

## **Leadership Council Meeting #10**

**Thursday, April 9, 2020**

**Zoom Facilitated**

**4:00pm - 6:00pm**

### **Attendance**

- 6 UB backbone staff (David Harrington, Kassa Belay, Danielle Augustine, Athenia Rodney, Dionne Grayman, Amelia Thompson)
- 15 Leadership Council members or their representatives and 12 FAB members

### **Takeaways**

- LC members were impacted by the accounts shared by the FAB and are interested in providing resources to support community members during this period

### **Objectives**

1. Review how UB has changed its work in response to Covid-19
2. Updates on state of COVID-19 crisis in Brownsville and NYC's response
3. Discuss pathways for residents of Brownsville to have basic needs met to enable successful distancing

### **UB Updates**

- **Before Covid-19**
  - Family Co-Op launched a third site at Riverdale Avenue Community School
    - Visitor: Miriam Robertson, Director of The Heritage House in celebration of Brownsville and Black History Month
    - Field Trip: Greg Jackson Center, story time
  - Continued Books for Brownsville planning and considering possible collaboration with Brooklyn Public Library and other teachers and day care providers
  - Launch of Learning Landscapes in January at two Brownsville grocery stores with an official launch event at Food Bazaar on Thursday, January 30 with more than 50 attendees
- **As of March 12, 2020**
  - All UB meetings have been moved to virtual sessions including the LC meeting
  - Some work will continue in a yet to be defined format such as Books for Brownsville
    - Thanks to Athenia Rodney, the FAB Fellow, has developed a Covid-19 Mutual Aid Resource Guide available at <https://www.unitedforbrownsville.org/coronavirus> to feature resources throughout Brooklyn. The Leadership Council has helped provide a

number of key resources available on the list. Members are invited to share resources to add to the Guide.

- UB facilitated the presentation of residents' concerns to NYC Children's Cabinet and collection of responses and suggestions from City Agency staff (March 20, 2020)
- UB has supported the facilitation of emergency aid in the form of \$500-\$1,000 in DoorDash gift cards available for local families from an anonymous donor given to SCO Services. This funding has been made to the UB network (\$30K) and SCO had helped with providing approximately \$80K in funding
- UB is helping support collaboration and communication between key providers to support the needs of Brownsville families
- Robin Hood has developed a Covid-19 Relief Fund that is available at <https://www.robinhood.org/relief-fund-application/>
  - SCO has received a Robin Hood grant and will support other Brownsville providers in applying.
- Welcome from SCO Leadership
  - SCO extends support and recognizes there are significant food insecurity, housing, and financial impacts to come
  - In light of the outbreak there is even a greater need to ensure there are accurate ways Census data will be collected and reported
- **Coronavirus Data & City Response**
  - Matthew Klein, NYC Mayor's Office for Economic Opportunity & Senior Advisor, NYC Mayor's Office of Operations
    - Vulnerabilities we knew existed are even more apparent and we can think about developing infrastructure to help communities after this unique period
    - There are existing task forces related to food delivery or meal pick up, social distancing, seniors, and an emerging task force on wide breath of challenges facing the newly unemployed and financial insecurity and gaps that continue to be unfulfilled on the next rounds of federal action
      - Immediately: matching people who have lost work with essential work opportunities
    - Daily calls related to contractual and human service needs are ongoing while city focuses on web properties in terms of a resource bank
    - Question: How do we support households that do not have internet and/or devices to support access to key services that have moved online? Spectrum and other providers are offering free plans and some families who have children enrolled in schools managed by the Department of Education may have access to devices. The digital divide was a preexisting issue and is only starker now.
    - Question: How to support children of essential workers with providing philanthropic resources and materials? There are existing centers for children of first responders. One LC member can find out how to get materials into the hands of first line medical workers at Montefiore and Brookdale. Peter Hash is now supporting public private partnerships.
  - Maryanne Schretzman, Executive Director of Center for Innovation and Data Intelligence

- There are disproportionate rates of infection and determinants that lead to poor situational outcomes that relate to the outbreak in Brownsville
- Preexisting health challenges in Brownsville including higher rates of obesity, diabetes and hypertension negatively impact a person’s ability to recover from the coronavirus

