

Healthy Neighborhoods Learning Collaborative Meeting

December 2015

A Healthy Neighborhoods Fund Learning Collaborative meeting was held on December 15, 2015 for partners from the New York City neighborhoods supported by the [New York State Health Foundation](#) (NYSHealth) and the [New York Community Trust](#) (NYCT).

The objectives of the meeting were to:

1. Share updates on the work of NYC organizations focused on improving healthy food access and the built environment;
2. Introduce the NYC Building Healthy Communities Initiative;
3. Identify opportunities to work on projects, policies or other activities across neighborhoods; and
4. Network with NYC Healthy Neighborhoods Fund site partners.

[Meeting participants](#) included partners from the six NYC sites supported by NYSHealth and NYCT, [guest speakers](#) from New York City organizations, Active Living By Design and other partner organizations.

Presentation slides are hyperlinked in the agenda, below.

Meeting Agenda

Welcome, Introductions and Meeting Overview

James Knickman, President and CEO, NYSHealth

Irfan Hasan, Senior Program Officer-Health & People with Special Needs, NYCT

Joanne Lee, Collaborative Learning Director, Active Living By Design

Cross-Site Sharing and Collaboration: Topical Table Discussions

In preparation for the meeting, Healthy Neighborhoods Fund site partners identified topics and strategies they are currently working on or interested in pursuing. This session enabled partners to engage in small group discussions on topics that were addressed during the [April 15 NYC Learning Collaborative Meeting](#): NYC Department of Transportation (Plaza Program, bike lanes, complete streets, benches), NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (Community Parks Initiative, capital investments, Shape UP program, Parks without Borders), MAPSCorps and youth engagement, Grow NYC (Fresh Food Box, Youthmarket and Fresh Bodegas programs), and other food-related issues (procurement, supermarket closure, food co-ops). The focused discussions resulted in the identification of future opportunities for cross-site sharing and collaboration.

NYC Building Healthy Communities Initiative

Donna Fishman, Deputy Director, Fund for Public Health in New York

Tara Singh, Project Manager, Fund for Public Health in New York

Tamara Greenfield, Program Director, Building Healthy Communities, Mayor's Office

The Building Healthy Communities Initiative is a complementary grant made by NYSHealth. The speakers provided a presentation and information about how the citywide initiative relates to the work of Healthy Neighborhoods Fund grantees.

Lenox Hill Neighborhood House

Lynn Loflin, Executive Chef, Lenox Hill Neighborhood House

This session told the story of how the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House transformed its 365-days-a-year food services to a farm-to-institution model emphasizing healthy, fresh foods in order to improve its clients' overall health and well-being. In addition to serving more local and regional foods, the staff now makes almost everything from scratch and serves more plant-based food with smaller meat portions and less salt and sugar. The meals served are now healthier than standard institutional meals, far more creative and delicious, and have proved extremely popular with clients young and old.

Cross-Site Sharing and Collaboration: Group Discussion & Next Steps

Highlights and next steps resulting from each of the Topical Table Discussion groups were shared, with opportunities for all meeting participants to provide additional input. Healthy Neighborhoods Fund partners also shared ideas for cross-site collaboration going forward.