

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 26th, 2014

Partnership for a Healthier NYC Selected for National Public Health Leadership Program

New York, New York – The Partnership for a Healthier New York City (the Partnership) have been selected to participate in the National Leadership Academy for the Public’s Health (NLAPH) program, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. NLAPH is a national program focused on improving population health by working with multi-sector leadership teams and training these teams through an applied, team-based collaborative leadership development model. The program is implemented by the Center for Health Leadership and Practice (CHLP), a center of the Public Health Institute, and will provide training and support throughout 2014.

“This program will impart population health teams with the skills to lead across sectors and collaboratively solve complex population health problems in innovative ways,” said Carmen Rita Nevarez MD, MPH, Vice President for External Relations and CHLP’s Director. “These are the types of leaders who will ultimately be able to drive critical efforts, such as the adoption of evidence-based policies and practices at the community level, which can have a tangible impact on health outcomes.”

The Partnership team will work on an applied health leadership project that tackles an important community health issue with the goal of creating environments in which people can more easily make the healthy choice. Guided by feedback from communities across New York City, the team will focus specifically on physical activity in schools by promoting Active Design (www.nyc.gov/adg) principles. The goal is to create a comprehensive toolkit that provides schools and other stakeholders with resources to increase opportunities for physical activity among students by making opportunities safe, appealing and accessible. The core leadership team includes Lisa Donlan of District 1 Community Education Council, Sarah Wolf and Lesley Stalvey of the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), Emma Rodgers of Bronx Health REACH/Institute for Family Health, Devin Madden of Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Earl Brown, Director of the Partnership. The extended team includes representatives from organizations such as the New York Academy of Medicine, Asphalt Green, the DOHMH District Public Health Offices and school wellness representatives. Assembling a collaborative team whose representatives cut across education, health, transportation and community sectors will lend itself to the development of a toolkit that looks at this issue from a holistic point of view and provides solutions to the barriers involved.

“Students perform better and their learning communities are improved with greater physical activity, yet the barriers to access can be great in many places,” says Lisa Donlan of District 1 Community Education Council. “An Active Design toolkit that enables the community members themselves to identify and address those barriers could make the difference from ‘No’ to ‘Go’ when it comes to increased physical activity in schools today.”

On March 9th, the team travelled to Atlanta, Georgia to meet with their NLAPH official coach and other program participants. Following this initial program kick-off, NLAPH will continue to provide support and team building trainings at no cost to the participants or the community to assist the Partnership team in successfully addressing Active Design in schools throughout 2014.

For more information, contact:

Devin Madden, Project Manager

The Partnership for a Healthier Manhattan at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

devin.madden@mountsinai.org

212-659-9559