

Summaries of External Reviewer Comments on Successful SIF Subgrantee Applications for Connections to Care

Arab American Association of New York

The Arab American Association of New York (AAANY) was founded in 2001 by members of the Arab-American and immigrant community to respond to the needs of these growing communities in New York City. AAANY is based in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn – home to the largest Arab community in the city. AAANY’s mission is to support and empower the Arab-American and immigrant community by providing services to help them adjust to their new home and become active members of society. The aim of AAANY is for families to achieve the ultimate goals of independence, productivity, and stability.

NYU Lutheran Family Health Centers (NYULFHC) will train AAANY staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to education, immigrant legal services, and women's empowerment programs for the Arab American community in Brooklyn. Through C2C, AAANY will also build a robust referral system with NYULFHC. NYULFHC’s Ambulatory Behavioral Health Services Program provides comprehensive mental health services, offering evidence-based individualized treatment services for individuals managing mental health disorders, struggling with chemical dependency problems and/or coping with health issues associated with HIV/AIDS.

Arab American Association of New York was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor’s Fund and partners. AAANY demonstrated very clear need, especially for their refugee population, and NYULFHC demonstrated experience with training, technical assistance and collaboration.

Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation

Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation (BSRC) is the nation’s first community development corporation, created in 1967. BSRC partners with residents and businesses to improve the quality of life in Brooklyn by fostering economic self-sufficiency, creating healthy, stable families, promoting the arts and culture, and transforming the neighborhood into a safe, vibrant place to live, work and visit. BSRC has extensive experience as a coalition builder and direct service provider managing proven evidence-based programming that facilitates self-sufficiency and family stability.

Brooklyn Community Services (BCS) will train BSRC staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to employment services, primarily for NYCHA residents in Brooklyn. Through C2C, BSRC will also build a robust referral system with BCS. Brooklyn Community Services has substantial expertise supporting the recoveries of thousands of people with severe and persistent psychiatric disabilities, serving over 400 people annually.

BSRC was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. BSRC's application included a high level of detail in terms of how they would integrate mental health services within existing programs, in addition to more than adequate data to justify the need for mental health services.

CAMBA

CAMBA provides services which connect people with opportunities to enhance their quality of life. Founded in 1977 as a merchants' block association, the agency has grown in direct response to the needs of the Brooklyn community and beyond. CAMBA provides services to 45,000 individuals and families annually through an integrated set of services across six program areas: economic development, education and youth development; family support, health, housing and legal services.

The Jewish Board of Family and Children Services (JBFCS) will train CAMBA staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to family shelter services in Queens. Through C2C, CAMBA will also build a robust referral system with the JBFCS. The Jewish Board is one of the largest human services programs in NYC with an extensive network of behavioral health clinics, recovery oriented residential and community-based treatment services. JBFCS also operates a staff development and training program.

CAMBA was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. Plans to focus on homeless women, on-site care, and trauma-focused care were strengths of CAMBA's application.

Center for Employment Opportunities

The Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO) provides immediate and comprehensive employment services exclusively to men and women returning home from incarceration. CEO seeks to improve the well-being of individuals coming home from prison as well as the cities and neighborhoods to which they return.

The Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES) will train CEO staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to employment services for formerly incarcerated individuals from across New York City. Through C2C, CEO will also build a robust referral system with CASES. CASES was formed in 1989 and is a multi-service agency that provides a range of alternative-to-incarceration (ATI) programs, neighborhood-based services and State-licensed mental health services.

CEO was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. CEO's application's strengths included demonstrated experience, capacity to conduct proposed services, and the unique target population that will be the focus of CEO's program.

The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families

The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families (CHCF) has been dedicated to combining education and advocacy to expand opportunities for children and families, and to strengthen the voice of the Latino community in New York City since 1982. CHCF facilitates youth development and after school programs in partnership with K-12 public schools.

Comunilife will train CHCF staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to day care, teen pregnancy programs, and after school programs for the Hispanic community in the Bronx. Through C2C, CHCF will also build a robust referral system with Comunilife. Comunilife is a multi-service, non-profit organization operating residential programs for adults with serious mental illness and/or HIV/AIDS, a NY State Office of Mental Health licensed mental health clinic, a suicide prevention program for Latina adolescents and other programs in NYC.

