

May 2nd, 2019



COMMUNITY CARE  
OF  
BROOKLYN

NEWSLETTER

Dear colleagues,

In this newsletter, you will find:

- [Recaps of two truly inspiring community events supported by CCB and stemming from the findings of CCB's Participatory Action Research study of Brownsville and East New York](#)
- [Information on CCB's recent efforts to provide continuing education and training for health coaches](#)
- [An issue brief published by the New York State Health Foundation highlighting the research and work that preceded the CCB-NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic we all know and love](#)
- [Encouraging news on New York States' adoption of the Patient-Centered Medical Home Model](#)
- [Information on NYC workers' rights to Paid Sick Leave, from the CCB-NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic](#)
- [An opportunity to apply for a "free ride" to Outreach Training Institute's Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment \(SBIRT\) course](#)
- [How to receive funding to help your practice or organization adopt OpenNotes](#)
- [Ways to keep your skills sharp! Consider signing up for a training this month.](#)



### CCB Teams Up with Other Community and State Organizations and Lawmakers to Improve Community Health and Wealth

*April was a big month for community empowerment, engagement, and transformation in Brooklyn, thanks in part to support from CCB.*

CCB helped to break ground on two community initiatives this month:

### *BCMS Hydroponic Farm Ribbon Cutting*

On April 18, a ceremonial ribbon-cutting celebrated the recently-installed hydroponic farm at Brownsville Collaborative Middle School, which was funded by CCB.\* Students now spend some of their science class periods learning about the farming process, planting and harvesting crops, and learning how to cook the food they have grown. Through a partnership with the non-profit [Teens for Food Justice](#), the students are also able to learn about entrepreneurship, nutrition, and advocacy, which the organization states “empowers them as change agents who can lead themselves and their own food insecure communities towards healthier futures.” The farm is expected to produce 15,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious produce every year for their school and the larger Brownsville community. See more [here](#) from BK Reader, or a video interview with BCMS Principal Gregory Jackson Jr. describing the farm’s impact on the students and their community [here](#).



### *East Brooklyn Call-to-Action*

On April 27, CCB teamed up with other leaders and advocates for healthcare, housing, workforce development, and community engagement seeking to drive positive change in East Brooklyn for the *East Brooklyn Call-to-Action*. The goal of the *Call-to-Action* was to launch a community-labor campaign to “build community health and community wealth” for East Brooklyn neighborhoods and reduce preventable and premature mortality. The event was attended by lawmakers, representatives of Brookdale Hospital Medical Center, the NYC Center of Health Equity, the New York State Nurses Association, 1199SEIU, DC 37, and other stakeholder organizations, and **300 members of the East Brooklyn community**.

Residents gave their opinions and feedback on the event’s four focus areas—premature mortality, health and housing, food and fitness, and workforce development—and voted for how these focus areas should be specifically considered, ranked, and addressed.

**J. Phillip Thompson, Deputy Mayor for Strategic Initiatives**, provided a powerful keynote address, tying together his community organizing experiences with the history of civil rights and public health work done in black, low-income communities since the 1960s, and highlighting the importance of the *East Brooklyn Call to Action* as part of an ongoing effort.

**Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate**, gave a speech emphasizing the importance of challenging the systems that have made the neighborhoods of Brownsville and East New York poor and unhealthy, and the importance of improving these neighborhoods for the people who currently live there, as opposed to improving communities only to see long-time residents displaced by gentrification.

**Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams** included a moving personal anecdote about the changes that he made in his own life following a diabetes prognosis and the importance of individuals’ maintaining their health through healthy eating.

**New York City Councilmember Alika Ampry-Samuel and Assemblymember Latrice Walker** both discussed the importance of community organizing around issues relevant to the community.

\*According to the PAR survey of Brownsville and East New York residents, over half of respondents indicated that there was at least one day per week when they could not afford to eat nutritious meals and for 25% of respondents, this was most days or every day. Half of respondents reported having access to affordable quality produce in their neighborhood; an additional 20% said that while they did have access in their neighborhood, they could not afford it. 30% reported having no access to quality produce in their neighborhood



### **CCB Provides Ongoing Education and Training to Health Coaches to Ensure Delivery of the Highest-Quality Care**

*In order to ensure that Brooklyn patients receive the highest-quality care from their health coaches, CCB hosts regular “collaboratives,” where health coaches from across the borough and their supervisors receive continuing education, training, and share their experiences with one another in order to identify common areas of concern and strategies to address them.*

Last month, CCB hosted a three part collaborative event for the health coaches and supervisors in primary care practices throughout our network. The two days of the Health Coach Spring Collaborative brought together over 80 health coaches for refresher trainings, large group discussions and program updates. The Supervisor Collaborative, held later in the month, built off of those sessions by reinforcing the key elements and responsibilities of the health coach program and allowing supervisors to share their best practice strategies for supervision and guidance.

Some specific topics covered during the events included:

- Review of Motivational Interviewing Techniques with an 1199 Motivational Interviewing Coach
- Discussion of huddles and care transitions
- Recommendations for pediatric health coaches and family engagement strategies
- Behavioral health Q&A with Dr. Kishor Malavade, Associate Medical Officer, Maimonides Medical Center Department of Population Health
- Communication Styles and Conflict Resolution
- Review of best practices in care plan documentation



Thank you to all of our health coaches for your continued dedication and hard work!

