

CLINICAL- COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Health is about far more than health care. A number of factors outside the hospital or doctor’s office—like inadequate housing, unemployment, and poverty—can profoundly affect physical and emotional well-being. Yet these “social determinants of health” are not yet universally addressed in the delivery of health care.

1 in 5
adults suffer from a
mental health disorder,
such as depression
and anxiety, yet
80%
remain undiagnosed

**Food
insecurity,**
unstable housing,
unemployment,
and poverty can
derail medical
treatment plans

**Adversity
and
stress**
in early childhood can
cause long-term damage
to the physical and
mental health
of young children

Working with the State to Advance Children’s Health

The first 1,000 days of a child’s life, when 85 percent of brain development occurs, are critical. If a young child’s needs are not met during this period, the effects can be tragic and long-lasting and can extend into adulthood.

Which is why New York State introduced the First 1,000 Days on Medicaid initiative, a host of new cross-sector programs for children up to age three. New York’s Medicaid program, which spearheads the initiative, covers about 60 percent of the state’s very young children. While Medicaid can make a unique contribution in preparing children for lifelong health and success, reaching that goal is only possible if all child-serving sectors work together.



United Hospital Fund guided development of the initiative’s proposals. After soliciting ideas from 250 participating experts in child development, child welfare, pediatrics, mental health, and education, UHF authored a 10-point plan to improve early

childhood health and well-being. The plan was included in New York State’s Fiscal Year 2019 enacted budget and Governor Cuomo’s 2018 State of the State address.

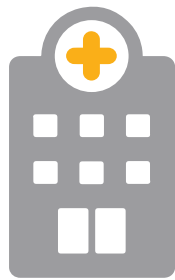
UHF continues to play a vital role in supporting the state’s implementation of interventions.

“This is a perfect example of the power of partnerships,” said UHF President Anthony Shih, MD. “By focusing on preventing problems before they start, working collaboratively across sectors, and drawing on a broad range of experts, New York is again leading the way on how government can tackle tough public challenges to make a difference in vulnerable lives.”

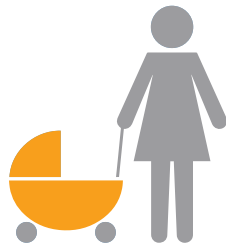


UHF forged alliances between the health care system, social services, and communities to promote a comprehensive approach to helping patients and families live healthy, long, and productive lives.

In 2018, we...



Supported 14 primary care sites and 23 community-based organizations in developing partnerships to address social needs.



Advanced the well-being of children in New York City by making 19 grants (in concert with the Altman Foundation and The New York Community Trust) that enabled 11 health care systems and 17 community organizations to implement proven interventions addressing social needs. During the first phase of the project, more than 5,500 families were screened, and more than one-third were found to have one or more social needs related to children's health and development.



Enhanced care for vulnerable populations by working with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to help federally qualified health centers and community-based organizations jointly respond to the social needs of their patients and clients. The initiative was carried out as part of the New York City Population Health Improvement Program, which promotes health equity and better health outcomes for New Yorkers.



Strengthened the growing connection between health and housing by supporting research on homelessness risk detection and intervention and by backing a pilot program to identify and house patients with high rates of emergency department use.