Food quality concerns at NYC homeless shelters ... Two NYC jails to close by early next year ... Jewish nonprofit employees compare salaries

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# MN FIRST REND

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2019

#### New York City homeless shelter residents criticize food quality

New York City homeless shelters are offering moldy and rotten food to their residents, according to testimony at a City Council hearing yesterday, the Wall Street Journal reports.

The push to address food concerns in shelters started when several residents at the Auburn Family Reception Center at Fort Greene said they became sick from being served expired chicken salad last month. Sally Sherman Food provided the meals that had the initial expiration date of Sep. 20 covered with a new label marking the date as Oct. 31. Four of the residents came forward threatening an \$8 million lawsuit against the city earlier this month.

Fabienne Laraque, the medical director for the Department of Homeless Services, said at the Thursday hearing that those meals had tested "negative for bacteria pathogens." The city has since stopped working with the food vendor, and Laraque noted that the department performs semi-annual food inspections at each of its shelters and those contracted out.

The food issues facing shelter residents aren't limited to quality: In another case, a shelter resident said she asked for a halal or kosher meal during Ramadan, only to be met by laughter from the staff at one HELP USA shelter, despite the city Department of Homeless Services requiring religious accommodation for meals.

- Kay Dervishi



## Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation raises more than \$3 million at its third annual gala

The November 9th event, which raised funds for educational initiatives in rural India, drew guests such as U.S. Rep. Carolyn Maloney, actor Vivek Oberoi and Ambassador Sandeep Chakravorty, consul general of India. (Ekal Vidyalaya)

#### **TODAY'S BUZZ:**

**Safe Horizon:** Morgan Stanley awarded a \$1 million grant to the nonprofit to support its project for young, homeless survivors of abuse as well as its child advocacy centers.

**The Rockefeller Foundation:** Agnes Binagwaho, vice-chancellor of the University of Global Health Equity, and Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli, co-founder of Sahel Consulting: Agriculture & Nutrition Ltd., are joining the foundation's board of trustees.

**The Clark Foundation** hosted a three-day conference in Cooperstown for leaders in New York's human services sector this week.

**The Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial:** Elyse Buxbaum will join as its executive vice president for strategy and development, which is a newly created position at the museum.

The New York State Office of Mental Health issued a request for proposals that will provide \$50 million to organizations to develop at least 250 new crisis residential units across the state.

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There are almost **1.4 million homeless students** in the United States, many of whom go hungry. This week, the Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness is marking Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week with a series of infographics, videos, interactive maps, and Q&As exploring the health and nutrition challenges faced by these students and the resources available to them. Identifying homeless students is the first step to providing targeted supports and ensuring these students have the opportunity to learn and thrive.

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\$425,000 contract to provide Immigrant Opportunities Initiative services. The department intends to enter into a negotiated acquisition extension with both Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation and Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey for the extension of three Jobs Plus Services contracts.

**TOP NEWS:** New York City sees a decline in the number of new HIV cases (Wall Street Journal) ... New York City will close two jails by early 2020 as part of the plan to shutter Rikers Island: officials (Daily News) ... Nonprofits fear the cost of .org domain names will rise sharply (Wall Street Journal) ... Jewish nonprofit employees are sharing how much they make in a Google spreadsheet (Forward) ... A City Council hearing points to problems with the city's "batterer intervention" programs to reduce domestic violence (Gotham Gazette)

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**CUNY's newest school, the School of Labor and Urban Studies (SLU),** is a place for thinkers and doers. Serving adult learners as well as traditional-age students, SLU offers undergraduate and graduate degrees, as well as 12-to-16 credit-bearing certificates with a focus on advancing workers' rights, policy reform, and community empowerment. To learn more or to attend an upcoming information session, please visit <a href="http://bit.ly/slu\_info">http://bit.ly/slu\_info</a>

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**ANALYSIS:** As corporate philanthropy and marketing stunts converge, who is actually benefiting? (Fast Company)

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INNOVATE 2020: Registration Now Open! Don't miss JMT Consulting's annual educational training conference May 4-7, 2020 at Foxwoods Resort in Ledyard, CT. Specifically curated for nonprofit finance professionals, INNOVATE is a low-cost opportunity to get hands-on training and earn up to 21 CPE Credits. Sessions will include intro to advanced level training on Sage Intacct, Community Brands MIP, and FP&A, as well as a leadership track for finance leaders looking to gain valuable insights and better manage their organizations. Learn more and register here!

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**OPINION:** Twitter is banning political ads. Nonprofits like mine could suffer (Lizz Winstead, Vox) ... The Jim Crow South? No, Long Island today (The New York Times)

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CALL FOR SPEAKERS: NYN Media's upcoming Nonprofit BoardCon will revolve around the collaboration of staff and boardroom. We are currently looking for qualified speakers able to discuss topics including, but not limited to, board responsibilities, strategic planning, compensation strategies, government practices, fiduciary responsibilities, diversity in the boardroom, maximizing time, assessing board performance and more. Please submit suggestions for panels and moderators by December 15th as spots will fill quickly. Contact Lissa Blake at Lblake@cityandstateny.com with inquiries.

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### Chief Program Officer, Developmental Disabilities Services, Services for the UnderServed (S:US), (New York, NY)

The Chief Program Officer is responsible for driving, supporting and modeling a service-oriented culture focused on service excellence, fiscal responsibility, quality life outcomes and partnerships with families and individuals served. This executive must be a strategic thinker, but at the same time a hands-on, engaged and established leader with strong competencies in developmental disabilities services and health care. They will serve as a strategic thought partner to the CEO, supporting the mission, values, culture, strategies, and goals of the organization. Apply here.

## Senior Vice President, Health & Clinical Services, Services for the UnderServed (S:US), (New York, NY)

This role presents an exciting opportunity for a seasoned healthcare professional to craft a vision, develop a strategy and implement a plan to ensure the provision of appropriate, high quality, integrated clinical services to the individuals served by the Developmental Disabilities Services division of this nonprofit. The SVP will serve as leader, facilitator and coach to a team of clinicians from various disciplines who together seek to holistically address the physical, behavioral and health care needs of the people served. As a member of the senior leadership team, the SVP will work with executive leadership in the continued positioning of S:US and its operating entities as a leader in the DD field and health care arena. Apply here.

## **View All Jobs**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** To **Sara Beinert**, chief development and external affairs officer at Legal Information for Families Today ... to Westchester County Executive **George Latimer** ... to Rep. **Anthony Brindisi** ... and to **Mauricio Pazmino**, senior adviser for external affairs at the New York City Census 2020 Office.

Have a birthday, career change, birth or death to announce? email kdervishi@nynmedia.com.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Nov. 22 – BDO annual nonprofit accounting update (Webinar)

Nov. 23 – Nonprofit bootcamp: Beyond the passion (227-17 Merrick Boulevard, Queens)

Nov. 25 – Major gifts vs. planned giving (Webinar)

Nov. 25 – Public hearing on religious facilities (1 Centre St., Manhattan)

Nov. 25 – Level up your executive team (Webinar)

Submit your event by sending a short description and a working link to kdervishi@nynmedia.com.









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