



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**CHRISTINE BERTHET**  
Chair

**ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.**  
District Manager

January 13, 2014

Commissioner Thomas A. Farley  
NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Gotham Center  
42-09 28th Street, CN6  
Queens, New York 11101-4132

**Re: NYC Health and Nutrition Examination Survey**

Dear Commissioner Farley:

At the December 19, 2013 meeting of Manhattan Community Board 4's (CB4) Housing, Health and Human Services Committee (HH&HS), a presentation was made by a representative of the CUNY School of Public Health on the NYC Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (HANES). This survey, supported by private funding from four institutions, attempts to determine the health of New Yorkers by taking a random sample of 3,000 New Yorkers from all five boroughs with no volunteers and no substitutions. CB4 believes this is an important survey and urges those selected to participate. Additionally, CB4 suggests interested community members visit [www.nychanes.org](http://www.nychanes.org) for further information.

The 3,000 New Yorkers who are selected are asked questions about their physical and mental health, given a brief physical exam, and asked for blood and urine samples all of which takes only two to three hours. The NYC HANES is based on a national model and was last administered in 2004. The 2004 survey led to new health policies including warnings about mercury levels in fish and cosmetics, smoke-free parks and beaches, increased screening of and treatment for diabetes, and the elimination of trans fats in restaurants.

Sincerely,

Christine Berthet  
Chair

Joe Restuccia  
Co-Chair, Housing, Health  
& Human Services Committee

[signed 1/10/14]

Barbara Davis  
Co-Chair, Housing, Health  
& Human Services Committee