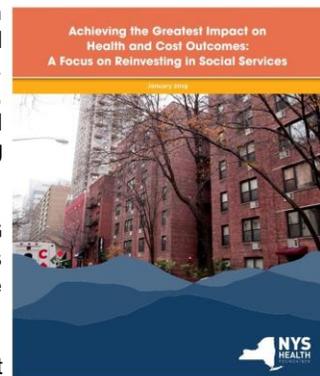
### Results of CCB and NYSHealth Study Find Certain Social Services May Reduce Hospital Utilization and Costs

*The New York State Health Foundation has published an issue brief summarizing the extensive research that CCB has conducted to better understand the services that Brooklyn patients need most and where its DSRIP investments would go the furthest in our community.*

This month, the New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth) released an [issue brief](#) summarizing a NYSHealth-funded CCB study on which social services have the greatest impact on Brooklyn patients' healthcare utilization. The study found that patients receiving food assistance, housing services, income assistance, legal services, and vocational training used fewer ER and inpatient services and incurred fewer ER-related Medicaid costs after receiving services, with the strongest evidence being for legal services.

The findings of this study led to the development of the CCB-NYLAG LegalHealth clinic, through which more than 200 patients of CCB providers have received free legal assistance since August 2017. Study findings have also informed CCB's social service reinvestment strategy.

"We believe these findings provide useful preliminary insights into the impact of vital social services on the use and cost of healthcare," said Dr. David Cohen, Chair of CCB's Executive Committee.



### Great Work, PCMH-recognized Providers!

*The DSRIP program was recently credited by the United Hospital Fund for the dramatic increase in New York State providers meeting PCMH standards.*

United Hospital Fund, an independent, nonprofit organization working to build a more effective health care system for New Yorkers, recently credited **the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP)** program with the rapid increase of primary care providers in New York State achieving NCQA patient-centered medical home (PCMH) recognition. The number of providers in New York State who met the standards of this high-performing health care delivery model rose by more than 35 percent between May 2017 and May 2018, a dramatic increase in the rate of growth over prior years.

To date, over 400 primary care practices partnered with CCB have achieved NCQA PCMH 2014 Level 3 or PCMH 2017 recognition, with many sites enrolled to receive technical assistance from CCB in order to meet NYS PCMH standards. Congratulations to all of these providers on their hard work and dedication to transformation efforts!

See the full UHF report [here](#).



### Don't Let Patients Miss Out On Crucial Income While Sick – A Tip from CCB & NYLAG

*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. Today's tips discuss NYC residents' rights regarding paid sick leave.*

***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. Once you have completed this training, you may refer patients for free legal assistance at the CCB-NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic at (718) 355-9647.***

Under New York City Law, most employees who work at least 80 hours per calendar year accrue sick leave at a rate of 1 hour for every 30 hours worked. Sick leave may be used for yourself or to care for a sick family member. By law, employees working for an employer with five or more employees are eligible for a maximum of 5 days of paid sick leave per calendar year. Employees working for an employer with fewer than five employees are eligible for a maximum of 5 days unpaid sick leave per calendar year.

Employers cannot retaliate against employees for requesting or asserting any of these rights.

**If your patient is experiencing health-related legal issues, or for additional questions regarding paid sick leave, please schedule an appointment with the NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic at (718) 355-9647.**

### SBIRT Training Opportunity through Outreach Training Institute

*Are you a healthcare worker in NYC? Consider applying for a full scholarship for Outreach Training Institute's four-hour SBIRT course.*

Our partner **Outreach Training Institute** (OTI) is offering full scholarships to NYC healthcare employees interested in being trained in Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). The training will be held at OTI 117-11 Myrtle Ave Richmond Hill, NY on May 22 from 12:30 – 4:45 PM.



SBIRT is an evidence-based prevention/early intervention practice used to identify and counsel patients who use alcohol and other drugs at risky levels. Its goal is to reduce substance use and its related health consequences, and to lower health care costs. It has been demonstrated to effectively modify high-risk substance use and to identify those who need specialized treatment. SBIRT is a reimbursable service with billing codes available in New York State.

The four-hour training will enable providers who are licensed or credentialed, including physicians, nurse practitioners, psychologists, LMSWs, LMHCs and CASACs, to bill for SBIRT services (LMSWs, LMHCs and

CASACs must work under the auspices of a licensed provider/facility). This course will be facilitated by Liliane Drago, MA, CASAC Master Counselor, MAC, Director of Outreach Training Institute. Interested applicants can refer to this [flyer](#) or the [OTI website](#) for more information.

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: Adopt or Spread OpenNotes through a NYSHealth Grant

*The New York State Health Foundation is looking to financially support non-hospital health care providers' adoption of OpenNotes, so that patients can access visit notes written by their doctors, nurses, and other clinicians.*

Funding is now available through the New York State Health Foundation's (NYSHealth) Request for Proposals (RFP) to support federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), multispecialty group practices, hospital-affiliated physician groups, independent physician practices, and other health care settings across New York State in adopting or spreading OpenNotes.

OpenNotes is a national effort to give patients access to the visit notes written by their doctors, nurses, or other clinicians. Established in 2010, OpenNotes creates partnerships toward better health and health care by giving everyone on the medical team, including the patient, access to the same information. When patients have access to their own visit notes written by health care providers, they are more likely to remember what was discussed during the visit; feel more in control of their care; are more likely to take medications as prescribed; and can share notes with their caregivers.

**This RFP is open to FQHCs and other non-hospital health care settings** in New York State. Awards of up to \$100,000 will be granted per organization. The deadline to submit an application has been extended to **Thursday, May 16th at 1 p.m.**

Read details on the RFP and apply [here](#).



## 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.*

- [Mental Health First Aid \(Youth\)](#) | WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- [Navigating the Criminal Justice System](#) | THURSDAY, MAY 23, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

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

- [Basic Training for Registries](#) | WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 AND 15, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM\*
- [Advanced Training for Registries](#) | WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 AND 15, 1:30 PM – 5:30 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.

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