# Brownsville: Health

	NYC	BK16	BK79	BK81
Late or no prenatal care (%)	7.0	13.2	11.4	9.9
Preterm births (%)	9.1	13.5	14.0	15.0
Annual births (Avg)	122,718	1,409	491	970
Teen births (per 1,000 women aged 15 to 19 years)	23.7	30.4	38.8	36.3
Infant mortality (per 1,000 live births)	4.1	5.4	NA	NA
Health insurance (%)	89.0	89.4	88.3	90.1
Medicaid enrollment (%)	37.0	54.5	45.8	54.5
Children covered by Medicaid (%)	54.6	71.1	57.5	66.2
No health insurance: Ages 0-17 (%)	3.1	3.0	2.7	3.1
Disability (any): Ages 0-17 (%)	3.4	4.6	3.2	5.4
Disability (any): Adults 18+ (%)	12.5	15.8	13.9	16.9
Hospitalizations: Preventable (per 100,000 population)	1,662	3,264	3,169	3,277

BK79 Ocean Hill  
BK81 Brownsville

# Brownsville: Health (continued)

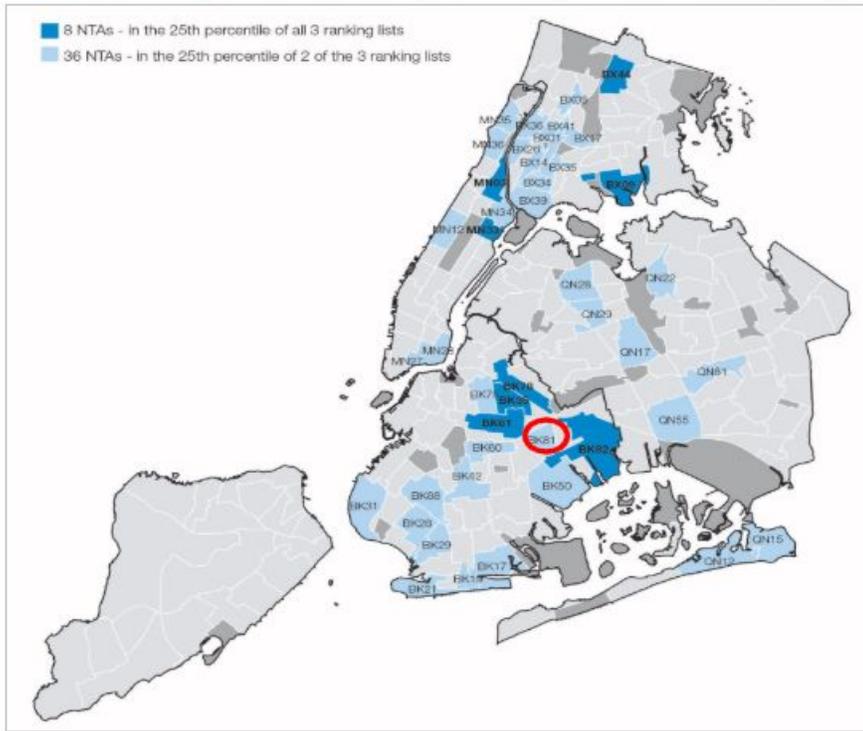
**OBESITY, DIABETES AND HYPERTENSION** (percent of adults)

	Brownsville	Brooklyn	NYC	Lowest %
 <b>Obesity</b>	41%	27%	24%	4% Financial District, Greenwich Village-Soho
 <b>Diabetes</b>	13%	12%	11%	3% Financial District, Greenwich Village-Soho
 <b>Hypertension</b>	33%	29%	28%	15% Financial District, Greenwich Village-Soho

Source: NYC DOHMH, Community Health Survey, 2015-2016

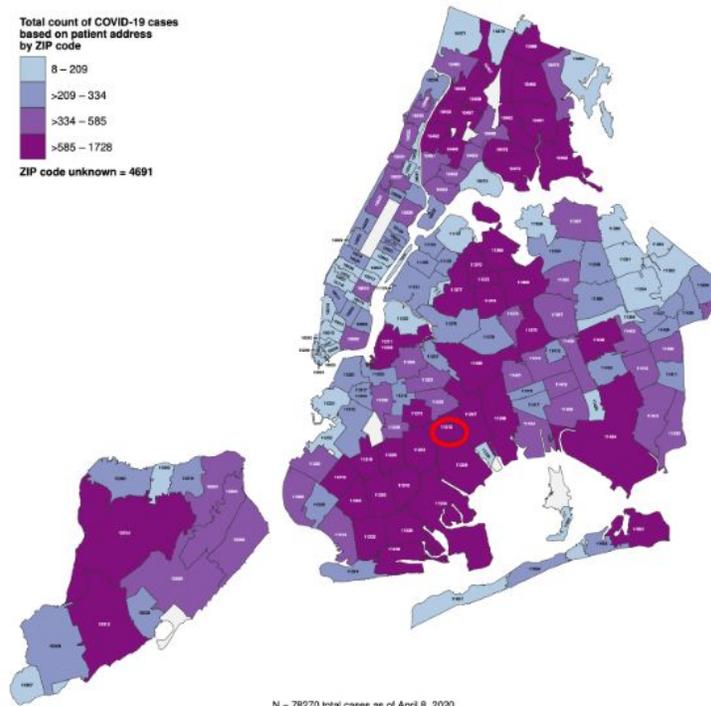
- CIDI created vulnerable population maps to identify communities with the greatest need

