



Fund for  
**Public Health NYC**

# Year In Review Report

2020

# A Letter From The Executive Director

Friends,

To say that this has been a tumultuous year would be an understatement. From the arrival of COVID-19 in early March, to the powerful protests against racism in June, to the struggles with reopening schools safely and navigating a contentious election, it has felt like every day has thrown something new at us. But we are still here, and public health is more important than ever.

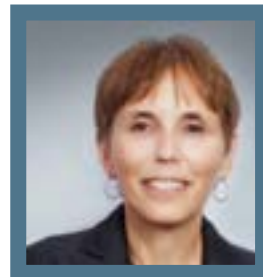
We accomplished so much this year, despite the challenges we faced. As COVID-19 began to grip New York City, we worked closely with you and our partners at the Health Department to contain the epidemic and to ensure programs could adapt to new virtual settings. We secured funding for 22 projects and raised over \$25 million from our institutional and philanthropic partners to ensure continuity and provide struggling New Yorkers the public health support they needed to thrive. These programs represent the wide range of public health, including addressing opioid use, containing the spread of COVID-19, supporting isolated seniors, and reducing disparities faced by mothers and babies. In addition, generous individuals like you contributed over \$250,000 to improve the health of all New Yorkers. Thank you.

We also welcomed Dr. Dave A. Chokshi as our new Commissioner of Health and Board Chair. Together, we are proud to support his vision and strategy for public health in New York City. While COVID has laid bare the inequities that challenge our beloved city's health and spirit, we are eager to work collaboratively to strengthen our public health systems and support economic recovery, both of which are foundational to our ability to thrive.

2020 has made it clear that ongoing investment and engagement in public health is essential. We must rededicate ourselves to ensuring that there are enough resources to rebuild and modernize our public health infrastructure, while addressing the parallel pandemics of racism, mental health challenges, and economic insecurity.

Health is everybody's business, and everyone deserves the opportunity to live a healthy life. FPHNYC will continue to champion the work that advances public health for all New Yorkers. We are grateful for your continued support, and we are eager to take on whatever may come next, guided by our mission of ensuring all New Yorkers have the opportunities they need to thrive.

With gratitude,



# Our Year in Review

FPHNYC has a long history of advancing public health for all New Yorkers. Since our founding in 2002, we've raised more than \$450 million in public and private funding for over 400 projects, making New York City healthier and safer for all. We work closely with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to pilot, implement, and expand innovative public health programs, many of which are taken to scale city-wide for lasting impact on individual and community health. Our unique model connects experts at the NYC Health Department with private sector and philanthropic partners to pilot innovative initiatives that would otherwise not be possible.

**“The Fund for Public Health is a critical partner in our work to make New York City safer and healthier for all.”**



**Dr. Dave A. Chokshi, Commissioner for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene**

Everything we do is made possible by the generosity and strategic leadership of our funders and our partnerships with NYC's leading public health experts at the Health Department. With your support, we launched and accelerated programs critical to helping NYC prepare for challenging times ahead, when the need for investment in public health systems will be stronger than ever. These projects have included:

- Accelerating construction of a Quickie Lab in Fort Greene and hiring a lab director to oversee rapid COVID-19 testing. This expanded the Health Department's testing capacity and continues to serve the general population with no payment or ID required.
- Converting school medical forms from paper to an electronic format, to accelerate the transfer of critical health information from students' health care providers. This information is critical to safely keeping schools open, particularly for students with chronic health conditions (like asthma and diabetes).
- Implementing a case-control study of 6,000 participants to more clearly identify risk factors for COVID-19 in NYC. Data collected and analyzed from this study will inform preventative measures and interventions going forward, to minimize the impact of a second wave.

The following pages highlight in more detail some of our accomplishments from this past year, from fighting epidemics to ensuring equitable, respectful care for mothers and babies. We are proud to share some of the impacts our work has had on the health and wellness of 8.5 million New Yorkers.

# Fighting Epidemics

Epidemics represent some of the greatest challenges to our city's health, and we must work tirelessly to address them. We continue to respond quickly and creatively to epidemics like COVID, obesity, opioid use, and more to ensure all New Yorkers have opportunities to thrive.

## \$1.5M+

Together, we've raised over \$1,500,000 to support the work of our Epidemics Fund, a special initiative we created to accelerate programs critical to NYC's COVID-19 response.

