



## Northern Manhattan CARE Collaborative Issue Profile Working Group Guide

### 1. Outdoor Air Quality

- a. **Issue Profile Description:** We will examine the overwhelming evidence linking outdoor air pollutants, which are primarily the components of the combustion of carbon based fuels, and their impact the overall health outcomes of vulnerable populations in Northern Manhattan. We will focus primarily on black carbon and particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)

### 2. Indoor Air Quality

- a. **Issue Profile Description:** We will examine a couple issues within the indoor environment and how these conditions impact health outcomes of Northern Manhattan's most vulnerable populations. We will examine the impact of environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), mold and indoor exposures associated with endocrine disrupting compounds.

### 3. Pest and Pesticides

- a. **Issue Profile Description:** We will look at the various sources of exposures to pesticides within the indoor and outdoor environments. There will be some overlap with information presented in the Indoor Air Quality Issue Profile. We will examine issues related to a commonly used indoor pesticide banned in 2001 Chlorpyrifos; examine health impacts of commonly used outdoor pesticide to kill rats (still to be determined); and finally we will examine the effectiveness of IPM.

### 4. Built Environment and Land-Use

- a. **Issue Profile Description:** Examining the links between the environmental interactions between created "spaces" and their impact on health. We will explore the impact of two very important and critical factors that influence health outcomes. The impact of land use decisions on health has become an important factor in the field of public health. We will explore the impact of planning and land-use on air quality which directly relates to asthma; the impact of access or lack of access to open spaces on obesity; and exposure to a number of endocrine disrupting substances that are present everywhere in our daily lives.

### 5. Solid Waste

- a. **Issue Profile Description:** The collection and management of solid waste within New York City is a complicated system to understand. We aim to examine some of the nuances of that system. The exploration of all issues related to solid waste will occur through an approach which will address research needs in the

following key areas: generation of garbage, how it is picked up and processed, and where it is deposited. An overall understanding of who the key players are and what regulations exist to manage waste within the city. The public health cost of a broken solid waste system will be explored by making the connections between waste and public health outcomes.

## **6. Environmental Health Service Delivery**

- a. **Issue Profile Description:** Who receives my call when I dial 311? What is the processing time for a complaint? What agency do I need to contact if I am having problems with my landlord or if I need to find a lead safe house? The aforementioned questions and many others came up in a number of our community meetings. We will examine the different agencies within New York City that meet the needs of our growing population. The aim of this profile is to understand what and how services related to environmental public health are delivered to the people of Northern Manhattan.

## **7. Access to Healthy Food**

- a. **Issue Profile Description:** The overwhelming connections between accessing health and fresh foods and the climbing rates of obesity are cited in a number of studies. The lack of access to healthy and nutritious foods in Northern Manhattan has been identified through a variety of sources. We will outline the issue of access to food by examining only a part of the overwhelming problem with the lack of fresh and health food choices in Northern Manhattan's four communities. Our research will combine information about access to supermarkets, number of fast food restaurants in relation to "other" food establishments and the health outcomes associated with obesity within Northern Manhattan.

## **8. Stress**

- a. **Issue Profile Description:** Usually not defined as an environmental health issue, stress was identified in all four community meetings as a factor contributing to adverse health outcomes in Northern Manhattan's diverse neighborhoods. We will explore the growing body of evidence that supports the link between stress and adverse health outcomes. The overwhelming burden of environmental health hazard exposures that are felt within environmental justice communities and how people deal while dealing with cumulative exposures will be explored in this profile.

## **9. Lead Poisoning**

- a. **Issue Profile Description:** Although cases of lead poisoning have decreased nationwide a disparity exist within a variety of populations for a number of different reasons. Through the exploration of lead poisoning rates in Northern Manhattan communities we can begin to understand the overall burden of exposure to lead in housing stock within our four neighborhoods. We will explore the lead poisoning and screening rates while examining the multitude of consequences of childhood and adult lead poisoning. This profile will also have some overlap with the Indoor Air Quality Issue Profile.