



# IN THE COMMUNITY 2022

Our Commitment to Children's Health







Cover art: *Live, Love, Life . . . in New York City* © 2018 Charles Fazzino. Hassenfeld Children's Hospital. NYU Langone Art Program and Collection.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE Dean and CEO



## Dear Friends,

Children are our most valuable investment. Our commitment to children's health is part of our long-term vision to create a healthier New York. As a testament to our commitment to New Yorkers, NYU Langone Hospitals was recognized as #1 in New York and #3 in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report's* 2022–2023 “Best Hospitals” rankings. In September 2022, NYU Langone Health was recognized by Vizient as the #1 comprehensive academic medical center and the #1 ambulatory system for quality and safety in the United States. When combined with the recent NYU Grossman School of Medicine ranking by *U.S. News & World Report* as the #2 medical school in the United States, I believe that NYU Langone can rightfully claim the mantle as the top academic health system in the country.

This achievement is all the more impressive given our recent growth and the diversity of our hospitals and ambulatory sites, and the communities they serve. It reflects one standard of care that is consistently supported by our faculty and staff. When looking at a number of the most respected ratings systems together, NYU Langone consistently comes out on top in New York State and New York City across Leapfrog, *U.S. News and World Report*, Vizient, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Taken collectively, these accolades attest to our overall strength and outstanding dedication to quality and safety.

Being #1 in New York includes the exceptional care we provide to children throughout NYU Langone Health. The Department

of Pediatrics at NYU Langone Health has established a wide range of pediatric-specific specialty programs critical to the delivery of innovative care for children. Our specialists treat and manage pediatric conditions in our world-class facilities, including Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone, where last year we successfully completed our first pediatric heart transplant and a life-changing pediatric lung transplant. Hassenfeld Children's Hospital is also home to Sala Institute for Child and Family Centered Care, which offers support services to personalize the healthcare experience of every child and family.

Beyond NYU Langone's clinical expertise, we offer numerous community programs and services aimed at improving the health and wellness of children in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods. Our evidence-based interventions are supported by research and offer lessons for policymakers to implement change on a larger scale. By supporting healthy development and environments for children, we are also improving the health of families and communities.

At the Family Health Centers at NYU Langone, we offer high-quality care to children regardless of a family's ability to pay. Clinicians provide expert care to children at Family Health Centers locations, as well as within numerous schools throughout New York City through our School Health Program. Community-based programs at our Family Health Centers help prepare children for school and teach parents and caregivers ways to build stable and caring relationships with their children.

While being recognized as #1 in New York is a great honor, no single ranking accurately reflects our exceptionalism in everything we do. Providing exceptional care requires an exceptional long-term vision. As we work to foster healthy behaviors and reduce risk factors for disease, we begin by supporting children in the communities we serve. In the end, it's all about delivering the highest-quality care, for our oldest to our youngest New Yorkers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert I. Grossman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Robert I. Grossman, MD  
Dean and CEO

## MEASURING OUR IMPACT:

# Community Benefit Contributions

**\$1.3 BILLION**  
IN COMMUNITY  
BENEFIT CONTRIBUTIONS

NYU Langone's total community benefit contribution of \$1.3 billion in investment equates to more than 20% of the health system's total expenditures for our fiscal year September 1, 2020, through August 31, 2021. This meaningful contribution is a testament to our commitment to provide excellent care in the communities we serve. Notably, the largest component of our investment is in charity and underfunded care. NYU Langone's substantive and generous charity-care policy ensures that patients do not have to delay or forgo critical medical treatment due to the inability to cover the cost.

