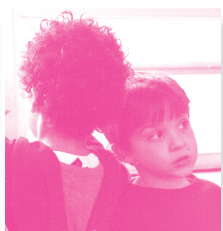


Northern Manhattan Community Voices Collaborative



Who we are

The Northern Manhattan Community Voices Collaborative was established in 1999 when the W. K. Kellogg Foundation launched the *Community Voices: Health Care for the Underserved* national initiative. The Collaborative, with the leadership of *Columbia University's School of Dental and Oral Surgery* in partnership with *Alianza Dominicana Inc., New York Presbyterian Hospital, Mailman School of Public Health*, and *Harlem Hospital Center*, strives to address the growing barriers to care for the uninsured.

Who we serve

Community Voices serves the Central Harlem and Washington Heights-Inwood communities through an unprecedented partnership of over 35 community-based organizations, health care providers, social/human services providers, faith-based organizations and a variety of neighboring institutions.

Our mission

Northern Manhattan Community Voices Collaborative aims to increase access and improve the quality of health care for the underserved by developing community-academic partnerships and mobilizing resources to address the underlying policies that affect the health of resident in northern Manhattan.

Our goals

The Northern Manhattan Community Voices Collaborative has established four goals to fulfill our mission. They are:

- *To increase enrollment of children and families in Medicaid and Child Health Plus Insurance*
- *To develop insurance options for the working poor*
- *To increase access to difficult-to-cover services*
- *To develop sustainable health promotion and disease prevention programs*

What we do

In an effort to actualize our first goal, Community Voices in collaboration with Alianza Dominicana, Inc trains Community Health Outreach Workers to enroll residents in Medicaid and Child Health Plus. Enrollment has been facilitated by the Greater New York Hospital Foundation's (GNYHF) HITE service – an on-line tool that allows professionals to connect their clients with public, private, and community-based health care resources. For the workers and small business owners who fall into health insurance gaps, Community Voices partnered with Community Premier Plus, Inc to develop Health Gap - a health insurance proposal designed for employees and owners of small businesses in Northern Manhattan. To meet our third goal, Community Voices has been instrumental in expanding dental services to neighborhood primary care practices and school-based clinics. To increase awareness of the issues and challenges faced by providers and consumers in the mental health and substance abuse field we developed a policy paper entitled *Mental Health: The Neglected Epidemic*. In addition to conducting wellness programs, Community Voices coordinates health promotion programs to meet community health concerns including asthma, smoking cessation and nutrition with a focus on disease prevention.

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