

Letter of Intent: Contact Information Form

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All applicants seeking to establish a charter school authorized by the Board of Regents to open in 2014 must submit a Letter of Intent to Apply, which requires completion of this contact form, and an upload of your 5 page Letter of Intent to Apply as outlined in the 2014 RFP and Application Kit. Please submit these tasks by 3:00 PM on February 3, 2014. Applicants who do not submit a complete Letter of Intent to Apply by the 3:00 PM deadline will not be permitted to submit a Full Application.

a. Proposed Charter School Name

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

Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School

b. Preferred school location.

Select the preferred geographical area on the left and then select the preferred school district or community school district on the right.

NYC CSD-Bronx: CSD 7

Select a second geographical area on left and then select the school district or community school district on right.

NYC CSD-Bronx: CSD 8

If necessary, select a third geographical area on left and then select the school district or community school district on right.

NYC CSD-Bronx: CSD 9

c. Applicant(s) information, including mailing address, phone number, and email address, and information establishing that the applicant(s) is a parent, teacher, school administrator or community resident.

(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	Street Address, City, State, Zip
Lead Applicant	Francis Onukwue	314-922-7139	fonukwue12@aol.com	

As the Lead Applicant(s), I (we) can best be described as a:

(Multiple responses permitted)

- Current or former School Administrator
- Community Resident

d. Contact Person: please provide a phone number and/or email address to which public inquires about the proposed charter school may be addressed.

	First and Last Name	Best Phone Number (###-###-####)	Email Address	URL (type web address or the word "none")
Media Contact	Francis Onukwue	314-922-7139	fonukwue12@aol.com	www.htcharterschool.org

e. Planned grades and enrollment in each year of the proposed charter term.

	Ages (or age ranges)	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
9th	14-15	125	125	150	150	150
10th	15-16	0	125	125	150	150
11th	16-17	0	0	121	121	121
12th	17-18+	0	0	0	120	120
Total		125	250	396	541	541

f. 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.

(See pages 40 of 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

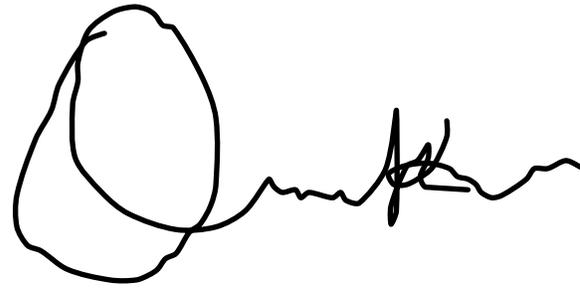
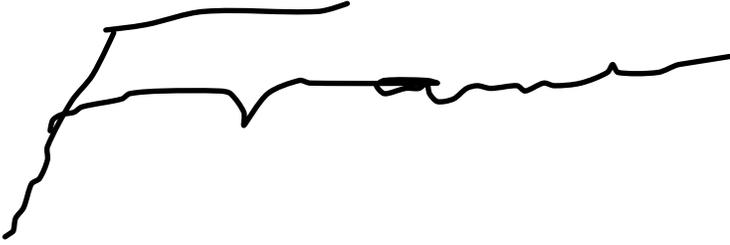
Lead Applicant(s) Signature and Date

You have the option of adding your signature(s) as the Lead Applicant or Co-Lead Applicants directly on the bottom of your Letter of Intent before you scan and upload it into the portal.

OR you may sign below using the mouse on your PC or stylist on your mobile device to sign your name.

Lead or Co-Applicant listed in section c above.

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



Date Signed (Lead or Co-Applicant)

2014/07/05

Co-Applicant listed in section c above

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

Date Signed (Co-Applicant)

(No response)

Thank you for completing the Contact Form which will be duplicative of some information contained in your letter of intent. Having information in this form allows the Department to merge applicant contact information into our existing data system. Please proceed to upload your signed and dated 5 page Letter of Intent to Apply.