CHCF was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. Through their proposal they demonstrated a strong cultural grounding and embeddedness in the community in which they will provide services.

Hetrick-Martin Institute

Hetrick-Martin Institute (HMI) has been providing direct services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth since 1983. HMI works with over 2,000 youth a year, offering a continuum of services designed to provide youth with the skills necessary for a productive transition into healthy adulthood.

Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center (MSAHC) will train HMI staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to employment, education, health, homeless prevention and cultural services for LGBTQ youth from across New York City. Through C2C, HMI will also build a robust referral system with MSAHC. MSAHC has provided confidential and free health care, mental health care, related services and supports to adolescents and young adults aged 10-24 for over 47 years.

HMI was one of the top ranking organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. Their proposal concretely described how the C2C modalities will be used in the delivery of services.

Hudson Guild

Hudson Guild has been providing social services to communities in need in Chelsea and on the west side of Manhattan since 1895. Hudson Guild serves more than 14,000 low-income and working poor families with free and low-cost early childhood education, mental health services, youth development and education, adult services, community building, and arts programs.

Hudson Guild's Mental Health Clinic staff will train Hudson Guild Early Childhood Education Center staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to day care services, primarily for NYCHA residents in Manhattan. Through C2C, the CBO will also build a robust referral system between their early childhood centers and their mental health clinic.

Hudson Guild was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. The program's strong connections with public housing in NYC and community embeddedness was a strong feature of their application.

Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation

Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation (NMIC) was founded in 1979 with the goal of assisting immigrants in northern Manhattan who were at risk of being evicted. NMIC serves 14,000 community residents annually providing adult education and workforce development services; legal, social and weatherization services; and community organizing programming.

The Dean Hope Center for Educational and Psychological Services (DHCEPS) at Teachers College, Columbia University will train NMIC staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to the disconnected youth and unemployed and under-employed adults accessing services at NMIC. DHCEPS is the Teachers College, Columbia University training clinic where graduate students from five different programs including from the Department of Counseling and Clinical Psychology provide mental health services in Spanish and English to clients from the nearby community as part of their clinical practice requirements.

NMIC was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. Their proposal demonstrated a solid understanding of the C2C model, articulated a plan to integrate C2C into a variety of programs, and emphasized providing bilingual, culturally competent services.

Red Hook Initiative

Red Hook Initiative (RHI) is a youth development program that began in 2002 as a community health project of a local hospital, in response to the severity of health and social issues in Red Hook. In 2006, RHI established itself as an independent non-profit to expand scope to better meet community needs.

NYU Lutheran Family Health Centers (NYULFHC) will train RHI staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to employment and education services for disconnected youth in Brooklyn. Through C2C, RHI will also build a robust referral system with NYULFHC. NYULFHC's Ambulatory Behavioral Health Services Program provides comprehensive mental health services, offering evidence-based individualized treatment services for individuals managing mental health

disorders, struggling with chemical dependency problems and/or coping with health issues associated with HIV/AIDS.

RHI was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. Their proposal made a compelling argument about the need for mental health services for a population that cannot currently access these services. RHI also demonstrated a very clear understanding of the modalities and how they apply to their population.

Safe Horizon

Safe Horizon began in 1975, when the Vera Institute of Justice launched a pilot program in response to the urgent need to assist witnesses who felt too threatened to testify in NYC's criminal courts. In 1978, the pilot program became the Victim Services Agency (renamed Safe Horizon in 2000), offering a broader array of services to help an increasing number of survivors of various victimizations. Safe Horizon offers a comprehensive array of programs, touching the lives of more than 250,000 individuals affected by violence each year.

Safe Horizon Counseling Center staff will train Safe Horizon domestic violence shelter staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to domestic violence shelters throughout New York City. Through C2C, Safe Horizon will also build a robust referral system between the shelters and the Counseling Center.

Safe Horizon was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. Safe Horizon's proposed integration of trauma informed care in the design of proposed services reinforced their application. Additionally, their proposal concretely outlined a plan for training a large number of shelter staff.

