

# **NEWSLETTER**

Dear Colleagues -

### In this newsletter, you will find:

- A re-cap of our recent community forum about PAR
- News on 7 new contracts to help keep viral loads of patients with HIV "undetectable"
- Information about free APC technical assistance
- A DSRIP funds flow update
- Registration information for an additional VBP Bootcamp in NYC
- Upcoming trainings and the date of the next PAC Meeting

### Participatory Action Research Project (PAR 2) Community Forum

CCB held a Community Forum on PAR 2 last Wednesday where attendees, including community members, college student researchers, and elected officials, discussed ways to improve health in three Brooklyn neighborhoods.

We would like to thank the community stakeholders, students, community organizations, elected officials, union members, college administrators, and healthcare executives who attended the community forum convened by CCB at the Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation last Wednesday. We spent a very productive evening discussing findings from the Interfaith Medical Center-Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center Participatory Action Research ("PAR 2") study. PAR was conducted in the summer of 2017 in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Crown Heights, and East Flatbush, and identified the factors affecting the health of those communities and opportunities for activism and engagement. Like PAR 1,



the objective of PAR 2 was to obtain and incorporate the perspectives of community residents in the identification and elimination of barriers to better health.



The findings were presented by a group of student researchers from Medgar Evers College and divided into four core areas of interest: Impact of Housing on Health, Impact of Affordability and Income Insecurity on Health, Need for Civic Infrastructure, and the Need to Redesign the Healthcare System. Following the presentation, participants were given the opportunity to provide feedback on these core findings and vote on potential areas of focus to address the needs identified.

Top recommendations for encouraging better health were:

- collaborating with partners outside the traditional healthcare sector,
- developing education-to-employment and college pipelines in the local health sector for youth and young adults,

- utilizing PAR findings to inform Community Health Needs Assessments and other policy initiatives,
  and
- promoting new property ownership models, such as co-ops, community land trusts, and non-profit development.

Additional discussions are planned on PAR 2 and a detailed report of the findings and recommendations will be available soon. The recommendations from the PAR 1 study in Brownsville and East New York can be found here.

### **New HIV Contracts Focus on Viral Load Suppression**

Seven of our partners will be participating in a CCB version of The Undetectables program in their efforts to increase adherence to and retention in HIV care.

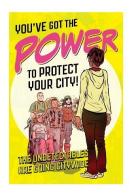
CCB has initiated contracts with four hospitals and three Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to implement a CCB edition of Housing Works' successful program, "The Undetectables," and support our HIV DSRIP project.

#### What is The Undetectables?

While "The Undetectables" are a fictional team of HIV-positive superheroes committed to taking their antiretroviral (ARV) medication, The Undetectables *program* is an evidence-based intervention meant to both suppress the viral load of HIV-positive individuals to prevent transmission of the virus and reduce the stigma surrounding those living with HIV. The superheroes



contribute to those efforts by empowering HIV-positive individuals to seek treatment for their condition, take control of their health, and prevent the spread of HIV in their communities.



### How does The Undetectables work?

Primary care and care management staff trained in the CCB Undetectables model work with patients to identify strengths and barriers to attaining or maintaining a suppressed viral load and connect them with supportive interventions best suited to the patient's specific needs (e.g., behavioral health services, adherence devices, or support groups). The CCB Undetectables model also offers up to \$400 in financial incentives annually to patients who maintain viral suppressed status (less than 200 copies per mL of blood).

### Why has CCB chosen to implement The Undetectables program?

Seven other NYC organizations have replicated and implemented The Undetectables model since January 2017 and enrolled over 1500 clients. The addition of these seven CCB-network organizations has the potential to more than

double this impact. With recent evidence suggesting that financial incentives for viral load suppression increase the proportion of virally suppressed patients per practice site, benefit patients emotionally, and are more cost-effective than standard HIV care, CCB is committed to implementation of The Undetectables program as a cornerstone of our efforts to reduce the spread of HIV in Brooklyn.

### New York State Advanced Primary Care – Free Technical Assistance Available

Free technical assistance is available to practices interested in receiving APC recognition.

Advanced Primary Care (APC) is New York State's model for primary care transformation. This multi-payer approach helps primary care practices transform into high-performing medical homes, and prepares them to participate in value-based payment.

To help practices achieve APC designation, New York State's contracted Practice Transformation Agents are providing free coaching and assistance with developing value-driving capabilities in the areas of behavioral health, health information technology, care management, clinical data and performance improvement, and more.

