

# HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS FUND LEARNING COLLABORATIVE MEETING

NYU School of Medicine Evaluation Team June 15-16, 2015

## **Meet the NYU Evaluation Team**



Brian Elbel
Principal Investigator
Leads evaluation team



Carolyn Berry
Co-Investigator
Conducts process evaluation



Sue Kaplan
Co-Investigator
Conducts process evaluation



Beth Weitzman
Co-Investigator
Conducts process evaluation



Courtney Abrams
Project Manager
Manages evaluation project and team



Kamila Kiszko
Sr. Research Coordinator
Plans and coordinates baseline evaluation



Olivia Martinez
Research Coordinator
Conducts evaluation activities



# Components of the Evaluation

- •Assess both the <u>implementation</u> of interventions at individual sites and the <u>overall impact</u> of the Healthy Neighborhoods initiative
  - Process evaluation
  - Environmental changes
  - Behavioral changes
    - Baseline surveys collected in a subset of program and comparison sites



#### **Process Evaluation Questions**

- •What specific interventions were implemented?
- What partnerships/collaborations were formed?
- •What barriers and facilitators did sites experience?
- How did the stakeholders perceive the initiative?
- •Which interventions were most feasible and/or acceptable?
- •How sustainable are the interventions?



#### **Process Evaluation Methods**

- Hands on assistance to sites & program teams:
  - Help sites define program success and identify measureable progress and outcomes
  - Identify existing data sources and help develop additional data collection instruments
- Review program documents for each grantee community
- Conduct site visits
- Conduct interviews with key personnel
- Provide regular verbal and written feedback to sites
- Talk with "sentinel individuals" from selected communities



# **Environmental Change Questions**

- Has the Healthy Neighborhoods Fund Initiative:
  - 1. Increased the availability of healthy, affordable food?
  - 2. Resulted in improvements to the built environment?
  - 3. Linked community residents to programs that support lifestyle changes?



# **Environmental Change Methods**

- Identify comparison communities
- Identify existing data sources and develop additional data collection instruments conducted by sites
- Collect and analyze data on 3 core program goals



# **Behavior Change Questions**

- •We have developed a short survey for community residents covering:
  - How many participate in physical activity
  - How many purchase and consume healthy foods
  - •What is the level of knowledge and motivation regarding healthy eating and physical activity for themselves and their children
  - •What local spaces/programs are they using (survey section able to be tailored)



# **Behavior Change Methods**

- We will conduct the survey in a subset of program and comparison sites
- Survey will be available for you to use
  - Accessible on mobile phones, web, tablets, or paper
  - Available in English, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese
  - We will help you get up and running, provide technical assistance



# How can the evaluation benefit you?

- Programmatic improvement and fine-tuning
- Building capacity
- Supporting sustainability
- Allowing replication in other locations
- Attracting additional funding



## How will the foundations use the results?

- Better understand where funds can best be used to continue building on existing efforts
- Contribute to knowledge and testing models
- •Encourage NIH and other funders to support prevention/population health
- •Engage key stakeholders: communicate lessons learned from these interventions to policymakers; health care systems; local public health officials
- •Innovate: Create statewide, community-level dashboard system in partnership with others involved in this work



# **Next Steps**

- •July August: Individual conference calls with each site to review evaluation metrics and discuss evaluation needs
  - Identify key personnel and stakeholders from each site
- •September November: Schedule first site visits