Sheltering Arms Children & Family Services

Founded in 1831, Sheltering Arms Children & Family Services (SACFS) provides services to over 5,000 low-income individuals annually. SACFS currently operates eleven Early Childhood Education Centers, nine afterschool programs, a Community School program, programming in foster care/group home facilities in addition to juvenile justice placement and aftercare, and services for developmentally disabled adults.

Safe Space will train Sheltering Arms Children and Family Services staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to day care services in Queens, the Bronx, and Manhattan. Sheltering Arms and Safe Space are in the final stages of a merger of the two organizations that will expand the breadth of both organizations' services. SACFS will use this grant to support a more robust integration of mental health services into early childhood services at SACFS.

SACFS was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. SACFS' proposal demonstrated strong on-site integration and a viable plan for community outreach. Additionally, the program's mental health provider partner, Safe Space, has conducted a wide array of innovative mental health programs.

STRIVE International

STRIVE was founded in East Harlem in 1984 to provide job training and placement services to unemployed individuals. STRIVE's mission is to help people acquire the life-changing skills and attitudes needed to overcome challenging circumstances, find sustained employment, and become valuable contributors to their families, their employers, and their communities.

Union Settlement Association (USA), with the assistance of the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, will train STRIVE staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to employment services in Manhattan. Through C2C, STRIVE will also build a robust referral system with USA. Union Settlement serves the residents of East Harlem through a wide array of programs, including early childhood services, youth programs, adult education, senior services, mental health, small business development, and policy and advocacy.

STRIVE International was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. STRIVE's application reflected a strong program model with experienced partners.

The Door

The Door - A Center of Alternatives, Inc. (The Door) was founded in 1972 as a multi-service youth development agency providing a full range of integrated services at a single site, free of charge. The Door's mission is to empower young people to reach their potential by providing comprehensive services in a caring, diverse environment. The Door's model is built on the principles of positive youth development, focusing on young people's capacities, strengths and developmental needs – not solely on their problems, risks, or compromising behaviors.

University Settlement will train The Door staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to employment, education, health and legal services for disconnected youth from across New York City. Through C2C, The Door will also build a robust referral system with USA. University Settlement operates an Article 31 mental health clinic, the Consultation Center which has been a fully licensed clinic for over 65 years; there are also mental health services offered by licensed clinical staff throughout its spectrum of programs, from infants to older adults.

The Door was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. The Door's emphasis on youth development and plan to further develop safety net for youth served by its

organization through enhanced mental health training for its staff was a strength of its application.

The HOPE Program

The HOPE Program was founded in 1984 and provides workforce development services to approximately 300 low-income New Yorkers each year with significant barriers to employment, including homelessness, histories of criminal justice involvement and substance abuse, low educational attainment, and poor work history.

Brookdale Hospital Center (BHC) will train HOPE Program staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to employment services in Brooklyn. Through C2C, The HOPE Program will also build a robust referral system with BHC. BHC covers a 10-acre campus plus six ambulatory care sites, with buildings devoted to inpatient, ambulatory, long-term care, senior living and emergency medicine, and has the latest technology for services to the community.

The HOPE Program was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. The HOPE Program's application demonstrated the clear need for professional development for its staff. Additionally, The HOPE Program's mental health provider partner has extensive experience with community collaboration.

Voces Latinas

Voces Latinas (VL) was founded in 2003 with the mission to reduce the rate of HIV transmission and violence among immigrant Latinas by empowering, educating, and providing leadership and advocacy trainings. Through collaborative relationships, VL also connects immigrant Latinas/os with culturally and linguistically sensitive resources and services to address their immediate needs including intimate partner and gender-based violence, mental health issues, immigration, feelings of isolation, and HIV/AIDS.

Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens (CCBQ) will train Voces Latinas staff in motivational interviewing, mental health first aid, psychoeducation, and mental health screening so that they may be applied to health and immigrant legal services for the HIV-positive Latina community in Queens. Through C2C, Voces Latinas will also build a robust referral system with CCBQ. The Behavioral Health program of CCBQ offers a full range of mental health, clinical and support services, housing, treatment for those dually diagnosed with both mental health and substance use needs, and housing and support for individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

Voces Latinas was one of the top scoring organizations resulting from the CNCS-approved subgrantee selection process, executed by the Mayor's Fund and partners. Their application reflected a strong outreach plan and rationale for providing mental health services to a difficult to reach population.