**\$715.3 MILLION**

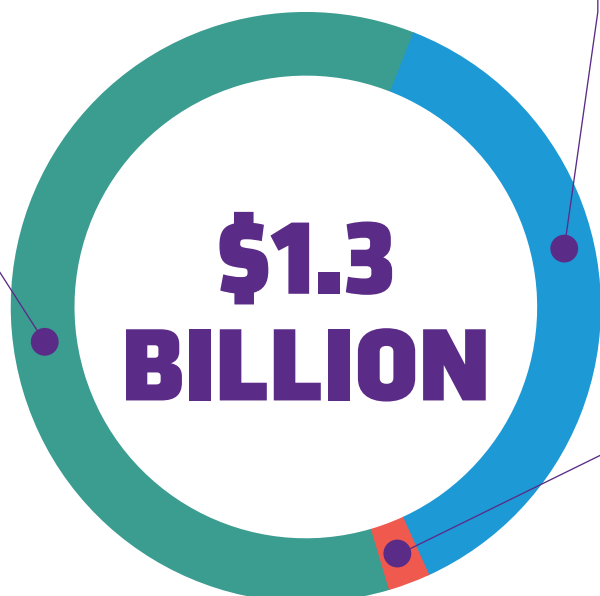
### CHARITY AND UNDERFUNDED CARE +

- Unreimbursed cost of care for Medicaid beneficiaries: **\$339.1 M**
- Charity care: **\$56.8 M**
- Other subsidized care: **\$20.2 M**
- Medicare shortfall: **\$299.2 M**

**\$534.1 MILLION**

### PHYSICIAN TRAINING AND RESEARCH SUPPORT +

- Health profession education programs: **\$346.7 M**
- Medical research funding: **\$187.4 M**



**\$33.02 MILLION**

### COMMUNITY HEALTH CONTRIBUTIONS +

- Community health improvement: **\$32.2 M**
- Cash in-kind: **\$0.02 M**
- Environmental improvements: **\$0.6 M**
- Community support: **\$0.2 M**



## MEETING CHILDREN'S

# Complex Care Needs

### Children and Families are at the Center of All We Do



**HASSENFELD  
CHILDREN'S  
HOSPITAL  
AT NYU LANGONE**

Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone is committed to providing the most advanced medical care possible, in a family-centered environment. The clinical care and patient support offered at Hassenfeld Children's Hospital is one way that NYU Langone advances the health of children in our community

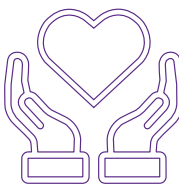
Doctors throughout Hassenfeld Children's Hospital care for all types of childhood conditions, from the most common to the most complex. Hassenfeld Children's Hospital launched new pediatric heart and lung transplant programs, offering children with certain complex conditions an improved second chance at life. When children receive care at Hassenfeld Children's Hospital, Sala Institute for Child and Family Centered Care provides support services and resilience programs, family partnership programs, and safety and quality initiatives that advance the health and well-being of children and families.

Hassenfeld Children's Hospital is home to more than 400 doctors representing more than 35 specialties. Care locations span doctors' offices, specialty centers, and inpatient sites, including Hassenfeld Children's Hospital—34th Street, the newest children's hospital in New York City.



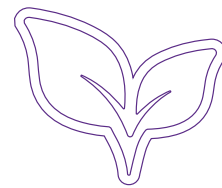
#### **A Home for Specialty Care**

Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone is home to more than 400 doctors representing more than 35 specialties.



#### **A Leader in Equality**

Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone is designated an LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Leader by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.



#### **A Friend to the Environment**

Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone is the first children's hospital in New York State to achieve the status of LEED Platinum Certification.

## Sala Institute for Child and Family Centered Care at Hassenfeld Children's Hospital

Since its founding in 2013, Sala Institute for Child and Family Centered Care has profoundly influenced and complemented excellence in clinical care across Hassenfeld Children's Hospital and supported healthcare providers to deliver the best child- and family-centered care with the highest safety standards. Family-centered care is a team effort that includes parents, grandparents, siblings, and everyone who is involved in caring for the patient. Providers partner with families every step of the way—from the clinical office, to the exam room, to the bedside—to make decisions that put families first.



The Sala Youth Advisory Council at Hassenfeld Children's Hospital works with healthcare providers to give input about the care experience.

### Youth Advisory Council

The Sala Youth Advisory Council is one of the Sala Family Partnership Programs that influence patient experience. The council is made up of teens who provide insights and ideas to improve the healthcare experience at Hassenfeld. For example, teens in the council worked with the Quality and Safety Program to create strategies for fall prevention to improve patients' safety during hospital stays. NYU Langone invites patients to provide guidance and feedback to improve the quality, safety, and experience of care from a patient perspective through a variety of Patient Advisory Councils.