Over 500 primary care practices in New York are already taking advantage of this free technical assistance, and yours could be too! More information is available here.

To learn more about APC, free technical assistance, or how your practice can achieve APC designation, please contact Dupe Ajayi, the Maimonides Medical Center APC program lead at <a href="mailto:dajayi@maimonidesmed.org">dajayi@maimonidesmed.org</a> or 718-283-7581.

### **DSRIP Funds Flow Update**

Over the last three years, we've invested \$66 million to help improve the health of Brooklyn residents.

A look at the numbers as of September 30, 2017 (the end of the second quarter of DY3):

- \$66 million committed to partners
- \$38 million already paid to partners
- 510 Schedule B agreements executed

Partners engaged include community-based primary care practices, care management agencies, community-based organizations, Federally-Qualified Health Centers, IPAs, hospitals, and other organization types—all working together to support the implementation of DSRIP projects and transformation of the Brooklyn healthcare delivery system.

(Since the end of DY3Q2, CCB has distributed an additional **\$5 million** in bonus payments to more than **250** partners for their contribution to our DSRIP performance to-date.)

## **Additional VBP Bootcamp Offered**

The NYS DOH is offering another NYC VBP Bootcamp!

Value-based Payment (VBP) Bootcamps are a regional learning series created by the Department of Health and hosted across the state this year to equip VBP contractors and interested parties with the knowledge necessary to implement payment reform.

Due to high demand, the NYS Department of Health (DOH) Medicaid Redesign Team is now hosting an additional VBP Bootcamp at the New York Academy of Medicine (1216 5th Ave., New York, NY) on **January 9, 2018, from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM**. A schedule for the day's events as well as descriptions and intended audiences for each break out session can be found <a href="here">here</a>. Please note that this is a repeat of past Bootcamps, not a follow-up to the course held on October 18.

Registration is free and will open on December 19 at <a href="www.health.ny.gov/VBP">www.health.ny.gov/VBP</a> on a first come, first served basis. The DOH has asked that organizations limit participants to no more than 4.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAININGS**

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

CCB Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting January 10, 2018 5:00-7:00 PM

### Brooklyn Law School 250 Joralemon St., Brooklyn, NY 11201

As a reminder, the PAC is open to representatives from all CCB Participant organizations. Stay tuned for additional information—but know that the program for the evening will include updates on the transition to value-based payment (VBP) and sustainability planning. Thanks!

#### **Upcoming In-Person Trainings:**

(Unless otherwise noted, trainings are held at the 1199SEIU Employment Center, 25 Elm Place, Brooklyn—conveniently located near A, C, G, B, Q, R, D, N, 2, 3, 4, 5, and LIRR stops —and available for enrollment in CCB's Online Resource Portal)

The following upcoming trainings currently have space available. Resource Portal users can click the links below to register directly:

- December 12: Cultural Competency & Health Literacy
- December 13: Motivational Interviewing
- December 14: Social Determinants & the Law: Behavioral Health, Safe Living Environments, & Immigrants' Rights
- December 20: Mental Health First Aid (Adults)

#### **Online Trainings:**

(Available anywhere, anytime! Completion of courses and post-tests may qualify users for CME or CEU credits)

- Anorexia and Weight Loss
- Anxiety Disorders
- Assessment and Management of Fatigue
- Depression and Suicidality
- Dyspnea Management
- Goals Discussion and Advance Care Planning
- Indications and Use of Medical Cannabis
- Nutritional Issues in Palliative Care
- Prognostication in Chronic Illness
- Thrombosis and Bleeding Complications
- Understanding and Using the Hospice Benefit
- Nursing Workshop I, II, & III ("Structures and Processes of Care," "Assessment and Management," & "A Key Outcome of Advance Care Planning")
- Opioid Therapy ("Managing Opioid Side Effects," "Managing the Risk of Substance Use," & "Optimizing Analgesic Outcomes")
- Social Work Workshop I, II, & III ("Structures and Processes of Care," "Symptom Assessment and Management," & "Communication in Palliative Care")

Our list of CME-eligible online courses is getting longer all the time! <u>Log in to CCB's Online Resource Portal</u> now to peruse classes on palliative care, opioid therapy, social work and nursing workshops, and more! Click the video below to learn how to take full advantage of the platform.





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