

Our Core Values, Mission, Vision and Strategy for 2020-2021



Core Values

Science, equity and compassion



Mission

Protect and promote the health of all New Yorkers



Vision

A city where all New Yorkers can realize their full health potential, regardless of who they are, where they are from or where they live.



Strategy

The Health Department must meet the moment. New York City is experiencing multiple health crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, racism, and unprecedented social and economic instability. Although our public health work reaches beyond these immediate crises, we must focus our resources and attention on the COVID-19 response and make it our central priority, anchoring the rest of our work.

Our three COVID-19 priorities are:

- 1 Prevent or rapidly address a resurgence in COVID-19 infections
- 2 Plan and prepare to vaccinate New Yorkers for influenza and then COVID-19, partnering with New York City communities to inform effective local strategies
- 3 Address “parallel pandemics” related to COVID-19, including other infections (such as tuberculosis) or chronic diseases (such as heart disease), mental health, overdose, racism, and social and economic instability

Beyond COVID-19, our core public health work continues.

Our priorities are:

- **Promote Healthy Childhoods:** We will make sure the youngest New Yorkers are able to grow up healthy, regardless of their household income, race, ethnicity, gender or gender identity, sexual orientation, immigration status, or neighborhood.
- **Create Healthier Neighborhoods:** We will give New Yorkers the information and resources they need to live healthy lives, and work to remove the health inequities between New York City neighborhoods that are the result of structural racism such as segregation and disinvestment.
- **Implement Anti-Racist Public Health Practice:** We will reduce inequities in health outcomes, including undoing inequities based on race and ethnicity in the social determinants of health regarding housing, violence, trauma and incarceration.
- **Improve Public Health Surveillance Systems:** We will build upon our existing cutting-edge surveillance systems to monitor trends and rapidly respond to emerging concerns.
- **Bridge Public Health and Health Care:** We will work across public health and health care to address the physical, mental and social determinants of health at every stage of life, with a specific focus on infant and maternal health.