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

I. Applicant Information

A. Applicant Information:

Francis Onukwue (Former School Administrator, South Bronx Community Resident)

Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School (HHCS)

[REDACTED]; Ph: 314-922-7139; Fx: 347-676-7636; fonukwue12@aol.com

B. Public Contact:

Francis Onukwue, MA; MBA; Ph: 314-922-7139; Fx: 347-676-7636; fonukwue12@aol.com

C. Applicant Group Information:

Name	Current Employment	Relevant Experience/Skills	Current & Ongoing Roles at HHCS	Future Roles at HHCS
Liana Acevedo, BS	Library Manager, Hunts Point Public Library	Over 15 years in education, library management, and community outreach	Charter school development, library and community outreach, events coordination	Serve as Trustee: oversee library resources, instructions, and oversight
Luz Soliz, B.Ed; M.Ed	Professor, Boricua College	Over 35 years experience in elementary, secondary and college education	Charter school planning, facilities search, curriculum, partnerships	Serve as Trustee: curriculum, youth, facilities, staff training, and accountability
Larry Robinson, AAS; BA HHCS Co-Chair (Youth & Education)	Healthcare Information Technologist, Long Island Coll Hospital	Over 30 years experience in technology, health, youth services, and community relations	Charter school planning coordination, community outreach, partnerships	Serve as Trustee: education, youth, outreach, parents liaison, performance evaluation
Diane Hickmon, CNA; LPN; RN; BSN; MSN (HTC Chief Nurse)	Hi-Tech Charities	Over 28 years in medical practice & college education, overseeing community health, Nursing professor	CNA and Nursing curriculum design, special education, nutrition, health and advising	Serve as Chief Nurse: teach and oversee all healthcare daily instructions, clinical, healthcare personnel and lab instructions
Barbara Brown, BA; MBA. (HTC Vice President of Operations)	Hi-Tech Charities	Over 27 years in facilities and operations management; accounting, third party contract negotiations, legal, procurements	Charter school planning, business and operations design, leadership development for non-academic personnel, legal matters	Serve as Director of Operations: accounting, legal and compliance, data analysis and reporting, quality control and audit, contracting
Rev. Dr. Moses Oladosu, BS; MPS; MSW; PhD; Th.D. (HTC Board Chair) HHCS Co-Chair (Administration)	Pastor, Resurrection & Life Pentecostal Church	Over 20 years experience in public social work, community organizing, Daycare leadership	HTC Board Authorization of Charter school formation, proposal development, ongoing advisor	Serve as Trustee: policy design, oversight, school evaluation, staff performance assessment
Francis Onukwue, MA; MBA; PhD In	Hi-Tech Charities	26 years success in creating managing	School formation, curriculum design,	Serve as Director: implement board

Progress-Finance (HTC President)		startup institutions/ technology, nonprofit curriculum design, resources dev., etc	partnerships, organizational and leadership development	policies, oversee daily operations, finance, & resources acquisition
Stella Erondu, B.Ed; M.Ed. (HTC Board Member)	Principal, North Side Community Charter School	Over 30 years of education experience and over 10 years as school principal, community leader, curriculum dev.	Charter school planning, curriculum design, teacher coaching, operations oversight, students assessment	Serve as Special School Advisor: school advising, academic quality improvement, assessments, special education
Chidimma Nwankwere, B.Ed; MPA. (HTC Vice President of Programs)	Hi-Tech Charities	Over 28 years in education, curriculum design, program quality audit, program enhancement strategies, staffing	Charter school planning, programs design, leadership development for academic personnel, curriculum design, math and science	Serve as Principal: special education, languages, instructions design, curriculum, Parent/Teachers Association
Joan Bucchino, BA	President, Grace Corporation	Over 22 years in marketing and education, health & wellness education	Charter school planning, marketing, healthy living, public relations	Serve as Trustee: Promotion, business relations, accountability

