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Nine Out of Ten Residents of Canarsie, Flatbush and Flatlands Believe That Violence Affects Their Health

And They Have Strong Ideas on How to Bring About Change

(Brooklyn, NY) July 1, 2019 – According to a recently published study, ninety-two percent of the residents of Canarsie, Flatbush and Flatlands believe that violence impacts their health and well-being. But unlike the protocols of traditional studies, this one included having researchers ask residents what they believe could change the status quo. Most responders recommended more job training, youth development, and athletic programs as possible solutions.

The provocative report includes the history of Participatory Action Research (PAR) work in Brooklyn. Also provided are comprehensive community profiles, including demographic characteristics and historic health outcomes of residents. The authors disseminate their survey findings, and they share recommendations for improving health and wellness based on these responses and results.

“Beyond revealing community members’ priorities and insights for ways their communities can change, findings from this study and other PAR projects have shed light on a need for Brooklyn’s stakeholders to work together to improve health outcomes in its communities. Greater unity and a more comprehensive, shared vision will allow us to tackle long-running, interrelated issues and to drive change in more proactive and collaborative ways,” said Maurice Reid, Chair of Community Care of Brooklyn’s Community Action and Advocacy Workgroup.

A report summarizing the complete findings of this study, titled *People-Focused Research: Participatory Action Research in Canarsie, Flatlands, and Flatbush*, is now available [online](#), and will be distributed within the community and among stakeholders and elected officials in the coming weeks. Funding for this innovative research was made possible by Community Care of Brooklyn, a New York State-funded, Maimonides Medical Center-led network of over 1,000 health and social service organizations working together to improve health outcomes in Brooklyn.

The next PAR study, focused on Bay Ridge, Borough Park, and Sunset Park, kicked off on May 9th. For more information about this and other groundbreaking activities and research, visit our website at <https://www.ccbrooklyn.org/community-care-brooklyn/ongoing-projects/ongoing-projects>

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