# CIDI COVID Prioritization Composite Map by NTA



## COVID Cases by Zip Code (DOHMH)

**Total count of COVID-19 cases based on patient address by ZIP code**  
■ 8 – 209  
■ >209 – 334  
■ >334 – 585  
■ >585 – 1728  
 ZIP code unknown = 4691



- The homeless population has been segmented by age and anyone over 70 years age have been given hotel rooms upon discharge from hospitals, as needed

- The City’s response is multifaceted to tackle multiple layers of human services including child welfare, housing and other

**La'Shawn Allen-Muhammad, Executive Director, Central Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation**

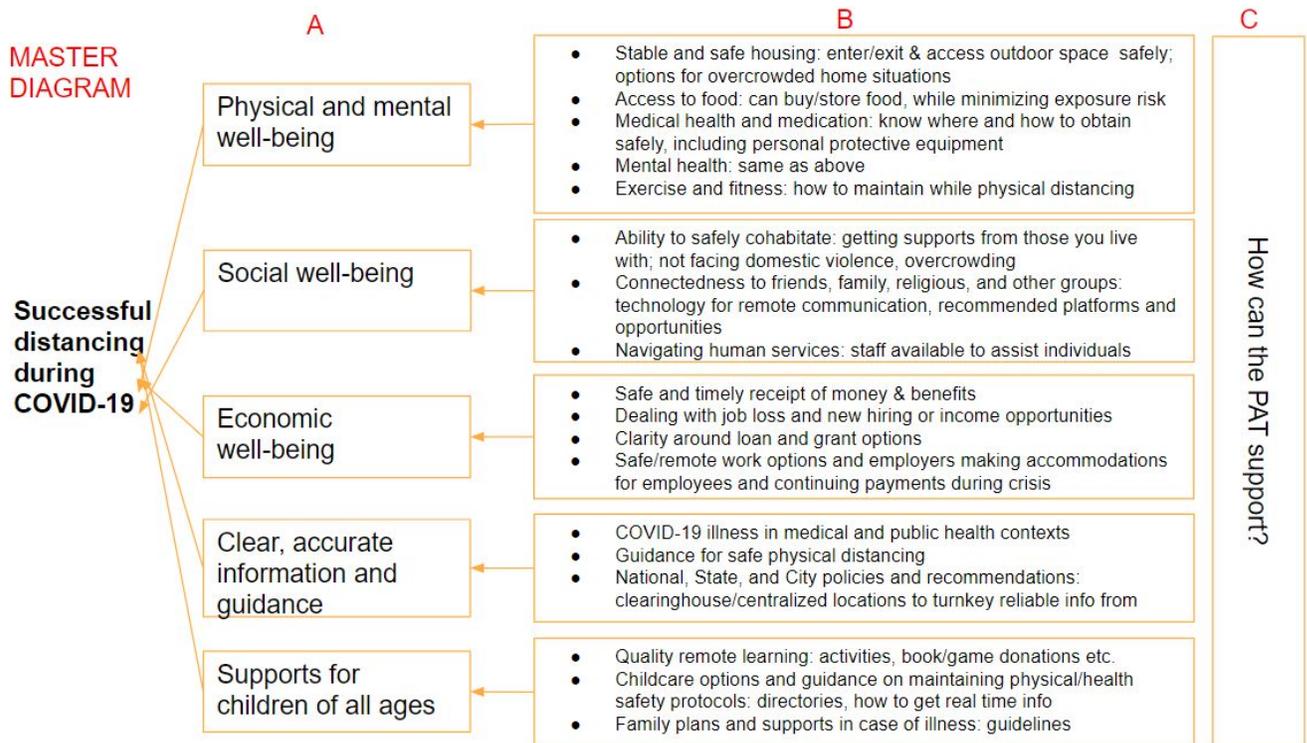
- Brooklyn has the largest concentration of public housing
- Central Brooklyn Economic Development Corporation’s (CBEDC) mission is to create an entity for community residents to become self-sufficient and get access to education, career and small business support to not rely on social services
- CBEDC is creating a site specific to Brownsville’s Covid-19 response and assessment of labor needs for a community wide redeployment effort
- Question: How do we move pull forward stories of care givers who are being greatly impacting by Covid-19 and therefore having significant impacts on children? There are great impacts of this reality including physical, social and economic which can be in part communicated by data. The intersectionality of the challenges that emerge have been present and are even more apparent during this time.