## SaTScan

Monitoring diseases and the changing number of cases in populations will always be fundamental public health work. One tool is a statistical software called SaTScan that identifies clusters of cases more precisely and rapidly.

FPHNYC was instrumental in securing support for the expansion and enhancement of the SaTScan software through partnerships with the CDC Foundation, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and Open Society Foundations.

The software helped to identify and pinpoint emerging clusters of COVID-19 cases, giving the Health Department critical information as they designed their response plan.

Thanks to SaTScan, the Health Department immediately began public messaging and targeted community outreach to curb further transmission.



The rise of COVID-19 led to immense challenges across our city and our nation, causing incalculable losses. But epidemics can also include other rapidly spreading health threats, dangerous conditions like opioid use, and social conditions like racism. We're also witnessing parallel pandemics, such as a mental health crisis, marked by increased fear, grief, anxiety, and isolation; food insecurity; and economic instability.

Interested in supporting our work fighting epidemics? Consider making a gift to our **Epidemics Fund**.

# Mothers & Babies

2020 highlighted what those working in public health have long known: racism is an ongoing public health crisis.

**8X** In New York City, Black women are eight times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than white women. Social determinants of health associated with racism explain some of these disparities.

## Maternity Hospital Quality Improvement Network (MHQIN)

In 2015, thanks in part to partnerships with FPHNYC and Merck for Mothers, NYC became the first jurisdiction to implement a citywide system to track life-threatening events related to pregnancy and birth.

The Health Department created the MHQIN to combat high rates of near-death experiences and deaths that disproportionately affect mothers of color, revealed by the stark data emerging from the work supported by Merck for Mothers. This initiative delivers targeted interventions to improve the quality of clinical care and engage community members in advocating for respectful, just, and appropriate care for all mothers.

In response to this work, NYC allocated \$12.8 million and New York Community Trust provided a supplemental grant to expand the MHQIN. These efforts are expected to reduce the unacceptably high rates of maternal morbidity and mortality in NYC.



Chronic stress caused by discrimination can trigger a cascade of adverse health outcomes, including consequences related to maternal and infant health.

In partnership with the Health Department, FPHNYC is working to address systems of inequity, reduce negative maternal experiences, and ensure respectful and culturally competent care for mothers across the city to ensure all families thrive and live long, healthy lives.

Support projects that empower mothers and babies across NYC. Give to our **Mothers & Babies Fund**.

# Other Projects

*From ensuring access to healthy food, to making sure teens get the sexual health education they deserve, we are committed to supporting not only immediate public health needs but addressing the longer-term social determinants of health as well.*

## Get the Good Stuff

Nearly 1 in 5 New Yorkers relies on SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) to purchase food. Through Get the Good Stuff, one of the only programs of its kind in the nation, for every \$1 spent in SNAP benefits on eligible fresh, frozen, canned, and dried fruits, vegetables, and beans, shoppers get \$1 to spend on eligible foods at their next purchase. Shoppers can earn up to \$50 in incentives on their Get the Good Stuff card per day.

The program, which is funded by a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) grant administered by FPHNYC, is currently available at 6 supermarkets located in Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx will expand to 8 additional locations with renewed USDA funding secured this year.



## New York City Teens Connection

New York City has seen teen pregnancy rates drop by nearly 70% since 2000, but disparities persist. New York City Teens Connection (NYCTC) is a robust program partnering with schools, foster care agencies, colleges, and other nonprofit organizations to implement teen pregnancy prevention programs to over 15,000 youth each year.

In many marginalized communities across the city, NYCTC programs are the sole source of comprehensive, evidence-based, teen-friendly, and high-quality pregnancy prevention and sexual health education. This year, we received a federal grant of \$4.5 million to expand this crucial work ensuring access to comprehensive care, education, and support. Since 2010, FPHNYC has received more than \$19 million to support the NYCTC program.

