

# Public Health NYC Healthier, Longer Lives for New Yorkers





# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Sara Gardner, MPH

January 2024

Dear friends,

Healthcare focuses on the health of individuals, while public health focuses on populations of people. In a large and diverse city like New York, the work of public health is complex. However, protecting and improving the health of whole communities of New Yorkers is a clear North Star for all of us at the Fund for Public Health NYC (FPHNYC).

FPHNYC is the only organization dedicated solely to working with the NYC Department of Health to serve the needs of New York's 8.5 million residents. We provide the Health Department with administrative and management support, including hiring personnel, project management, and capacity building to help community-based organizations implement public health programs. As of the start of 2024, FPHNYC is managing a portfolio of over 120 public health projects.

FPHNYC is also the Health Department's connection to the philanthropic sectors, serving as convener and facilitator for public-private partnerships. In 2023, FPHNYC raised close to \$53 million in multi-year private and public grants for programs and initiatives. We also amplify the City's outreach and messaging campaigns to increase New Yorkers' engagement with public health programs and initiatives.

COVID-19 has been a major driver of this decline in life expectancy; however, overdose, suicide, and violence also contributed to excess, preventable death. Moreover, life expectancy in NYC is directly impacted by chronic and diet-related diseases, screenable cancers, mental health, and maternal mortality. All of these drivers, except for COVID, are moving in the wrong direction. With HealthyNYC the Health Department has set ambitious goals to change health outcomes across racial and ethnic groups and raise New Yorkers' life expectancy to 83 years by 2030.

The following pages offer examples of some of the Health Department and FPHNYC's impactful programs supporting the goals of the HealthyNYC campaign. We also spotlight programs and initiatives notable for driving systems change through innovation and crosssector partnerships. All speak to the value, experience, and expertise of the FPHNYC team as we continue to build on more than 20 years of unparalleled collaboration with the NYC Health Department and our institutional and community partners.

Thank you for your interest in and support of public health work benefiting millions of New Yorkers.

Sincerely,

Sara Gardner

Chief Executive Officer

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### FPHNYC BOARD CHAIR DR. ASHWIN VASAN

Commissioner, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Public service is about more than just government, it's about partnerships with key community, nonprofit and private stakeholders fundamental pillars of our civic infrastructure - working towards shared goals for a better and healthier future. The City of New York and its Health Department is lucky to have a partner like FPHNYC to help unlock our collective potential. Many of the most successful public health campaigns that have been launched in NYC and embraced nationally and internationally - such as smoking cessation and reducing sodium consumption – are rooted in the Health Department's work with FPHNYC. And that is also true for achieving the life expectancy goals of Healthy NYC. FPHNYC provides flexibility, capacity, and creativity allowing us to implement many of the ambitious programs and policies designed to help New Yorkers lead healthier and longer lives.



# **MATERNAL** HEALTH

HealthyNYC Goal: Reduce pregnancy-associated mortality among Black women by 10%

Poverty, stress, racism, and trauma pose significant threats to the health of pregnant people and the healthy development of newborns. Black women and birthing people in NYC die in pregnancy and up to 12-months postpartum at a higher rate than white peers. Many of these deaths happen after discharge from a hospital, and a large majority are preventable, making it critical to support birthing people in both clinical and community settings.

FPHNYC is actively seeking corporate and philanthropic partnerships to support the NYC Health Department's comprehensive new Maternal Home Collaborative Model. Initially focusing on Brooklyn, the borough with the greatest number of Black births, this pilot program seeks to create a coordinated system for women to easily access pregnancy and primary care, behavioral, and holistic health services by trusted medical providers in local communities. The pilot will launch coordinated behavioral health, chronic, pregnancy, postpartum, and social care in federally qualified health centers, academic medical centers, and independent hospitals.

This type of deliberately planned and wholeperson care model builds on the NYC Health Department and FPHNYC's experience providing community health services to pregnant people and new families. An example is Healthy Start Brooklyn (HSB), a well-established program to reduce racial and ethnic inequities in infant mortality and other adverse perinatal outcomes in urban neighborhoods. HSB currently serves more than 700 families annually through robust and varied local partnerships that provide a holistic approach to improving health outcomes before, during, and after pregnancy.



