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## The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

## Health, Seniors, and Social Services Committee Meeting Lenox Hill Hospital 130 East 77<sup>th</sup> Street (Lex-Park) Theater Room Floor 2A Thursday, January 16, 2014 6:30PM

**Community Board Members Present:** Jeffrey Ascherman, Lorraine Johnson, Jackie Ludorf, Ellen Polivy, Barbara Rudder

1). Larry Silber, Executive Vice President, Client Services at the Perfect Home Care Inc. made a presentation on the services that are provided by the organization. This is an alternative for assisted living or a nursing home.

This company is a franchise of Companion Connection Senior Care. This group gave them training. They were only established a year ago. All of their care givers have a t least ten years' experience. They can bring someone in for as little as three hours for \$20.00 per hour. They offer live-in care for \$200 per day.

A form must be completed every day by the caregiver that gives information regarding the patient. They are not allowed to give any medical care, but they can remind the client to take their medication. They can prepare meals, go grocery shopping, and assist the client with getting out of the bathtub/shower and getting dressed.

Many companies require a major commitment but they have the minimum of three hours.

This is also a good service for people recovering from giving birth or surgery.

To ensure their health workers are in good standing they do a background check on them, and allow for an initial meeting to make sure the companion and the client feel comfortable with each other. The only insurance that would pay for this type of care would be long-term care insurance.

Again, it was stressed that these people could give no medical care at all including dispensing medicine. Basically they must operate under a hands-off philosophy and they shouldn't touch the clients. They are basically companions, although they can do light housework.

2). Discussion of future meetings

It was discussed that the HSSS Committee should have a meeting with the Transportation Committee regarding seniors and transportation. We also suggested the two new commissioners on health and abuse be invited to come to this meeting. A discussion of ambulance service was also suggested as a topic for a future meeting. Ellen Polivy also mentioned the topic of how many people can live in a subsidized apartment.

## Jackie Ludorf Chair, Health, Seniors, and Social Services Committee