Neighborhood Tabulation Areas: Enhancing Community Health Improvement Capacity in NYC Through Shared Information at the Small Area Level

New York, NY

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

“The vision for our project is to develop a tool for population health surveillance that can be used to examine social determinants of health within New York City communities.”

OVERVIEW

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH) and its partners are creating a comprehensive dataset that encompasses small area health profiles that will reflect the impact of social, economic, and other factors on community health outcomes. Project analysts are geocoding and analyzing newly obtained and existing data from multiple sectors at the Neighborhood Tabulation Area (NTA) level (approximately 30,000 residents), increasing granularity to help identify and refine specific health needs. The NTA-level profiles will enable enhanced analysis, monitoring, and planning to promote the health of all New Yorkers and reduce health disparities in high-need communities.

PROJECT APPROACH

This NYC DOHMH and its partners will:

- **Engage key stakeholder groups:** Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP) Steering Committee partners and workgroups of data and policy experts will discuss project use cases and help select priority indicators.

- **Develop a multi-sector ecological dataset:** The data will provide aggregated information about inpatient services and emergency department visits, American Community Survey, Vital Statistics, Medicaid, lab reports, and human services data so that health and social determinants can be analyzed at a more granular, neighborhood level.

- **Share the data with the public via an online tool:** The project team plans to make relevant data accessible to communities through an online tool to help identify opportunities to improve the health of communities.

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<tr>
<th>Target Population</th>
<th>New York City residents</th>
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<tr>
<td>Health Objective</td>
<td>Improve community health outcomes by creating more granular community health profiles that focus on data addressing the leading health issues in NYC</td>
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<td>Geographic Scale</td>
<td>Neighborhood-level within a large metropolitan city</td>
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<td>Sectors</td>
<td>Public health, social/human services, planning, academia/research, philanthropy, local government agencies</td>
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<td>Data Types</td>
<td>Administrative, geographic, personal demographic, service (case management), surveillance</td>
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<td>Data Integration</td>
<td>Use multi-sector data analyzed at the Neighborhood Tabulation Area level to inform community-based population health improvement initiatives</td>
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<td>Project Expertise</td>
<td>Matching numerous datasets to create informative reports with collaborators that address the health of vulnerable populations</td>
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LEAD AGENCY

NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), with its partners, is creating an ecological information system at the Neighborhood Tabulation Area (NTA) level to advance the goals of the NYC Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP) and enhance community health improvement capacity in NYC. They are convening an advisory group of internal and external stakeholders and a workgroup of city health and human service agency data experts.

PARTNERS/COLLABORATORS

NYC Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI) is a data intelligence team that establishes partnerships to leverage the analytical resources of NYC. They are working in partnership with DOHMH to convene staff from the city’s health and human service agencies to collect and geocode administrative data from the Department for the Aging, Administration for Children’s Services, Department of Homeless Services, and Human Resources Administration.

NYC Department of City Planning’s Population Division serves as NYC’s government hub of demographic expertise. This division will share their process for establishing the NTAs and provide American Community Survey data at the NTA level on an ongoing basis.

United Hospital Fund of New York (UHF) is a nonprofit health services research and philanthropic organization providing guidance on the use of the NTA-level data systems to advance transformation of primary care practices.

New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM) is a nonprofit organization that applies research and advocacy to address the health challenges facing urban populations. They are engaging community-based organizations to adapt recommended interventions in their respective communities.

Fund for Public Health in New York (FPHNY) implements programs to address pressing public health needs and develops private sector support. Their role in this project is to secure support for the initiative and collaborate with partners to enhance NYC PHIP activities.

ANTICIPATED IMPACT

Providing comprehensive health profiles of individual communities with increased geographic specificity will enable more robust investigation of numerous health and social determinants that drive health outcomes in particular neighborhoods. The information system will improve both the city’s and communities’ capacity to plan, monitor, and innovate for health improvement. NTA-level data will be made available as a tool to inform and guide future multi-sector public health programs and policies, ultimately informing efforts to reduce health disparities in NYC.

USE CASE SUMMARY

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<th>USE CASE</th>
<th>ACTOR</th>
<th>SYSTEM</th>
<th>OUTCOME</th>
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| Create data infrastructure to support small area analysis and planning | • NYC DOHMH  
• City agencies  
• PHIP partners (NYAM, UHF, FPHNY)  
• Other partners | • Geocoded data warehouses at the NYC DOHMH and CIDI | • Comprehensive small area profiles will be used to identify health needs  
• Results of analyses will be incorporated into programs and policies to reduce health disparities in NYC |

ABOUT DASH

The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is a grantee of Data Across Sectors for Health (DASH) — a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, with direction and technical assistance provided by the Illinois Public Health Institute in partnership with the Michigan Public Health Institute. DASH aims to identify barriers, opportunities, promising practices and indicators of progress for multi-sector collaborations to connect information systems and share data for community health improvement. DASH is a partner of All In: Data for Community Health, a national network of projects with the common goal of improving multi-sector data sharing and collaboration.