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# BREAST CANCER

#### HealthyNYC Goal: Reduce screenable cancers by 20% by 2030

While deaths from screenable cancers in NYC have declined by 20% since 2015, significant disparities remain across gender, race, and ethnicity. Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death in women in NYC. Moreover, non-Hispanic Black women have the highest mortality rate and higher rates of late-stage diagnosis and premature mortality due to breast cancer compared to women in other racial/ethnic groups. The Health Department and FPHNYC are partnering to launch two strategic responses to address these health inequities:

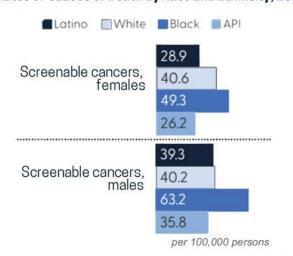
#### A Breast Cancer Patient Navigator Program

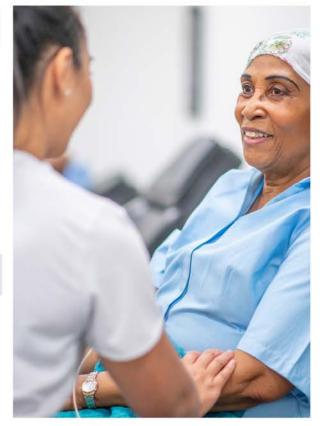
Increase timely cancer screening in Black women and offer continued support along the care continuum. Key elements of this program are to identify patients who are eligible for breast cancer screening, encourage timely screening, and follow up to be sure results are received. The program will also implement continual follow-up with patients who receive abnormal screening to ensure prompt and fair access to services and care.

#### **A Breast Cancer Coalition**

Build knowledge and understanding of the causes of higher breast cancer mortality among Black women in NYC. The coalition, coordinated by the Health Department, will consist of hospitals and healthcare systems that provide cancer screening and treatment.

#### Rates of Causes of Death by Race and Ethnicity, 2021





Along with breast cancer, the other most common forms of cancer diagnosed in NYC are skin, prostate, lung, and colon/rectum. In 2021, the rate of premature death from cancer was about 41% higher among Black New Yorkers compared to the citywide average. FPHNYC and the Health Department are partnering with community-based organizations to hire and train community health workers who can engage and educate people about the importance of cancer screenings and direct them to services and care.

# MENTAL HEALTH

#### **HealthyNYC Goal:** Reduce suicide deaths by **10%**

Across New York City in recent years, approximately 40% of Latino and Black young people and 30 % of white young people reported experiencing anxiety, depression, or an associated condition. Over the last 10 years, rates of suicide ideation increased among adolescents, with 9.2 % of New York City public high school students in 2021 reporting attempting suicide over the past 12 months.

Responding to the critical need to support young New Yorkers' mental health and wellbeing, FPHNYC secured \$1.35 million in funding from Robin Hood and The Carmel Hill Fund to expand access to mental health services for students in NYC public schools. The initiative will employ a blended telehealth model so that students (including those in smaller schools that historically have had fewer health resources) can access services that best fit their personalized needs.

> Tele Mental Health School-based Initiative

#### **KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING**

There are 490 NYC DOE schools serving more than 250k students that do not have onsite mental health services. With additional philanthropic funding, the Tele Mental Health School-based initiative can grow to reach 100k of these students.



The Tele Mental Health School-based initiative is just one of the mental health support programs FPHNYC is helping bring to New Yorkers. We are collaborating with the Health Department on public health interventions that address the intersection of mental health and substance abuse, with outreach targeting particularly at-risk populations such as LGBTQ+ youth and New Yorkers experiencing homelessness. In the next few years, upwards of 15,000 New Yorkers will benefit from an initiative to expand the capacity of the Clubhouse model, a one-stop facility offering people with mental illness a supportive community, employment opportunities, and educational and social activities.

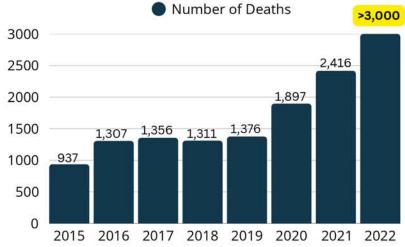
# DRUG OVERDOSE



HealthyNYC Goal: Reduce overdose deaths by 25%

More than 1 in 6 Americans aged 12 and older have a substance use disorder, and hundreds of people die every day of drug overdoses. In NYC, there were more than 3.000 overdose deaths in 2022, an increase of 12% from 2021 and an increase of 75% from 2019.

