



All In East Harlem: Better Together Community Partnership Vision Conference

A Sampling of Current Hunter-CUNY Projects in East Harlem/El Barrio: How can our students and faculty help your organization's activities?

These are a few of the projects that Hunter/CUNY faculty and students have undertaken in East Harlem. They are offered as a sample of what is possible in a true community/ university partnership. For example, over 200 Hunter College students intern in East Harlem each year. The School of Education has students placed in 22 schools and institutions in East Harlem. The School of Social Work has 136 social workers placed in East Harlem. The School of Nursing has clinical placements at 5 East Harlem sites. We also have many interns in our nutrition and physical therapy departments that hold internships here each year.

Please think about projects you'd like to see us do in partnership with your organization.

ARTS, CULTURE, AND HISTORY

Centro Archives - are open to the neighborhood. The archives hold numerous collections from notable individuals from El Barrio such as renowned poet Tato Laviera and Oscar Garcia Rivera who made history when in 1937 he became the first Puerto Rican to be elected to public office in the continental United States. Centro staff have supported the naming of streets in East Harlem honoring Puerto Rican historical figures such as Tito Puente and the Young Lords Party.

Art exhibits - Centro has held events that showcase art from their historical archival collections. These include: *Labor* (2012) with six well-known artists paying homage to nearly 600,000 workers who migrated in the 1940s-1950s in search of work, including a series of workshops for the general public; *Picturing Puerto Rico Under the American Flag* (2012), photos by Louise Rosskam; *Posters on the Wall: Our Nuyorican Story* (2013) featuring Centro's Graphic Arts Collection; *Tracking the South Bronx* (2014) an exhibit of photos by Carlos Ortiz; and *Shaping the Puerto Rican Identity*. Currently, the exhibit Selections from the DivEdCo Collection (2014) addressing how art was used to promote social change in Puerto Rico is open to the public.

Cultural and educational outreach - Centro has many collaborations with schools and other partners in El Barrio. For example, Centro has collaborated with the Global Tech Preparatory School with an art workshop for 8th graders depicting Puerto Ricans in El Barrio (2013). We also co-sponsored various art, film and book presentations with the Taller Boricua and the Julia de Burgos Cultural Center (2013-2014), including a series of talks and shows of documentary films and the new edition of the book *The Puerto Rican Diaspora*.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC SPACES

"Greening the Gap" - was a studio project conducted by graduate students under the supervision of Professor John Chin in Hunter College's Master of Urban Planning program. Working with local environmental nonprofit TreesNY, "Greening the Gap" studio participants created a green infrastructure waterfront access plan for the Manhattan neighborhood of East Harlem. By utilizing a community-based planning methodology, the students engaged East Harlem residents in re-imagining their waterfront while also promoting a greener neighborhood through improved storm water management. Through their outreach, students were able to incorporate neighborhood issues of open space access, personal safety and

lack of neighborhood amenities into the otherwise technical recommendations, while also building on community assets such as vibrant commercial corridors and an active gardening community.

The La Marqueta Revitalization Workshop— was a Spring 2012 Urban Design class taught by Professor Laxmi Ramasubramanian, Professor of Urban Affairs and Planning at Hunter College, CUNY. The workshop focused on the re-envisioning of La Marqueta, the historic East Harlem marketplace beneath the Metro-North line on Park Avenue located near the western edge of the community. The workshop focused on the underutilized spaces between 110th and 125th Streets. The class proposed recreational and commercial reuse of the La Marqueta space to meet the needs of the current community.

EMPOWERMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING

The Latino Leadership Institute (LLI) - The School of Social Work provides assistance to the LLI to offer classes on electoral activism and policy initiatives aimed at broadening the participation of underrepresented groups in the electorate.

Community Survey: Professor Nancy Giunta from the School of Social Work analyzes the data from Union Settlement's annual client satisfaction survey.

The Urban Sustainability Extension Service (USES) - at Hunter College is working with El Museo del Barrio to convene a sustainability advisory council for East Harlem. The council engages stakeholders in East Harlem to think about the future of their communities and how environmental sustainability can be infused into every aspect of our day-to-day lives. El Museo and USES are forging strong partnerships among the university, government, private, and nonprofit sectors, in consultation with community stakeholders.

FAMILIES, YOUTH, AND EDUCATION

"I Have A Dream" Foundation - motivates and empowers children to reach their educational and career potential by providing a long-term program of academic support, mentoring, enrichment and tuition assistance for higher education. The School of Education has helped develop curriculum and taught classes for them, and the School of Nursing has offered wellness classes. Many of our undergraduate students are volunteers in the program.

READ East Harlem- Under the leadership of Professor Jenny Tuten, the Hunter College School of Education works with 3 elementary schools (P.S./M.S. 171, P.S. 146 and P.S./M.S. 57) to design and implement a literacy focused professional development curriculum to improve the capacity of 2nd grade teachers to provide strong, effective reading instruction in their classrooms. The primary focus is detailed, school-specific data collection and analysis around instructional practices and student needs in reading. This project seeks to support teachers in grounding their work and deepening understanding rather than to become an "add on" to their workload.

