2 for Districts 8, 9, or 12; while a far larger number and percentage 269 or 46% choose option 3, “Any District,” meaning that majority do not mind where the healthcare charter school is located within any of the South Bronx school districts.

**(10) Question 10:** In regard to Question 10’s statement, “I would like to see strictly enforced discipline through a positive and transparent set of expectations shared with families and students,” overwhelming 529 or 91% of the responding 582 choose option 1 “Agree,” only 34 or 6% and 19 or 3% choose “Disagree” and “Indifference,” for options 2 and 3 respectively. This means that large majority of residents would like to see strictly enforced discipline through a positive and transparent set of expectations shared with families and students in the target area of the healthcare charter school.

**Attachment 2a4: Sample evidence of comments received from the impacted community or communities concerning the educational and programmatic needs of students were addressed.– see approval and support letter from District Manager of Bronx Community Board #2 after five (5) meetings, two with the Community Board #2 Education Committee, two with the Community Board #2 Youth Development Committee and one with the full board, where all eight (8) Full Board Committees discussed details of the school, made final inputs and voted a majority to and issue approval. The approval came only after all recommended design suggestions including giving admission preference to families of Community Board #2 were accepted and integrated into the school design.**



Dr. Ian Amritt  
Chairperson

**Bronx Community Board #2**

Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.  
1029 East 163<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Bronx, NY 10459  
718-328-9125 • 718-991-4974 Fax  
E-mail: [brxcb2@optonline.net](mailto:brxcb2@optonline.net)



Rafael Salamanca,  
District Manager

June 27, 2014

Dr. John B. King, Jr.  
Commissioner of Education and  
President of the University of the State of New York  
89 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12234

Dear Commissioner King, Jr.,

Please be advised that Bronx Community Board #2 voted on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, Full Board meeting to grant a letter of support for the Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School application.

We believe the healthcare charter high school will graduate students within the confines of BxCB with Regents Diploma and a healthcare certification. Students will go on to college to pursue degree in healthcare fields such as nursing, medicine, and other healthcare disciplines.

We look forward to working with the school and with the NYS Education Department to provide our South Bronx students with quality healthcare education and high-paying healthcare careers and jobs.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 718-328-9125 or email [rsalamanca@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:rsalamanca@cb.nyc.gov).

Sincerely,

  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.  
District Manager