D. Initial Board of Trustees Information:

Name	Voting Y/N	Relevant Experience/ Qualification	Position in the Board	Length of Initial Term
Luz Soliz, B.Ed; M.Ed	Y	Bi-Lingual educator, curriculum, operations, special education, facilities	Trustee Treasurer	4
Liana Acevedo, BS	Y	Hispanic education culture, educational resources, materials acquisition	Trustee Secretary	4
Rev. Dr. Moses Oladosu, BA; MA; PhD.	Y	Chaired boards and developed new board members, architect and real estate	HHCS Co-Chair (Administration)	3
Larry Robinson, AAS; BA	Y	Technology, healthcare, youth services, and community relations	HHCS Co-Chair (Youth & Ed)	2
Francisca Ukonu, BA; M. Ed	Y	Special Education, English Language Learners, curriculum	Trustee	2
Ijeoma Ezimoha, B. Ed	Y	School Dance, Special Education English, Language Learners	Trustee	3
Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Okparauwaekwe, BA; MA	Y	Expert on personnel and human resources magt.	Trustee	3
Joan Bucchino, BA	Y	Health education and public relations	Trustee	4
Parents Representative	Y	Parents & community relations	Trustee	4

E. Replication or Network Information: Not Applicable.

F. Application History: This 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 has been corrected through better elaboration on earlier outreach activities. In addition, more elaborate outreach to various stakeholders, parents and parents liaisons have been carried out since the reject notice. These intensive activities will continue. In addition, in spite of the high demand for our healthcare charter school and to remove doubts about full enrollment, the former projected 175 students for each of the four years for a total of 700 students, has been scaled back in this re-submission to 125/year and 541 at full capacity.

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 in 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 its own property, independent of NYC School District facility.

C. Planned Grades and Enrollment in Each Year of the Proposed Charter Term: The table below shows the planned grade levels, age range and enrollment for each year of the charter initial term

Projected Enrollment Over the Charter Term						
Grade	Age	Year 1 2014-2015	Year 2 2015-2016	Year 3 2016-2017	Year 4 2017-2018	Year 5 2018-2019
9	14-15	125	125	150	150	150
10	15-16		125	125	150	150
11	16-17			121	121	121
12	17-18+				120	120
Total		125	250	396	541	541

D. Proposed Management and/or Partner Organization(s): Not Applicable.

E. Proposed School Mission: Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School will provide students with rigorous 9th - 12th curriculum and intensive instructions in core academic courses, social, and healthcare professional skills necessary to compete and perform well in the growing healthcare industry. Students will graduate with Regent Diploma, Certified Nursing Assistant certification, and be ready to enter the healthcare workforce as well as pursue college and university degrees in healthcare fields such as nursing, medicine, mental health and other healthcare disciplines.

F. School Overview: Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School Board seeks to plan, design and implement an innovative charter school that would:

(1) Focus on at-risk students – the school will target at-risk students (English Language Learners, Students with Disabilities, Free and Reduced Price Lunch, and Over-Aged/Under-Credited Students) aiming at high expectations, create exceptional learning environments and provide students with the skills necessary to access the 21st century global economy.

(2) Focus on career and workforce preparation – the school will strive to build 21st century skills in healthcare and offer opportunities for students to seek careers and vocations that promise higher achievement and higher graduation rates. By offering a rigorous curriculum, students will be prepared to enter postsecondary training, college or university.

(3) Fill a void – the charter school will increase access to quality healthcare public school education in Bronx New York through appropriate location choice and through innovative school design. The School’s academic program focus on preparing and developing high academic performing students, using technology-based innovatively delivered “Common Core Standards” in the core subject areas that allow us to benchmark students’ performance on a continual assessment basis, giving them distinct academic advantage over their local and global peers. Upon graduation students will:

* **Demonstrate academic proficiency** in the career and college- ready standards in **core high school courses.**

- * Acquire high critical thinking, logic, organizational, and high-order skills.
- * Acquire rigorous and meaningful education that translates into measurable outcomes.
- * **Demonstrate** academic and skills proficiency in basic professional healthcare courses.
- * Graduate with high academic scores and Workforce and College Readiness and attainment.

