

January 11, 2019



COMMUNITY CARE  
OF  
BROOKLYN

NEWSLETTER

Dear colleagues,

In this newsletter, you will find:

- [Brooklyn-born and raised Congresswoman Yvette Clarke recognizing PAR student researchers on behalf of the United States Congress](#)
- [A streamlined referral process for connecting individuals to Homebase, and a reminder to complete CCB's online Homebase training](#)
- [An upcoming training to obtain a buprenorphine waiver](#)
- [Tips on how to support low-income or disabled patients struggling with debt](#)
- [New Years Resolution #1: Never stop learning. Sign up for one \(or many!\) of the trainings offered in January and February](#)



### Student Researchers Honored with Congressional Citations

*Congresswoman Yvette Clarke presented students who participated in the 2018 participatory action research study of Canarsie, Flatbush, and Flatlands with Congressional Citations at a community report-back event.*

On December 17, student researchers from the Canarsie, Flatbush, and Flatlands participatory action research (CFF PAR) study convened elected officials and community stakeholders to share findings and explore opportunities to facilitate further community engagement and positive health outcomes. The students developed over thirty recommendations for ways attendees could help to intervene on social determinants of health in central Brooklyn. Each recommendation was derived from survey data, focus groups, and interviews conducted as part of the CFF PAR study, and sorted into domains such as physical and mental health, economic well-being, education and youth development, public safety, and more. All attendees were invited to provide feedback on the recommendations either at the event or online.



The highlight of the evening, however, was undoubtedly a visit from Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, who recognized the students' civic service by presenting them each with Congressional Citations and inviting them to apply for internships with her office in Washington D.C. this summer. Ms. Mary Prendergast, Principal of the High School for Youth and Community Development (where the event was held), Ms. Christine Beckner, Dean of Continuing Education at Kingsborough Community College, and members of CCB's Community Action and Advocacy Workgroup, including Mr. Roger Green, Dr. David Cohen, Dr. John Flateau, and Dr. Gretchen Susi each also spoke to commend the students' efforts.



The CFF PAR study is the third iteration of a CCB-sponsored initiative to better understand the health issues facing Brooklyn communities, and to discern what community members have to say about their own health. Using the perspective of people who reside, work, or pursue their education in the target neighborhoods both as survey participants and informed researchers considerably enhances the insight required to make a tangible impact.

A report on the CFF PAR study will be published in the coming months.

*Photos by Lem Peterkin*

## Referring Patients for Homeless Prevention Services Just Got Easier

*Health care and social services providers who have completed CCB's Homebase training can now make referrals right on their phones (we also made the online form cleaner and easier to use!)*

CCB's partnership with [Homebase](#), a citywide homeless prevention program, allows providers in the CCB network to refer individuals and families in a housing crisis or in transition from shelter to community-based services and support. In an effort to simplify the referral process, CCB is launching a streamlined, more user-friendly referral form that is now also accessible from a smart phone or other mobile device.

We are continuing to encourage providers to complete CCB's [online Homebase training](#), which must be completed by at least one individual at an organization in order for that organization to make referrals. The training consists of one hour-long video. If you would like to complete the training for your organization or share the training with others, please:

1. Log in to the [CCB Resource Portal](#).

2. Go to the “My Training” tab.
3. Select the course description “Homebase Training: Homeless Prevention Program.”
4. Click “Enroll” to enable access to the video.

Homebase is supported by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and PPS in each NYC borough are currently working with Homebase to raise awareness of the program and increase referrals. CAMBA, Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services, and Riseboro currently serve Brooklyn residents through the program.

## Buprenorphine Waiver Training for NYC Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, and Physician Assistants

*There’s a training available to obtain a buprenorphine waiver on February 5 at Maimonides Medical Center.*

The NYC Department of Health is offering a free buprenorphine waiver training for physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants taking place at Maimonides Medical Center (4802 10th Ave, Administrative Building, Schreiber Auditorium (2nd floor) Brooklyn, NY 11219) from 2:00 PM – 6:30 PM on Tuesday, February 5. The training is open to staff at any CCB Participant practices or organizations. Please see the flyer below for more information and share it with other staff you feel may benefit from the training.

Buprenorphine is an effective medication for treatment of opioid use disorder, and can be prescribed in office-based primary care settings. Any physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant can prescribe buprenorphine after obtaining a waiver. Physicians are required to complete an 8-hour training in order to apply for a waiver; nurse practitioners and physician assistants must take 24 hours of training (inclusive of the 8 hour training) in order to apply. The February 5 course fulfills the 8-hour training requirement.

