

## BORINQUEN'S BOARD TRULLA

# 3 Kings Day A Sing-a-long Parranda



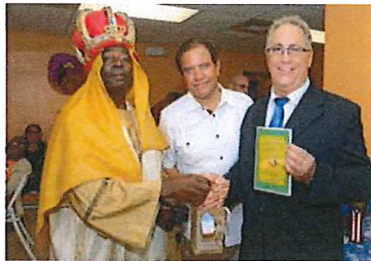
-by Susan Alvarez  
Three Kings Day came early to

the senior community of Wynwood. At the Dorothy Quintana Community Center, located in Roberto Clemente Park, the Senior Arts program held its Three Kings Day celebration on Friday, January 2, 2015. Several Borinquen board members of the center (BMC) volunteered their time and presented the seniors with gifts, and a Three Kings Day Procession, with a Parranda Sing-a-long! The Mayor Regalado, City of Miami provided the seniors with a gift bag full of food. A delicious traditional holiday lunch was served



courtesy of Borinquen Medical Centers of Miami Dade. Raffles were held with special gifts and lots of fun was had by all. (Parranda's are very popular in Puerto Rico and known for its musical festivities during the Christmas Holiday Season leading to the January 6 official Three Kings Day where groups of friends and or families gather together to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ by singing traditional songs, eating special foods, and bringing gifts while visiting friends and neighbors.)

The parts of the Three Kings (Wise Men) were played by Jocelyn Michel, Luis Roberto Canales, and Felipe Navarro. Nestor Chardon was the narrator and presented an oral history of the Three Kings Day and how it is celebrated in Puerto Rico. The musical presentation was courtesy of Deborah Ponce, costumes by Eva Perez and crowns by Maribel Camacho.



Jocelyn Michel, Luis DeRosa, and Paul Carl Velez

In attendance, representing BMC's board and playing the parts of the singing merry makers, were Eva Perez, Chair, Ivette Velez, Vice Chair, Deborah Ponce and Hilda Rivera. Margaret LaForest, RN, Secretary and Luis DeRosa, board members also joined in the festivities.

All made possible by Borinquen Medical Centers of Miami-Dade, City of Miami, Mayor Tomás Regalado, Commissioner Keon Hardemon, Dist. 5, City of Miami, Dr. Deborah Gracia, and Mr. Paul C. Velez.

January 6, is Three King's day is the day many people in Latin America, Mexico, Europe, the Philippines and Puerto Rico in particular celebrate Los Tres Reyes Magos or Three Kings Day. Beginning on Christmas Day, the celebration of Los Tres Reyes Magos continues for twelve days, ending on



Jocelyn Michel, Luis Roberto Canales, Eva Perez and Felipe Navarro

January 6th. For those who honor this holiday, the 6th marks the date in which the celebration peaks with gifts, food, music and other festivities!

Traditionally, the celebration of Los Tres Reyes revolves around the Biblical story depicting the journey that the Three Kings made to see the

birth of Christ and to present the newborn King with gifts. Every year on the 6th of January, people honor this story by presenting gifts to children and celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ.

## Borinquen Employee Highlight Dianelys Dominguez Eligibility Navigator

-by Susan Alvarez

We would like to introduce to and highlight one of our newest Patient Services - Eligibility Team Member: Eligibility Navigator, Dianelys Dominguez, who

started her tenure with us just this past May of 2014.

Dianelys hit the ground running so you may have already read about her in recent issues of *The Voice*. She is very passionate about helping people in our community and has gone above and beyond the call of duty making sure she is providing the very best service possible to those in need.



Dianelys wanted to work for Borinquen because she saw an opportunity to help the community.

Dianelys is part of the Eligibility Team or as they are better known, the 'HEAT' team. She specializes in educating consumers on available health plans, the Obamacare Marketplace, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), as well as other programs they might be eligible for, such as the Food Assistance Program. Dianelys would like to remind clients to be prepared and bring all the required documents so that they can receive the best benefit that suits their needs and expedite their services.

We asked Dianelys what her most memorable experience has been since joining the Team and she exclaimed, "I have had several rewarding experiences, one of them was being able to help a pregnant lady receive Medicaid before her due date, which was the following day of her filling out her application! We had another pregnant woman that had just arrived from her country and had lost her husband on the journey here in the most horrific way. She was all alone in a new country, expecting a baby and with a two year old son in tow. Our team got together and we were able to help her with some basic necessities like clothing, food, and even some toys for her son." Dianelys says that helping a homeless person receive food stamps, or a teenager that got kicked out of their house get assistance with housing is a great experience as well. She also state, "Since we were located on the first floor everyone that would pass by our office or sat down in the lobby would ask all sorts of questions and it felt good to be able to help others and direct them on the right path."

Dianelys is from Cuba and arrived in the United States at the tender age of 9. Along with her family, she was rescued at sea by the United States Coast Guard in Miami and was able to stay in the United States with the help of family friends. She attended Florida International University and Graduate School at Nova Southeastern University - Huizenga Business School. She loves to spend time with family and friends, travel, read and learn. She is absolutely dedicated to helping her community and, through her church, gets together with fellow members on Saturday nights to prepare meals for the homeless. Additionally, on Sundays the group reads to the elderly members of the community. Dianelys states proudly, "My passion in life is my little princess, Mandie. She keeps me on my toes and makes me realize every day what's really important in life, never to give up and every day is a new day."

Borinquen is proud to have such a caring and compassionate person on our team and expects to see Dianelys accomplish many great things in her bright future.