# THANK YOU

*We could not do this alone. Many thanks to our staff and board who make our work possible.*

### Board of Directors

Dave A. Chokshi, MD, MSc  
Fatima Ashraf, MPH  
Amit Bansal, MBA  
Melynda Barnes, MD  
Cara Berkowitz, JD  
Jessica Borowick, JD  
Pamela Brier, MPH  
Bunny Ellerin, MBA  
Brenton Fagnoli  
Michael Gargano, JD  
Jungwon Kim  
Hillary Kunins, MD  
Paul Maddon, MD, PhD  
Pascaline Servan-Schreiber, MBA  
Chris Stern Hyman, JD

Rebecca Adeskavitz, MPH, MPA

Elza Antoine  
Connie Baker  
Paul Barrett  
Talia Briant  
Kimberly Brown  
Alexa Degioanni, MA  
Steve Dennis  
Nicole Duffy  
Rehanna Garib  
Ariana Holland, MPA  
Kavita Iyer, MPH  
Nora Landis-Shack, MPH  
Ariel Lawrence, MA  
Hye Won Lee, MPH  
Keisha Lugay, MPH  
Gemma Martinelli, MPA  
Alexis McLauchlan, MPA  
Dominique Myers  
Dyeanne Pak Jones  
Joon Pyo Lee  
Femi Olabisi, MBA  
Richard Ray  
Sydney Sasanow, MPA  
Ashley Siegel, JD  
Irene Scott

### Staff

Sara Gardner, MPH - Executive Director  
Donna Fishman, MPA - Deputy Director  
Aviva Goldstein, MPA - Senior Director  
Strategic Partnerships & Institutional  
Philanthropy  
Elisabeth Williams, MBA - Senior Director  
Finance and Administration

# OUR SUPPORTERS

*Thank you to all of our supporters this year – your generosity helps us fight to ensure all New Yorkers have an opportunity to thrive.*

Adrian Carrasquillo  
Althea Simons  
Amit Bansal  
Amy Phillips  
Andrew Burdick  
Anonymous Donors  
Athena Majowka  
Aviva Goldstein and Richard Miller  
Belinda Nelson  
Bo Young Lee  
Booth Ferris Foundation  
Brenton Fargnoli  
Brianna Van Fechtmann  
Bronx Partners for Healthy Communities  
Bunny Ellerin  
Burns Levinson  
Cara Berkowitz  
CDC Foundation  
Charlotte Gendler  
Chris Stern Hyman  
Christopher Tan  
Connie Baker  
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation  
Donna Fishman and Steve Cohen  
Doreen Antonelli  
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation  
EmblemHealth  
Emily Crossin  
Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.  
Eric Goldstein  
Evelyn Landry  
Fatima Ashraf  
Foote Family Charitable Foundation  
Gail Gendler  
Goldman Sachs Gives  
Hao Wu  
Hillary Kunins  
Hisham Talukder  
Hologic, Inc.  
Howard and Mary Ellen Nussbaum  
IBM  
Irene Scott  
Jared Wien  
Jeanne Haws  
Jessica Borowick and Paul Flach  
Jewish Communal Fund  
Joanne Witty and Eugene Keilin  
John Warren  
Joni Davis  
Katherine Bradford  
Kristin Milot  
Laurence W. Cohen  
Laurie Steinbruck  
Lisa Goodman  
Lloyd Kass  
FJC: A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds  
MAC AIDS Fund  
Marin Community Foundation  
Mary H. Waite  
Maureen and Charlie Michaud  
Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City  
Megan Beier  
Melynda Barnes  
Merck for Mothers  
Merita Ljubanovic  
Michael Gargano and Laura Spitzer

Minx Boren  
Mt. Sinai School of Medicine  
Myazinn Tawya Meditation Center  
Nancy Borowick  
Nathaniel Strand  
New York Community Trust  
New York State Health Foundation  
Nicolaas Smit  
Nicole Duffy  
Nifara Ali  
Open Society Foundations  
Oxiris Barbot  
Pamela Brier and Peter Aschkensey  
Pascaline Servan-Schreiber and Kevin Ryan  
Paul Maddon  
Paul Rosenfeld  
Pietro Carpenito  
Rachel Briant  
Rachel Miller  
Raymond James Charitable  
Rebecca Pekron  
Rebecca Tabb

Rehanna Garib  
Roman Health Ventures  
Robert Wizenberg  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
Robin Hood  
Sara Gardner  
Sarah Wu  
Stephanie Adeskavitz  
Steve Dennis  
Stewart Burton  
Talent Hub Worldwide  
Target Corporation  
Task Force for Global Health  
TD Bank  
The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation  
The JPB Foundation  
The Pinkerton Foundation  
The Stavros Niarchos Foundation  
Thomas Merrill  
Travis Terry  
Tzvi Doron  
Victor Padron

