

## ALERT: Opportunities for Community-Based Organizations and Social Services in Healthcare

The integration of healthcare and aging services is a strategic priority for the New York City Department for the Aging (DFTA). Given the increased federal, state, and local attention over the past year to the importance of social determinants of health (SDH), we wanted to keep the aging-services community abreast of recent announcements on this topic. DFTA plans to continue to seek partnerships, both locally and at the state level, to help push our goal of creating better synergies between healthcare entities and aging services community-based organizations (CBOs).

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

***MRT Innovations in Social Determinants of Health Initiative:*** As the move towards value-based payment (VBP) continues, New York State's Department of Health (DOH) has required all Medicaid VBP contractors to identify a social determinant of health relevant to the population they serve and contract with a CBO to address that need. In response, DOH's newly formed Bureau of Social Determinants of Health has launched an initiative designed to help healthcare providers, managed care organizations, and DSRIP Performing Provider Systems (PPS) identify innovative ideas for how to effectively address social determinants of health for their Medicaid members across the state.

DOH released the Request for Innovation (RFI) in early May 2018 to solicit proposals addressing at least one of five SDH categories—education, social/community context, health/healthcare, neighborhood/environment, and economic stability—but additional points will be awarded to those proposals that specifically address the needs of young children and complex families. Proposals will be put into three categories—by Tier 1 CBOs, by all other CBOs, and by other providers/organizations including IT solutions—and evaluated based on: potential return on investment; scalability; use of evidence-based practices; relevance to the Medicaid population; and how quickly the strategy could be launched.

Proposals must be submitted by June 15, 2018, and winners will be announced in August 2018. All proposals will be made public and evaluated by a team of national experts, healthcare representatives, foundations, and patient/member advocates; only those top proposals will receive special recognition. Winners will then have an opportunity to present their ideas directly to PPS, MCOs and VBP contractors at a conference that DOH will host in fall 2018. (*Note: There is no financial reward associated with this opportunity; winners will not receive funding but rather will be given the opportunity to publicly present their proposals.*)

***Bronx Health Access CBO Innovation Fund:*** On May 9<sup>th</sup>, Bronx Health Access announced the second call for proposals for its CBO Innovation Fund. Applications, which are due on June 11<sup>th</sup>, are for one-year demonstration projects addressing at least one social determinant of health, designed to reduce health disparities in the South and Central Bronx. Grants are available in two types of funding levels: \$75,000 for sustainability-building and \$150,000 for projects with impact on patient health outcomes. Only those Tier 1 and Tier 2 CBOs who are members of the Bronx Health Access PPS are eligible to apply.

*In between publication of our quarterly Healthcare Newsletters, DFTA will send out alerts of time-sensitive announcements relevant to the aging population and healthcare. Email questions and comments to Meghan, DFTA Division of Planning and Technology, at [MShineman@aging.nyc.gov](mailto:MShineman@aging.nyc.gov).*

## Resources

**ACL Business Acumen for CBOs**: The Administration for Community Living launched this initiative in 2012 to strength the aging and disability networks.

**IMPAQ International**: This research and consulting firm offers resources on older adults and social determinants of health.

**N4A's Aging and Disability Business Institute**: This institute focuses on connecting community-based organizations from the aging and disability sector with the healthcare system.

**NCOA's Roadmap to Community-Integrated Health Care**: Provides toolkits and other resources to help aging, public health, and disability professionals make linkages with the healthcare sector.



# CommunityCare Link

Health programs older people need, community providers you can trust.

**HEALTH PROGRAMS OLDER PEOPLE NEED. COMMUNITY PROVIDERS YOU CAN TRUST.**

CommunityCare Link (CCL) is an exciting new network, housed under the Aging in New York Fund (ANYF) with initial funding from the NYC Department for the Aging (DFTA). CCL connects health plans' (and other payers') older adult members with the high quality, evidence-based health promotion services they need to remain healthy and active in their communities.

The network works with healthcare organizations, physicians, and community-based organizations to seamlessly and efficiently deliver these services in an accessible, culturally appropriate, and cost-effective

manner. When healthcare organizations buy these specific services, they get not only efficient delivery of evidence-based programs, but the benefits of wrap-around care and positive reputation in our communities. Find out how you can be part of CommunityCare Link network: [www.CCLink.org](http://www.CCLink.org) |

