

# Healthy Neighborhoods Learning Collaborative Meeting

## June 2015

The Learning Collaborative meeting held on June 15-16, 2015 provided a forum to support the Healthy Neighborhoods Fund sites through exchanging best practices, sharing tools and resources, and engaging in experiential learning and networking.

[Meeting participants](#) included partners from the nine sites, the [New York State Health Foundation](#) (NYSHealth), the [New York Community Trust](#) (NYCT) and other partner organizations.

Speaker biosketches, presentation slides and resources are hyperlinked in the agenda, below.

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Monday, June 15 | East Harlem Neighborhood | 5:00 PM–8:00 PM

### **[East Harlem Neighborhood: Walking Tour with Community Leaders](#)**

*Welcome and Overview by Roger Hayes, Assistant Commissioner*

Tour participants explored this culturally rich and diverse neighborhood, including the must-see historical destination La Marqueta, the one of a kind Johnson Houses Community Center and a Green Thumb community garden with a “casita.” They then learned how partners are working together to transform East Harlem into a model neighborhood where stakeholders coordinate efforts to maximize the health of all community members.

Networking Dinner: [Amor Cubano](#), 2018 Third Avenue

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Tuesday, June 16 | The Ford Foundation (East River Room) | 8:15 AM–4:00 PM

### **Welcome / Reintroductions / Overview of Day Two / Reflections**

*Jacqueline Martínez Garcel, Vice President, NYSHealth*

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

*Sarah Strunk, Executive Director, Active Living By Design*

### **Grantee Presentations Session 1**

Each Healthy Neighborhoods Fund site provided a presentation that included a description of their long-term and 100-day goals, accomplishments to date, lessons learned and one question for the group to address a current challenge.

- [Clinton County](#)
- [Niagara Falls](#)
- [Syracuse](#)
- [Claremont](#)

## Physical activity break

### Grantee Presentations, Part 2

Each Healthy Neighborhoods Fund site provided a presentation that included a description of their long-term and 100-day goals, accomplishments to date, lessons learned and one question for the group to address a current challenge.

- [Brownsville](#)
- [East Harlem](#)
- [Hunts Point](#)
- [Mott Haven](#)
- [Two Bridges](#)

## Lunch and Break

### Healthy Community Strategies and Opportunities to Improve Food Access and Activate

#### Safe Spaces

These community strategy sessions featured brief presentations from resource experts for healthy food access and built environments. Each presenter provided an overview of their topic to the larger group, then facilitated concurrent discussion groups with grantees. Participants were encouraged to actively contribute to these sessions by asking questions, offering opportunities and sharing ideas. The topics included increasing the availability of healthy food in low income neighborhoods and activating public spaces in response to residents' safety concerns.

- [Speaker Biosketches](#)

#### Presentations and Resources:

***Samina Raja, Associate Professor, University at Buffalo; and Principal Investigator of the Food Systems Planning and Healthy Communities Lab***

Presentation: [Healthy Neighborhood Food Environments: Using Public Policy and Planning to Amplify and Sustain Neighborhood-Scale Efforts](#)

Resources and Case Examples:

- [Growing Food Connections](#)
- [New York State Regional Economic Development Councils](#)
- [University of Buffalo Food Lab](#)

**Joanna Frank, Executive Director, Center for Active Design**

Presentation: [Active Design in Practice](#)

Resources:

- [Active Design Guidelines](#)
- [Building Healthy Places Toolkit](#)
- [Active Design: Guide for Community Groups](#)

**Jason Cooper, Program Officer, LISC Community Safety Initiative**

Resources:

- [Safety Audit Checklist](#)
- [Curbing Crime, One Street At A Time](#)
- Tackling Disorder & Crime During Times of Fiscal Hardship\*

\*2018 Update: Resource no longer available. See this [similar resource from the Urban Land Institute](#).

**Healthy Neighborhoods Evaluation: An Overview of the Goals and Approach**

[New York University, Evaluation Team](#)

During this session, grantees had an opportunity to meet the evaluation team and learn more about the details of the evaluation plan.

**Physical Activity Break**

**Healthy Community Success Stories and Lessons Learned from Philly**

*Vanessa Briggs, Executive Director, Health Promotion Council of Southeastern Pennsylvania*

Philadelphia, PA is the first city in the country to quantify obesity reductions across all racial and ethnic groups. With pioneering initiatives ranging from fresh food financing to proposed taxes on sugar-sweetened beverages, Philadelphia has been a leader in addressing the health and well-being of vulnerable families and youth by integrating programs, policies, systems and environmental changes. This session focused on how local partners throughout the city have collaborated to leverage funding and scale what has worked.

**Roundtable Discussions and Networking**

Peer exchange, learning and idea sharing are critical aspects of the Healthy Neighborhoods Fund initiative. This session was structured around highly interactive café-style discussions. Topics were posed by participants and conversations were facilitated by ALBD and NYSHealth staff.

**Next Steps and Closing Remarks**

*Jacqueline Martínez Garcel, Vice President, NYSHealth*

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