The Children of East Harlem, Model Engagement and Service Delivery Matrix -Working with SCAN and Union Settlement, Professor Kristin Ferguson-Colvin of the School of Social Work has helped to design, implement and evaluate a service engagement and delivery model for at-risk children, youth and families in East Harlem. The model uses peer mentors, technology-enhanced referrals, and psycho-educational workshops to connect families and youth to other needed services.

Creating and Sustaining the Next Generation of Trauma Informed Practitioners - The School of Social Work works with the Association to Benefit Children (ABC), Children's Aid Society, Union Settlement Association (USA), Edwin Gould Services Steps to End Family Violence program (STEPS), and Northside Center for Child Development to train social workers to use evidence informed treatments for children. The School also helped train neighborhood social workers to use on-line resource and referral systems and benefit calculators.

Book Gift Drive - Partnering with five elementary schools, the student and alumni associations of the School of Social Work have held an annual holiday book drive for the past three years. Over 100 students selected by their teachers and principals receive a free book each year.

HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH

Community Conversation on the East Harlem Explosion - With support from the Ford Foundation over 75 community residents, first responders and service providers participated in a community conversation co-sponsored by the School of Public Health about what happened during the response effort after the March 12 building collapse and to discuss what we can do for each other in the future to be better prepared and ready for an emergency disaster in East Harlem. A follow-up conversation is being planned for later this summer/early fall.

First Fridays at Hunter/East Harlem: A Film and Dialogue Series on Health and Social Justice - The CUNY School of Public Health's Program in Community Health has joined with a wide range of community partners to host film screenings and live performance followed by panel discussions and educational workshops. Initiated in February 2013, some of the health and social justice issues and films have included HIV/AIDS (*Stand Up in Anger*), gentrification (*El Barrio Tours*), food justice (*Soul Food Junkies*), community gardens (*The Garden*), transgender health care justice (*Southern Comfort*), and gun violence (*Triggering Wounds* and *9mm America*). All First Fridays events are free and open to the public and have been very well attended by members of the East Harlem community.

Community Meets Classroom: A Collaborative Inquiry to Assess Impact of a Multi-disciplinary Course on Student Knowledge and Community Engagement in the South Bronx & Harlem - Professor Lynn Roberts from the School of Public Health is leading a course that will be co-taught by community leaders who live and/or work in the South Bronx and East Harlem in order to prepare students to work effectively with community organizations and neighborhood residents to address pressing urban health issues through internships, volunteer work, paid work, and social action.

Motivating Action through Community Health Outreach (MAChO) - is a student-run volunteer collaboration between School of Public Health and Weill-Cornell Medical College. The program focuses on empowering youth with practical tools to take control of their health and their lives through proper nutrition, fitness, and personal development. This is done through year-long after-school programming, a mentoring program using a multi-generational group mentoring model and community engagement through health and community fairs.

Care Coordination - Professor Nancy Giunta and Distinguished Lecturer Patricia Volland from the School of Social Work are assisting the Institute for Family Health to investigate models of care coordination to implement into their programming for long term patients.

Dietetic Interns - work with clinical dietitians caring for patients at Metropolitan Hospital, Harlem Hospital, Henry J. Carter Specialty Hospital and Nursing Facility and the Institute for Family Health. They also participate in community food assistance through the Food Bank of New York, congregate meals for senior citizens through the NYC Department for the Aging and Farmers Market cooking demonstrations and other consumer education through Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Pain in Later Life (TRIPLL) - explores the unmet needs and utilization of palliative care services among chronically ill older adults in East and Central Harlem. The project is a partnership between the Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging, the Silberman School of Social Work, the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, the Weill-Cornell Medical College, and 33 community-based agencies and churches serving older adults and their families. The ultimate goal is to develop a culturally sensitive intervention that meets the needs of minority elders who have largely lacked access to palliative and supportive care.

"Heart to Heart" Clinics - have provided cardio-vascular risk screening and counseling to people in East Harlem for the past four years. Hunter College undergraduate nursing students and faculty measured participant vital signs and Body Mass Index and performed point of care testing for glucose, HgbA1C, Cholesterol and Triglycerides. They also interviewed participants regarding life style, access to health care, etc. At risk participants then receive counseling and are referred to low cost neighborhood clinics.

Bailey House - Professor SJ Dodd of the School of Social Work has helped the agency increase their evaluation capacity, including an agency logic model, conducted data mining, supported the creation of new programs, tailored outcomes to match program goals, and supported them in the preparation of evaluation components of funding requests.

Food Justice - Led by Professor May May Leung at the School of Public Health, studied East Harlem youth perceptions of barriers and facilitators that influence their personal food choices using PhotoVoice. The study population included middle-school students, who participated in a 24 week after-school food justice program of the Children's Aid Society.

OLDER ADULTS

Senior Positive Adaptation - Working with DFTA and Union Settlement, the School of Social Work designed and implemented a program to reduce social isolation among older adults in NYCH's Jefferson and Corsi houses.

Senior Centers - Professors Nancy Giunta and Carmen Morano worked with Union Settlement examining the reactions of older adults to senior center closings. Alma Collazo, co-chair of the Older Adults subcommittee of the East Harlem Committee for Health serves on the Community Advisory Council of the Center for Excellence in Aging and Diversity at the School.

Chronic Health Conditions and Activities of Daily Living Among Older Adults- Professor Lorna Thorpe of the School of Public Health investigated the health conditions and needs of older adults in NYCHA housing, and made recommendations for prevention and care.