FPHNYC works closely with the Health Department to support the launching and expansion of innovative responses to this crisis. Notably, we have helped secure grants for the first publicly recognized overdose prevention centers in the U.S., where staff have effectively intervened more than 1,300 times to prevent overdose-related injury or



death. Another grant-funded program responds to nonfatal overdoses with peer-led support services and referrals in emergency rooms across NYC.

#### **Naloxone Kits**

Critical to preventing overdose deaths is training the public in the use of naloxone kits to reverse overdoses and the widespread distribution of these kits. Programs FPHNYC assists the Health Department in administering helped distribute more than 10,000 of the 100,000+ free naloxone kits distributed by the City in 2023.

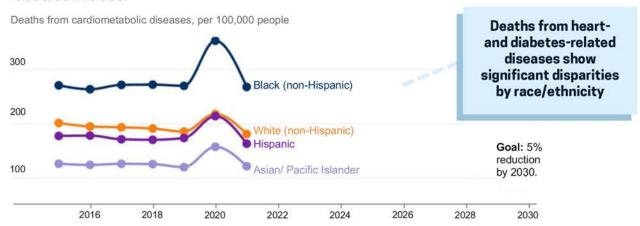


FPHNYC Staff joined thousands of other New Yorkers in being trained to provide naloxone in emergency situations

# CHRONIC DISEASE

HealthyNYC Goal: Reduce deaths due to cardiovascular disease and diabetes by 5%

The average adult in NYC has a heart age that is almost six years older than their actual age, which increases their risk of heart attack or stroke. High blood pressure (hypertension) is a leading cause of heart disease and stroke, which together kill more New Yorkers than any other disease. At least one in four New Yorkers has high blood pressure, and Black and Latino adults are more likely to have high blood pressure than people of other races/ethnicities.



These include deaths due to heart disease, diabetes, stroke, hypertension and kidney disease.

Diabetes is also endemic in NYC. Nearly one million New Yorkers have diabetes, and at least a million more have prediabetes. Structural racism, which can affect the social, economic, and environmental conditions that influence health, likely contributes to the disproportionate burden of these diseases falling on minority communities of color.

#### **CHIP & ACED**

FPHNYC is providing the Department of Health with project management and administrative support for programs such as the Cardiovascular Health Innovation Program (CHIP) and Advancing Care and **Equity for Diabetes Prevention and** Management (ACED), which will reach more than 1 million people by 2030. The need for these services, provided in partnership with community-based organizations, is critical to helping New Yorkers lead healthier and longer lives.

THROUGH CHIP & ACED

PEOPLE WILL BE REACHED BY 2030

# COVID-19

#### **HealthyNYC Goal:** Reduce COVID-19 deaths by **60%**

Since COVID-19 vaccinations first became available, FPHNYC has been at the forefront of the City of New York's commitment to ensure fair and equitable access to vaccinations and boost vaccine confidence. Initiatives such as the Vaccine Equity Partner Engagement Project, which engages community and faith-based organizations (C/FBOs) as outreach partners, have helped improve vaccination rates in over 96% of the zip codes served.

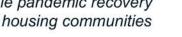
Targeted vaccination outreach in communities experiencing longstanding health inequities continues, with FPHNYC's C/FBO partners also providing referrals to additional health and social services. Funding secured by FPHNYC has enabled five C/FBOs to hire more than 50 community health workers in 2023 to engage with residents of 44 New York City Housing Authority developments and connect them with health and social services.

#### **VEPE & NYCHA**

To drive equitable pandemic recovery in priority public housing communities



**37,367** vaccine education interactions





people referred to other health and social services



358 community conversations held



CHWS hired as of July 2023



NYCHA Developments reached



Languages served



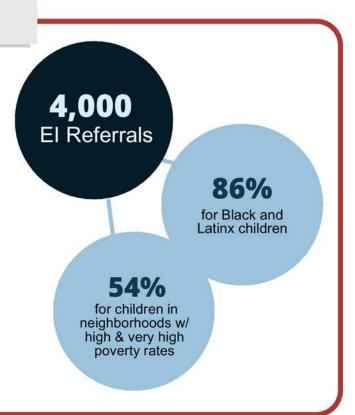
Community-based organization partnerships (C/FBOs)



# LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAMS

#### **Early Intervention**

FPHNYC continues to help expand a successful Early Intervention (EI) initiative that serves NYC children with developmental delays and disabilities. In 2023, FPHNYC secured \$2.46 million in support from Robin Hood, the Viking Global Foundation, and Tiger Foundation to expand electronic referrals to NYC's EI program. The launch of the enhanced electronic referral mechanism in 2022 at four partner healthcare institutions and 20 pediatric primary care sites has helped facilitate 4,000 El referrals, 86% for Black and Latinx children and 54% for children in neighborhoods with high and very high poverty rates.



