



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2023

BronxWorks, Citizens' Committee for Children of New York and Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Health System Receive \$5 Million Grant from NIH to Study Strategies to Facilitate Stronger & More Equitable Health Outcomes in the Bronx through Healthy and Livable Bronx Partnership

Bronx, NY -- [BronxWorks](#), with project partners [Citizens' Committee for Children of New York \(CCC\)](#) and [Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Health System](#), announced today it **received a grant of \$5 million over five years** from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This NIH grant is a first-of-its-kind, community-led research program to study ways to address the underlying social determinants within communities that impact health. Those social determinants can include access to safe spaces, healthy food, employment opportunities, transportation, and quality health care.

The BronxWorks-led Healthy and Livable Bronx Partnership (HLBP), the only funded project in New York City, will engage key public housing and childcare community partners to identify societal structures and strategies that facilitate positive health outcomes for the estimated 21 percent of Bronx children under six-years-old who live at or below the poverty line. The proposed project aims to increase access to credentialed, reliable, and affordable childcare—which is critical to family economic stability, parents' ability to work, and children's healthy development—for working age adults who head families and live in public housing complexes throughout the Bronx.

Through the NIH Common Fund Community Partnerships to Advance Science for Society (ComPASS) program, this collaborative was one of 26 awards NIH made to community organizations, totaling approximately \$171 million over five years. Through these awards, ComPASS will enable research into sustainable solutions that promote health equity to create lasting change in communities across the nation. This award is especially significant to the Bronx, which has a diverse and resilient population with a history of social activism but is also one of the poorest urban counties in the country with some of the poorest health outcomes.

NIH will gain experience and insight into how to support successful future community-led health research. Each project will also contribute valuable data to a growing body of knowledge about social determinants of health and structural inequities.

"The ComPASS research model harnesses diverse perspectives and expertise to examine systemic factors that impact the health of individuals, communities, and populations," **said NIH Acting Director Lawrence Tabak, D.D.S., Ph.D.** "We are excited to see how results from these awards exemplify the transformative power of community-driven research."

"For more than 50 years, BronxWorks has supported better socio-economic and health outcomes for more than 60,000 Bronx residents annually through innovative programs that provide the tools and resources needed to cultivate stronger communities. BronxWorks is committed to breaking the cycle of

poverty. The Healthy and Livable Bronx Partnership will provide insight into the intricacies of generational poverty, with a particular focus on families with young children,” **said Eileen Torres, BronxWorks Executive Director.** “We are proud to continue partnering with Montefiore and the CCC in this new initiative as we lift lives and build a better future. We sincerely thank the NIH for this award.”

“We are honored to work alongside our partners at BronxWorks and Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Health System to develop the Healthy and Livable Bronx Partnership and thank the NIH for recognizing this important opportunity to inform more equitable outcomes in the Bronx,” **said Jennifer March, Executive Director at Citizens' Committee for Children of New York (CCC).** “From CCC's research, policy analysis, and civic engagement, we understand the vital role that access to affordable childcare plays in supporting child development and the economic security of caregivers and families; this project will deepen our collective knowledge and contribute to the health and well-being of children and families in the Bronx.”

“We are very pleased to support our long-time collaborators, BronxWorks and CCC, as they lead this important initiative to create structural change to benefit children and their families in the Bronx,” **said Paul Meissner, MSPH, Associate, Department of Family and Social Medicine, and Director, Research Program Development at Montefiore Health System's care management organization.** “For more than 100 years, Montefiore Einstein has been studying the impact of social determinants of health on our borough residents and we look forward to deepening our partnership with our colleagues and community members on this research-informed program.”

“It is heartening to see that the work that BronxWorks and CCC have been doing in the Bronx for many years is getting this recognition and support,” **said Earle Chambers, PhD, MPH, Director of Research in the Department of Family and Social Medicine and Co-Director of Community Engagement for the Harold and Muriel Block Institute for Clinical and Translational Research at Montefiore Einstein (ICTR).** “This collaboration aligns with many initiatives that the ICTR supports as part of its commitment to health equity and community-engaged research in the Bronx and beyond.”

The ComPASS program is funded by the NIH Common Fund and managed collaboratively by NIH staff from the Common Fund; National Cancer Institute; National Institute of Mental Health; National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities; National Institute of Nursing Research; National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; and NIH Office of Research on Women's Health, with many of the NIH Institutes Centers and Offices providing input and participating in program development and management. More information is available on the ComPASS program website: <https://commonfund.nih.gov/compass>.

To learn more about ComPASS, watch this brief video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PVQVYQBh6KM>. For more information on BronxWorks, visit www.BronxWorks.org.

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About BronxWorks

With more than 50 locations throughout the borough, BronxWorks has worked from the ground up in Bronx communities for over 50 years to help residents build healthy, stable futures for themselves and their neighborhoods. BronxWorks helps individuals and families improve their economic and social well-being. From toddlers to seniors, we feed, shelter, teach, and support our neighbors to build a stronger community. For more information about BronxWorks, visit www.bronxworks.org.

About Citizens' Committee for Children of New York (CCC)

Citizens' Committee for Children of New York (CCC) educates and mobilizes New Yorkers to make the city a better place for children. CCC's advocacy combines public policy research and data analysis with civic engagement. CCC casts light on the issues, educates the public, engages allies and identifies and promotes practical solutions to ensure that every New York City child is healthy, housed, educated and safe. For more information about CCC, visit www.cccnewyork.org.

About Albert Einstein College of Medicine

[Albert Einstein College of Medicine](http://www.albert-einstein-college-of-medicine.org) is one of the nation's premier centers for research, medical education, and clinical investigation. Einstein is home to nearly 1,000 students and more than 1,900 full-time faculty members. In 2022, Einstein received more than \$202 million in awards from the National Institutes of Health. This includes the funding of major [research centers](#) at Einstein in cancer, aging, intellectual development disorders, diabetes, clinical and translational research, and AIDS. With [Montefiore](#), Einstein advances clinical and translational research to accelerate the pace at which new discoveries become the treatments and therapies that benefit patients. For more information, please visit einsteinmed.edu.

About Montefiore Health System

Montefiore Health System is one of New York's premier academic health systems and is a recognized leader in providing exceptional quality and personalized, accountable care to approximately three million people in communities across the Bronx, Westchester and the Hudson Valley. It is comprised of 10 hospitals, including the Children's Hospital at Montefiore, Burke Rehabilitation Hospital and more than 200 outpatient ambulatory care sites. For more information, please visit www.montefiore.org.

About the NIH Common Fund: The NIH Common Fund encourages collaboration and supports a series of exceptionally high-impact, NIH-wide programs. Common Fund programs are managed by the Office of Strategic Coordination in the Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives in the NIH Office of the Director in partnership with the NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices. More information is available at the Common Fund website: <https://commonfund.nih.gov>.

About the National Institutes of Health (NIH): NIH, the nation's medical research agency, includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting basic, clinical, and translational medical research, and is investigating the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases.

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