

MSSNY Council Report
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Manhattan and the Bronx
January 24, 2019

New York County Medical Society

- É The Society will be holding its legislative breakfast in conjunction with the New York City Psychiatric Society and New York Council on Child and Adolescent Psychiatry on Sunday, January 27, at the New York Academy of Medicine. Invitations have been sent to the executive directors of the other boroughs. To date we expect Senator Gustavo Rivera, new chair of the Senate Health Committee, Assemblymember Dick Gottfried, Chair of the Assembly Committee, and Assemblymembers Carmen de la Rosa, Harvey Epstein, and Linda Rosenthal, with several other invitations in process. All are invited.

- É The Society will be sponsoring a bus from Manhattan for Physician Advocacy Day in Albany on March 6. The Board sent a letter to MSSNY asking that in planning for the event, it consider setting aside time to help direct doctors in the lobbying process, as directed after the last meeting. Specifically, we asked whether this year, 30 minutes or so could be built in at the end of the morning session for the physician lobbying groups to take a few minutes to strategize for the upcoming visits, including emphasis of MSSNY's main three issues, and a few key lobbying reminders.

- É The Society is continuing to communicate concerns regarding the move to legalize recreational marijuana in New York State. In addition, it continues to work on the Single Payer Health issue, to ensure that any proposal includes protections that will allow doctors to continue to support a practice, regardless of whether any such bill will be passed or signed in this legislative cycle.

- É The Society sponsored two events on Medicare changes in December and January.

PAGE TWO/JANUARY 14, 2019
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MANHATTAN AND THE BRONX

Bronx County Medical Society

- É Bronx County will be at the 2019 MSSNY HOD tackling important issues that will be on our scope of business, including physician wellness, better patient care for the Bronx community at large, talks of the Legalization of Marijuana, as well as the Gottfried Single Payor Act on the table

- É Bronx County will be inviting newlyóelected Senators from the Bronx, Senator Alessandra Biaggio, as well as newlyóelected Chair of Senate Health Committee Senator Gustavo Rivera, to our Comitia meeting on January 22. They will be introducing themselves to us in their new roles and discussing how Bronx County can assist in their new positions regarding improving better quality healthcare in the Bronx as one of the topics open for discussion.

- É Bronx County Medical Society and President Doctor Realba Rodriguez have been very instrumental in reaching out to the Bronx Borough Presidentø Office of Ruben Diaz Jr. and the Senior Director of Montefiore Health System to play a bigger role in the *#Not 62 Campaign*. We are scheduled for an introductory call this month to get the ball rolling for 2019, as the Bronx Borough Presidentø biggest concern is not having the Bronx be the 62nd unhealthiest county in New York State.

- É The Bronx County Medical Society has scheduled its Third Physician Networking Event on **February 19, location to be determined**. We will have a guest speaker from Montefiore Pulmonary Department, and we will be wrapping up with some fun and prizes at the end.