

### Quick Updates

- *Project Staff hired*
- *Emergency Services Utilization Formed*
- *Geographic Information Systems Workgroup has received IRB approval to begin using SPARCS Data*
- *Health Insurance Plan Analysis Workgroup has received approval from NYSDOH to use Medicaid encounter data from insurers.*
- *Steering Committee Meeting Conference Call Scheduled for March 2, 2010*
- *B-HIP Membership Meeting is scheduled for early May 2010*

### Project Staff

Priya Pasram is Project Coordinator. Previously, Ms. Pasram worked as the project coordinator for the Brooklyn Diabetes Task Force. She can be reached by email at [priya.pasram@downstate.edu](mailto:priya.pasram@downstate.edu)

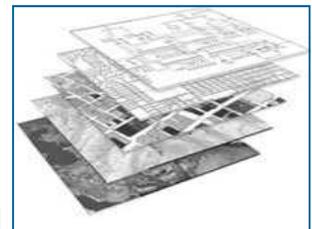
Paule M. Seide, has begun work as the project Administrative Assistant. Ms. Seide has extensive experience and is tri-lingual in English, French and Haitian Creole. She can be reached at 718-613.8382 or alternatively at [paule.seide@downstate.edu](mailto:paule.seide@downstate.edu).

### in the works

B-HIP is underway. A Steering Committee (Chaired by Grace Wong MBA/MPH, Principal Investigator of this grant) and three work-groups have been assembled—Geographical Information System (GIS) of Healthcare Resources in Central and Northern Brooklyn, Health Insurance Data Analysis, and the Emergency Services Utilization and Ambulatory Care Sensitive (ACS) Conditions.

Your participation is encouraged as the project work-groups begin to meet. Please contact Ms. Paule Seide, by phone at 718.613.8382 or email

[Paule.Seide@downstate.edu](mailto:Paule.Seide@downstate.edu) for further information.



### Work Group Details

Jeanne Stellman, PHD, Professor at the School of Public Health at SUNY Downstate is leading the Geographic Information Systems workgroup, developing the comprehensive health service resource inventory. They have received approval from NYS DOH for access to Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative Systems Data (SPARCS).

Michael Gusmano, PHD heads the Insurance Data Analysis Study, focusing on payment and reimbursement issues related to utilization and

Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions are working on finalizing confidentiality agreements with the various insurance companies.

Michael Lucchesi, MD, Chair of Emergency Medicine at SUNY Downstate, lead the Emergency Service Utilization and Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions Workgroup, currently finalizing patient and professional staff surveys for Internal Review Board (IRB) submission.

# The Brooklyn Healthcare Improvement Project

## Project Overview

### Founding Members:

1199 National Benefit Fund  
Aetna  
Bedford/Stuyvesant Family Health Center  
Brookdale University Hospital & Medical Center  
Brooklyn Borough President's Office  
Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce  
Brooklyn Perinatal Network, Inc.  
Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center  
Church Avenue Merchants Block Association, Inc  
Caribbean Women's Health Association  
Christopher Blenman Senior Center  
Coalition of Voluntary Behavioral Health Agencies  
Community Board 8  
Emblem—HIP/GHI  
Empire BCBS  
HealthFirst  
Interfaith Medical Center  
Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center  
Kings County Hospital Center  
MetroPlus  
Neighborhood Health Providers  
New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene  
Primary Care Development Corporation  
St. Gabriel's Senior Center  
SUNY Downstate Medical Center/University Hospital of Brooklyn  
SUNY Downstate School of Public Health  
United Health Care  
United Hospital Fund  
Woodhull Medical & Mental Health Center

The New York State Department of Health awarded the HEAL NY 9 grant to SUNY Downstate Medical Center for the following goals:

1. Development of a comprehensive community health planning process with diversified stakeholders to articulate the vision for health care in the communities of Central and Northern Brooklyn and how that vision is accomplished;
2. Study of issues influencing emergency department service overuse.
3. Collection of relevant data from public sources and proprietary claims information from insurers and hospitals to analyze primary care service model/ capacity/availability/utilization, in Brooklyn neighborhoods with high rates of ambulatory care sensitive hospital admissions (ASC).
4. Development of a dynamic, cutting edge information reservoir which can be continuously refreshed for future planning needs.

The grant, titled the Brooklyn Healthcare Improvement Project or B-HIP is scheduled to be completed by February 28 2011.

In collaboration with our partners from different sectors, B-HIP seeks to develop a comprehensive health resources inventory in Central and Northern Brooklyn, collect and analyze relevant data from various sources, and develop a comprehensive community health planning body. Once we completed data collection and developed this unique inventory, we will work with the health planning body on what recommendations to make that will shape practices and policies on health services use, improving health outcomes, and curbing costs. The data collection and resource inventory will be developed with three separate but linked approaches.

First, an analytic approach:

- Data review of emergency service utilization at the six participating hospitals, including interviews with providers and patients
- Collecting relevant data from public sources and proprietary claims information from insurers and hospitals to analyze primary care patterns including capacity, availability and utilization.

Secondly is a canvassing approach:

- Teams of 2 to 3 individuals will canvass the neighborhoods of Central and Northern Brooklyn identifying provider locations.
- Once identified, information will be gathered regarding services offered, service utilization, languages spoken, hours of operation, insurance and charity care policies, educational and professional qualifications, linkages with other facilities, etc.

Third a technological approach:

- All information gathered will be translated into a map creating a innovative Geographic Information System (GIS) forming the health resources inventory that can be used by all stakeholders for research and health planning needs.

Within the next month Dr. Howard Berliner, Ms. Dorothy Fyfe, and/or Ms. Priya Pasram will begin contacting and meeting with the various community partners for the purposes of discussing the project implementation and expectations and forming a more comprehensive insight into the services and resources offered by our community partners.

Please contact Ms. Paule Seide for further information.