(4) Maintain solid sustainability and financial capacity: Students will fare better and enjoy solid, viable, sustainable, vibrant, and **financially secure** community of academic and healthcare institution that is operating at reasonable cash reserve.

G. Target Population/Community to be Served: Located in depressed South Bronx with its high crime rates, biting poverty, high disease and low performing school districts, 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 or its own independent facility, HHCS is planned to be located in School District 8, 12, 7 or 9 and to service 9th through 12th grade levels, including over-aged and under-credited students who may be over 18 years of age.

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. 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, organizing special events and making presentations to parent organizations, middle schools and community agencies.

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 disabilities institutions and agencies in order to reach and attract 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 will be carried out by bi-lingual employees of the school.

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.

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 organizations will be formed to foster ongoing mutual trust and collaborations.

b. *Students with disabilities* – Certified education professionals will be hired to provide the specialized quality services required by students with disabilities. 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 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 association will be formed to strengthen families’ bonding with the school. 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 July 2014, Hi-Tech Healthcare Charter School (HHCS) founding team and volunteers carried out **extensive** public, community, youth and parent outreach activities, and accepted and addressed inputs and feedbacks. Outreach is ongoing.

A. Public Outreach: Community Board Meetings – Presentations and discussions were held with members of Community Boards #1 (9/12/2013), #2 (6/12/13; 5/21/14; 6/18/14), #3 (9/11/13), and #4 (7/29/13; 5/27/14). In these presentations, information was presented and discussed about our proposed healthcare charter school; the anticipation of locating school within school districts 7, 8, 9 or 12; the 9th through 12th 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 from Community Board 2 is included in Attachment 2. Ongoing presentations and conversations with the community boards are planned. 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 matts, community centers, public and senior housing facilities, and other public places. Community Events – HHCS participated and continues to participate in Bronx business, health and community events where information was shared and feedbacks received. Examples include Fordham University (5/28/14), Bronx Week Business Breakfast (5/14/13; 5/13/14), health fairs (5/3/13; 6/28/14), and several others.

B. Initial assessment of parent interest: Public Hearings Targeting Parents and Guardians - To date, five public hearings, targeting parents and guardians were conducted: three at Resurrection and Life Pentecostal Church Outreach Center (1/12/13, 4/20/13 & 8/10/13), the fourth at High Bridge Public Library (8/23/13), fifth at Hunts Point Public Library (6/28/14). There are over 400 support signatures from parents and guardians at these discussions events. Surveys - Two parents and guardians surveys lasting five months each have been conducted one year apart; the first being from 2/2/12 to 6/2/12 and the second 2/2/13 to 6/2/13. Both asked same questions and results showed that there was need for a quality high school in South Bronx, healthcare high school is preferred to other forms of high school. There was demand for extended day and Saturday classes. Middle Schools Parent Coordinators - Meetings were held with parents coordinators of middle schools who expressed parents’ desire for **high performing charter high schools** that would provide their children choices for good education. Email correspondences are included in Attachment 2. Political Leaders and Community organizations - Meetings were held with the Bronx Borough President Rueben Diaz, the Deputy Borough President, Aurelia Greene, Councilwoman Arroyo (see support letter in Attachment 2), pastors of churches and community organizations that discussed parents’ education needs for their children. Website – HHCS website provides information for parents. Through all these channels, community members, leaders and parents have provided feedbacks and expressed desire for quality healthcare charter school that would curb failing students’ performance and provide quality alternative. Feedbacks and inputs from all sources have influenced design elements of the school.

V. Lead Applicant(s) Signature and Date Signed

Name	Signature	Date
Francis Onukwue (Lead Applicant)		7/5/2014