Pre-registration by January 29 is required in order to attend the course. To register, please email [buprenorphine@health.nyc.gov](mailto:buprenorphine@health.nyc.gov) with the following information:

- Name
- Email address
- Title (e.g., MD, DO, NP, PA)
- Practice affiliation
- Practice address

[Click for Training Flyer](#)



# Legal Tip #1:

## Debt and Protected Income

### Supporting Patients in Financial Distress

*Thanks to a collaboration with LegalHealth, a division of the New York Legal Assistance Group, CCB will be sharing tips and information on ways that health care providers may be able to help patients address social determinants of health in our newsletter. Today’s tips may help you support low income patients struggling with debt.*

***The following is general information, not legal advice. For answers to additional questions, we invite you to enroll in a Social Determinants of Health & the Law course facilitated by CCB, NYLAG, and***

**1199SEIU (Next offering: [February 28](#)). Once you have completed this training, you may refer patients for free legal assistance at the [CCB-NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic](#) at (718) 355-9647.**

If a low income or disabled patient complains of stress related to credit card or other types of private debt, he or she may benefit from the following information.

If the patient's income consists solely of protected income (e.g., public assistance, veterans' benefits, Social Security retirement) and he or she has no other resources (e.g., a savings account), he or she is considered "judgment proof" in the eyes of the law. If the patient is being pursued by collection agencies or creditors, he or she can request that a financial counselor, advisor, or attorney send a letter indicating his or her judgment proof status, along with proof of the source(s) of income, to stop the collection efforts (this will *not* discharge the debt or stop the accrual of interest). If a patient's bank account has been frozen by a creditor, he or she should notify the bank that the account contains exempt funds and should not be restrained.

If a patient receives a summons to appear in court for a debt, he or she *should not* ignore it, but rather seek assistance from the [Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office](#) in the court house or be referred to a LegalHealth clinic.

A patient with particularly large debts who anticipates a future change in his or her financial position may wish to consider filing for bankruptcy to protect future assets. If the patient believes that his or her judgment proof status may change in the future, he or she should contact an attorney prior to initiating a bankruptcy filing.

**If your patient is experiencing health-related legal issues, or for additional questions regarding debt and protected income, please schedule an appointment with the [CCB-NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic](#) at (718) 355-9647.**



## ATTENTION: LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD

### UPCOMING INSTRUCTOR-LED TRAININGS

*Unless otherwise noted, these trainings are held at the 1199SEIU Employment Center at 25 Elm Place, Brooklyn, NY. To offset some of the costs incurred by organizations to send certain staff to training, CCB provides its partners with stipends for the number of hours spent in training, and attendees may be eligible to receive CME or CEU credit. Click the links below to enroll.*

- [Advanced Care Management](#) | THURSDAYS, JANUARY 31 – APRIL 4 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM\*
- [Motivational Interviewing](#) | TUESDAY, JANUARY 29 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- [Advanced Motivational Interviewing](#) | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- [Cultural Competency and Health Literacy](#) | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- [Disruptive Behavior: Escalation and De-escalation Techniques](#) | WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- [Coaching Techniques for Healthcare Supervisors](#) | FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15 & 22 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM\*
- [Social Determinants of Health & the Law: Housing, Income, and Insurance](#) | THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Upcoming Microsoft Excel Courses (trainees must attend both dates to receive credit for their selected course):

- [Basic Training for Registries](#) / WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30 & FEBRUARY 6 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM\*
- [Advanced Training for Registries](#) / WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30 & FEBRUARY 6 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM\*
- [Maximizing Registry Data: Advanced Excel Skills for Data Analysis](#) / THURSDAY, JANUARY 31 and FEBRUARY 7 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM\*

**\* Trainees must attend all sessions for completion**

## ONLINE TRAININGS VIA CCB'S RESOURCE PORTAL

To access CCB's catalog of CME or CEU-eligible online courses, existing users can log in to the [CCB Resource Portal](#) and browse the "My Training" section. New users can easily self-register to access these features (click below to watch a brief video explaining the registration process). Please contact [support@CCBrooklyn.org](mailto:support@CCBrooklyn.org) if you have any questions or have any difficulty.

### Previously Recorded Primary Care Webinars:

[Advance Care Planning in the Seriously Ill—Best Practices in Goals Discussion](#)  
[Social Determinants and Health Disparities](#)  
[Team-based Care](#)  
[Care Planning](#)  
[Risk Stratification](#)  
[Care Management](#)

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