### Child Life Specialists

Child life specialists are part of Sala's Child and Family Support Services and Resilience Programs at Hassenfeld. They encourage play and activities that allow children to express themselves and better understand their illness or treatment. These approaches facilitate each child's positive experiences, build confidence, and ease anxiety. Children in the hospital also receive bedside visits from child life specialists, giving them the opportunity to participate in creative arts therapies, horticulture therapy, pet therapy, and school support.



Child life specialists help children learn through medical play, such as a doll-size MRI machine and a teddy bear clinic where kids take their teddy bears through the procedures of getting a checkup, which helps them feel more powerful and in control.

# Transplant Medicine

## NYU Langone Transplant Institute and Hassenfeld Children's Hospital Pediatric Heart and Lung Transplant Programs

The NYU Langone Transplant Institute and Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone have launched new pediatric heart and lung transplant programs as part of the NYU Langone Transplant Institute, a recognized leader in transplant surgery and research.

As part of the NYU Langone Transplant Institute, the Pediatric Heart Failure and Transplant Program benefits from the institute's innovative research and renowned expertise. Patients receive the latest available heart failure treatments prior to transplant, and the program collaborates with transplant centers across the country to review data and develop new protocols to improve patient care. Being part of a larger adult program bolsters the pediatric lung transplant team, as well. The surgical expertise of the adult program provides a tremendous benefit to young people being treated by doctors at a combined pediatric and adult program.

### Multidisciplinary Teamwork

Children who receive transplants at NYU Langone become inpatients at Hassenfeld Children's Hospital's congenital cardiovascular care unit and benefit from Sala Institute for Child and Family Centered Care. Surgeons work closely with a support team, which includes a social worker and child life specialist, to ensure the unique social and emotional needs of every patient and their families are met.

## A Leader in Transplant Medicine

### NYU Langone's Heart Transplantation Programs

make us one of the top heart transplant centers in the country  
based on Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTT)  
data released 7/6/22.

Top programs  
in the country

100%  
one-year survival

Shortest  
waitlist times





*Photo credit: Jonathan Kozowyk*

Eighteen-year-old **Maz Zisan** was diagnosed with end-stage heart failure before a team of pediatric cardiac surgeons successfully replaced his heart last August. Maz had hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, a congenital heart condition and a leading cause of sudden cardiac death in young people, in which the heart muscle becomes abnormally thick, making it difficult for his heart to pump blood to the rest of his body.



Sixteen-year-old **Alejandra** received a new pair of lungs last May to replace the ones ravaged by cystic fibrosis, a genetic disease that caused deadly damage to her lungs. She is the first pediatric lung transplant recipient at Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone.



Ten-year-old **Delaney "Chi Chi" Soto** was diagnosed at 20 weeks in utero with Noonan syndrome, a disorder that can cause congenital heart defects. After experiencing end-stage heart failure and five open heart surgeries that kept her in and out of the hospital her whole life, she received a lifesaving heart transplant at Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone.

# In the Community



A student sits in an office of the school-based health center at P.S. 24 in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, for his routine psychiatrist visit. Telepsychiatry cuts down some of the stresses associated with traveling to appointments.

## Mental Health Support for Children in Schools

The School Health Program at the Family Health Centers at NYU Langone was one of the first school-based health center programs in New York State to pilot telepsychiatry in schools. Bringing care to where children are is one of the key tenets of school-based health, and children's access to behavioral health services is as important as their access to other primary and preventive healthcare. According to experts at NYU Langone Health's Department of Psychiatry, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, depression, anxiety and panic disorders, phobias, and post-traumatic stress are common mental health problems among children and teens. By providing telepsychiatry in school-based health centers, the Family Health Centers provide vital services to children who may otherwise be unable to access this care.

