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THE COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
**DANIEL DROMM**  
COUNCIL MEMBER, 25<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, QUEENS

**CHAIRPERSON**  
FINANCE

**COMMITTEES**  
EDUCATION  
SMALL BUSINESS  
CIVIL SERVICE & LABOR  
IMMIGRATION  
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October 23, 2019

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to congratulate Urban Health Plan (UHP) on the occasion of their 45th Anniversary and the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of their founder, Dr. Richard Izquierdo. Allow me to applaud tonight's honorees, NYS Human Rights Commissioner Angela Fernandez, EClinicalWorks and Montefiore Medical Center, for supporting UHP's invaluable work over the years.

UHP began in 1974 as an evolution of a group practice with the mission of providing basic and specialty medical care, comparable to those found in local hospital outpatient clinics, to the community's predominantly Hispanic and poor residents. It is the brainchild of Dr. Izquierdo, a life-long resident of the South Bronx and a pediatrician/family practitioner. Concerned by his community's declining health status, and unable to meet the demand for primary medical service in his burgeoning private practice, Dr. Izquierdo sought to expand his practice into an HMO-style practice that offered care in a consistent, cost effective, and managed manner. Because of the lack of primary care services in the area, many residents had grown accustomed to waiting out long lines in local hospital emergency rooms for routine medical care or for the treatment of acute medical conditions, which could have been prevented if diagnosed earlier. Dr. Izquierdo opened the San Juan Health Center in 1967. Seven years later, UHP, a private, non-profit corporation licensed by the Department of Health, was established to broaden the scope of the work started by the San Juan Center. Today we delight in the fact that UHP has provided award-winning care for thousands of New Yorkers from all walks of life.

Once again, I am pleased to salute the Urban Health Plan for reaching this milestone anniversary. I wish them many more years of success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Dromm', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Daniel Dromm  
Chair, Committee on Finance