#### Sexual and Reproductive Health Programs for NYC Teens

Evidence-based sexual health education remains available to NYC teens thanks to a \$10 million five-year federal grant that FPHNYC manages for the Health Department's **New York City Teens Connection program (NYCTC)**. Hundreds of schools, high-quality clinics, and dozens of youth-serving organizations participate in NYCTC, which serves 15,000 youth annually. Since its launch, NYCTC has reached more than 78,000 teens, and with his new funding, it expects to reach 128,261 by June 2028.

Thanks to the support of the JPB Foundation, thousands of students also benefit from access to various forms of contraception at **school-based health centers (SBHCs)**, helping to reduce the number of unintended teen pregnancies in NYC. In addition, again thanks to the JPB Foundation, SBHCs have also increased the rate of HPV vaccinations among young New Yorkers.



# SYSTEMS CHANGE

#### The NYC Coalition to End Racism in **Clinical Algorithms**

Clinical algorithms are tools used by clinicians to guide their decision-making. However, these algorithms often are programmed to utilize "race adjustment," which can negatively impact the treatment and care for persons of color. Since the



Health Department launched the NYC Coalition to End Racism in Clinical Algorithms (CERCA) in 2021 with financial support mobilized by FPHNYC, seven health systems have adopted changes to their clinical algorithms designed to improve racial equity. In 2023 the Doris Duke Foundation recognized the importance of this work and awarded FPHNYC \$2.9 million for the Health Department to partner with hospitals to document the impact of replacing medical algorithms on health services.

#### **NYC REACH**



NYC REACH is a partnership of FPHNYC and the Health Department that helps primary care practices and other health service providers better serve their patients and communities. NYC REACH members receive assistance to optimize electronic health record interoperability for better chronic disease prevention and management, behavioral health integration, healthcare worker capacity building, and more. Over 12 years, NYC Reach has become the trusted partner for 1,800 primary care sites, more than 100 Community Health Centers and Community-Based Organizations, 250 pharmacies, and over 30 hospitals — serving more than 2 million New Yorkers in all five boroughs.

#### Over 12 years, NYC Reach has become the trusted partner for:



1.800 Primary Care sites



100+ Community Health Centers & Community-Based Organizations



250 **Pharmacies** 



30+ Hospitals

# Public Health is a Wise Investment...



Studies evaluating specific public health interventions have quantified their benefits and found the median return for investments in public health interventions is 14.3 to 1.

# ...Strengthened Through FPHNYC's Public-Private Partnership Model.

#### Government-led Public Health

excels at tackling major issues and implementing wide-reaching solutions that address the needs - including health equity - of large populations.

#### **Civil Society**

Nonprofits, community- and faithbased organizations, philanthropic foundations, and academia engage with diverse communities, encouraging citizen engagement and amplifying their voices. Amplifying the strengths and efforts of these two sectors is

Fund for Public Health NYC

an independent public-private partnership which serve as convener, connector, facilitator, through partner and problem-

Chart concept credit: Public Health Institute

solver.

To learn more about supporting the goals of HealthyNYC, impactful systems change, and opportunities to fund programs targeting many of New York's most pressing public health needs, contact **development@fphnyc.org** 

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# Health is Everybody's Business Together, let's increase life expectancy to at least 83 years by 2030 NYC Life Expectancy (Years) Goal: exceed 83 years by 2030 Health is Everybody's Business Together, let's increase life expectancy to at least 83 years by 2030 Health is Everybody's Business Together, let's increase life expectancy to at least 83 years by 2030 Health is Everybody's Business Together, let's increase life expectancy to at least 83 years by 2030 Health is Everybody's Business Together, let's increase life expectancy to at least 83 years by 2030

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