**Community Care: Resource pathway coordination to maximize distancing**

Source: <https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov/>

Testing data as of: 4/8/2020 Midnight Testing data last updated on: 4/9/2020 (Updated daily before 2 PM)		
<b>Fatalities by Race/Ethnicity</b> <i>Data is preliminary. With 98% reporting, below is the breakdown for NYS excluding NYC. With 63% reporting, below is the breakdown for NYC as provided by NYCDOHMH.</i>		<a href="#">Click to see NYS excl. NYC age-adjusted rate</a>
Race/Ethnicity	NYC	NYS Excl. NYC
Hispanic	34% (29% of population)	14% (12% of population)
Black	28% (22% of population)	17% (9% of population)
White	27% (32% of population)	61% (74% of population)
Asian	7% (14% of population)	4% (4% of population)
Other	4% (3% of population)	4% (1% of population)
<b>Fatalities by Age Group</b>		
Age Group	Fatality Count	%
Grand Total	7,067	100.0%
0 to 9	1	0.0%
10 to 19	5	0.1%
<b>Fatalities by Sex</b>		
Grand Total	7,067 (100.0%)	
Female	2,767 (39.2%)	
Male	4,291 (60.7%)	
Unknown	9 (0.1%)	

- Physical distancing is the primary tool we have now to slow the spread of Covid-19
- Long before crisis, residents struggled to meet basic needs, which has been compounded by the coronavirus crisis
- Community methods of meeting basic needs increase risk
- Therefore, many residents are unable to physically distance
- This crisis is likely impacting Brownsville disproportionately
- The PAT is ideally positioned to identify pathways to help residents meet their needs and respond/coordinate immediately
- PAT engaged in discussion of key supports they could offer to help families successfully practice social distancing PAT members offered where they could be of support in tackling primary drivers as identified on the following driver diagram:



- Going forward UB is going to be updating the driver diagram; will continue updating the resource guide; and create a PAT Google Group and PAT Directory to spur coordination and communication

### Remaining challenges and crucial perspectives

- Answers to logistical/supply chain problems for essential supplies (diapers, baby wipes, formula, toilet paper, cleaning supplies)

- Answers specific to the context of low-income black and Hispanic families living in high density neighborhoods

### **Experiences and perspectives from Brownsville**

- FAB members offered stories that illuminate the types of real challenges faced by community members
- **Dionne Grayman, Accountability & Engagement Consultant, United for Brownsville**
  - One recommendation is when Mayor De Blasio is talking about black people, he should have black people present
  - Language being used to frame Covid-19 does not necessarily respond to the reality and/or narrative of this experience in Brownsville and/or a healthy Brownsville
  - Many residents are essential workers but not first responders so they are not receiving protective gear; many children in the community attended schools that lacked online classes/opportunities which further make online learning a challenge
- **David Alexis and Francesca Stephen-Alexis, FAB members**
  - FAB member shared that prior to the outbreak his family was starting to develop greater stability with the support of head start programming; but outbreak has caused greater financial instability as David is no longer able to continue driving and Francesca has to continue in person treatments at the hospital
- **Juma Diawara, FAB Member**
  - FAB member shared challenged she encountered directly following giving birth to a newborn in a local hospital and her interaction with the NYC Administration of Children's Services which exacerbated her stress levels and potentially put her and her household at greater risk for exposure to the coronavirus.
- LC members shared responses to the prompts: How can LC members respond to the challenges and perspectives on the coronavirus crisis they heard? What lessons are takeaways for the agencies represented?
  - Central Brooklyn Development Corporation: Can serve as a buffer to contact agencies to provide direct support and connections to families
  - Medicaid Institute, United Hospital Fund: Organizations have not done enough and have not matched the goal and core value of equity.

### **Next Steps**

- UB will continue to collect, respond to and share stories and perspectives coming out of Brownsville

- UB will follow up on responses and opportunities discussed at this meeting shared by Leadership Council members