Healthy Brownsville

A Report for Brooklyn Community Board 16

May 24, 2016

Gregory Roussine, Daniel Townsend, Dylan Dekay-Bemis, Eileen Botti, Felix Gottdiener, Yetunde Soetan, Brian Hamlin, Elena Lunyova, Rebecca Chau, Racquel Forrester, Jeremiah Cox  Advisor: Ralph Blessing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Poverty Rate</th>
<th>Life Expectancy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upper East Side</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>85 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Flatbush</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>82.1 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canarsie</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>81.3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brownsville</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>74 Years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

High Performing Neighborhoods
To comprehensively address Brownsville’s most pressing public health outcomes with actionable asset-based interventions
Methodology
Methodology

Defining the Scope
Theoretical Health Frameworks
Data and Analytics
Community Consultation
Agency and Non-Profit Interviews
According to the World Health Organization, health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Ocean Hill-Brownsville is in urgent need of transformation."

From the CB16 Statement of Community District Needs for FY 2016
Methodology

Defining the Scope

History of Brownsville

History of Urban Planning and Public Health

Sanitary reform

Industrialization

Tenement Houses

Urban Renewal

Public Housing
Methodology

Defining the Scope

Previous Studios: 2012-2014

Agency Initiatives: 2014-2016
An urban planning approach to public health starts with...

Social determinants of public health:

“the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life”

~World Health Organization
Methodology

Theoretical Health Frameworks

Treating the Individual issues
Theoretical Health Frameworks

Treating the **Social** issues
What are the social issues in **Brownsville**?
Methodology

Data and Analytics

Homicide rate 

Non-fatal assault hospitalizations

#1 in NYC

Preventable diabetes hospitalizations

Alcohol & drug-related hospitalizations

Asthma hospitalizations

Psychiatric hospitalizations

NYC

2X
Methodology

Data and Analytics

Obesity rate in Brownsville: 32%
Obesity rate in NYC: 24%
Pre-term birth rate in Brownsville: 13%
Pre-term birth rate in NYC: 9%
Methodology

Community Consultation

20 Resident Interviews

6 Nonprofit and City Agency Interviews

Logos of New York City agencies: DOT, DOC, Health, Housing Authority, Planning, and Parks.
Our Findings

**Needs**
- Mental Wellness
- Safety
- Facilities
- Nutrition
- Housing
- Physical Activity
- Social Life

**Assets**
- NYCHA
- Street Networks
- Schools
- Vacant Lots
- Community Networks
Community Networks
Brownsville Resident
Strategies
Strategies

Needs

- Mental Wellness
- Safety
- Facilities
- Nutrition
- Housing
- Physical Activity
- Social Life
Developing Strategies

NYCHA

- NYCHA Strong Place Pathways
- NYCHA Indoor Environmental Quality Program
Developing Strategies

Schools

- School-based Health Centers
Street Network

- Bicycle Connections to Regional Parks
- Wayfinding to Local and Regional Parks
- Traffic Calming
Vacant Lots

- Lots to Parks
- Lots to Programming
Developing Strategies

Community Networks

- Brownsville Multi-Service Center
- Made in Brownsville
- Friends of Brownsville Parks
- And many more
Strategies

- Lots to Parks
- Lots to Programming
- Healthy Living Hub
- School-based Health Centers
- Mobile Health Centers
- NYCHA Strong Place Pathways
- NYCHA IEQ Program
- Bicycle Connections to Parks
- Wayfinding to Parks
- Traffic Calming
- Improve Quality of Parks
- Brownsville Wellness District
Wayfinding to Local and Regional Parks
Street Networks

Existing Conditions

8.5 Miles of Bike Facility

6 Subway Lines

1 Long Island Rail Road Stop

11 Bus Routes
Street Networks

Existing Conditions

Citywide Standard (CEQR)

2.5 acres

Amount of open space per 1000 residents

0.4 acres

Brownsville

2.9 acres

Citywide Average

Acceptable Condition

9% worse than the city average

$$ 16.5X $$ less funding per acre than the city average
More and better parks reduces chronic diseases

In addition to physical activity benefits, parks may promote mental health, social cohesion, and general well-being

Hartig T, Mitchell R, de Vries S, Frumkin H
1. **Expand Walk NYC** to Brownsville to help navigation to local parks.

2. **Place signage** to Prospect Park, Highland Park and Jamaica Bay greenway for buses and cycling.
Local Resources

- Opportunity to bring awareness to local parks
- Increase community open space stewardship
- Highlight recreational accessibility
- Parks are easily accessible by walking, biking or by bus
Regional Resources

- Opportunity to use regional networks
- Meet a service gap in Brownsville
- Provide unique services
- Accessible by bicycle or bus

Street Networks

Our Proposal

Prospect Park
Jamaica Bay
Highland Park

Highland Park
Prospect Park
Jamaica Bay greenway

14 - 21 minutes
35-45 minutes
Walk NYC
Suite of Strategies

Public Health

- Mental Health
- Safety
- Social Life
- Nutrition
- Facilities
- Housing
- Physical Activity
- School-based Health Centers
- NYCHA IEQ Program
- Traffic Calming

Public Safety

- Mental Health
- Physical Health

Mental Health

Public Health
Implementation
Implementation

Meeting the Challenge

Challenges to Implementation

- Attracting funding
- Finding synergies
Implementation  Meeting the Challenge

Wellness District

Our Solution

A group of community based organizations, local businesses, and city and state agencies who coordinate on key initiatives to improve the mental and physical health of residents within a geographical region.
Our Proposal

**Brownsville Wellness District**

**Goal 1**
Build community partnerships

**Goal 2**
Attract public and private funding
Implementation

Brownsville Wellness District

**PUBLIC**

- Community Board 16
- Elected Officials
- City Agencies
  - DOHMH
  - NYCHA
  - DHS
  - DFTA
  - DYCD
  - DOT
  - DCP
  - HRA
  - DOE
  - SBS
  - MOCJ
  - OCDV

**PRIVATE**

- Brookdale Hospital
- Brownsville Community Justice Center
- Brownsville Multi-Service Center
- Brownsville Partnership
- Pitkin Avenue BID
- Brownsville Works
- New Yorkers for Parks

**Partners**
Implementation

Brownsville Wellness District

PUBLIC

ReCAST Program
Substance Abuse and Mental Services Administration

Healthy Homes Demonstration Grant
Department of Housing and Urban Development

Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals
Substance Abuse and Mental Services Administration

PRIVATE

Trailblazers Program
The Kresge Foundation

Innovations in Public Health Grant
CVS

Healthy Eating Active Living Grant
Kaiser Permanente
Implementation

Brownsville Wellness District

PUBLIC

ReCAST Program
Substance Abuse and Mental Services Administration

Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma
Implementing evidence-based, violence prevention, and community engagement programs, as well as linkages to trauma-informed behavior health services

Up to $1,000,000
5 Years

PRIVATE

Trailblazers Program
The Kresge Foundation

Innovations in Public Health Grant
CVS

Healthy Eating Active Living Grant
Kaiser Permanente
Conclusion

7 Needs
5 Assets
11 Strategies

For a Healthy Brownsville
Thank you

HealthyBrownsville@gmail.com