## Addressing Mental Health with New Early Intervention Services

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a sharp rise in mental health challenges among youth and young adults. A new federal grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will allow for the expansion of mental health services for youth served by the Family Health Centers at NYU Langone in Brooklyn. In order to serve the diverse population of Sunset Park, Brooklyn, clinical and administrative staff who share the cultural and language backgrounds of patients will be added. Community navigators and peer specialists will also support new services for youth and young adults with mental illness and help build trust with new patients. Youth will benefit in particular from early intervention services, which are offered when the earliest signs of mental illness emerge. The program will offer young people a recovery coach to assist with educational and employment guidance to further support their mental health recovery.

## Family Health Centers at NYU Langone

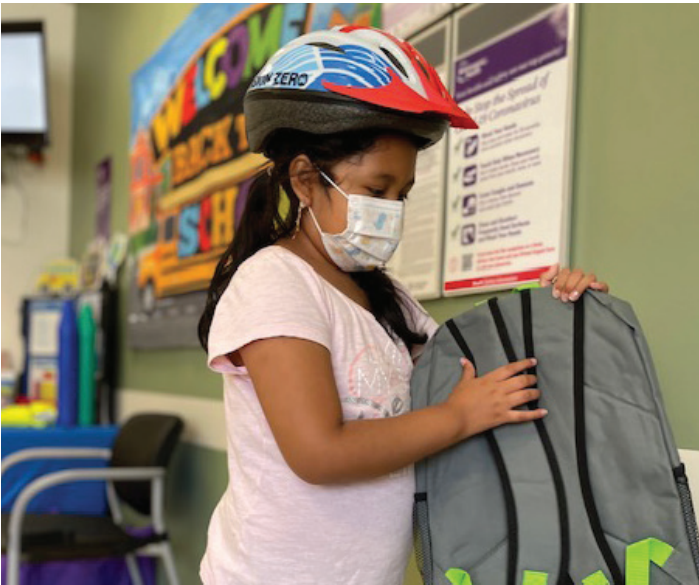
operates 54 school-based health centers in preschool, elementary, middle, and secondary schools in underserved neighborhoods throughout New York City—one of the largest networks of its kind in the state.

During the 2021–2022 school year, our school-based health centers provided more than

**34,000**  
medical visits

**13,000**  
behavioral health visits

**13,000**  
dental visits



Nine-year-old **Heidy Morocho** at the Park Ridge Family Health Center in Sunset Park, Brooklyn checks out her new backpack, filled with school supplies, and a new helmet for bike and scooter safety. Heidy attends P.S. 169 in Sunset Park. Her backpack and helmet are part of a community-based school readiness effort that distributes 2,000 backpacks and school supplies each year to children heading back to school.



Four-year-old **Joshua M.** and his mom stop into the Family Support Center at NYU Langone, where he and his school-age cousins receive school supplies. The annual Back-to-School Drive through the Family Health Centers at NYU Langone offers free supplies to children at local schools and school-based health center programs.



# Generation of Pediatricians

### Five Things to Know about the NYU Long Island School of Medicine

In 2019, NYU opened a brand-new medical school, NYU Long Island School of Medicine, on the campus of NYU Langone Hospital—Long Island, in Mineola, New York. Here are five things to know about the region's newest medical school as it celebrates the graduation of its first class.

#### 1. Primary Care Is the Focus

To address the national shortage of primary care physicians, NYU Long Island School of Medicine was created with the mission to promote excellence in primary care fields of medicine. The school trains future doctors who are committed to careers in internal and community medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, and general surgery.

#### 2. School's Out in 3 Years, Not 4

NYU Long Island School of Medicine is the first medical school in the nation to offer an exclusive three-year MD program. The innovative curriculum emphasizes communication and collaboration between community-based primary care providers and hospital-based specialists.

#### 3. Tuition Costs \$0

In 2019, a year after NYU Grossman School of Medicine debuted the first top-ranked MD program to award full-tuition scholarships to all students, NYU Long Island School of Medicine launched with the same full-scholarship model. Of the dozen medical programs nationwide specializing in primary care medicine, it stands out as one that spares students the annual burden of tuition.

#### 4. Talent Stays Local

Matriculated students receive conditional acceptance to an NYU Langone Hospital—Long Island residency slot in primary care through the National Resident Matching Program. There's a high correlation between where primary care doctors do their residency and where they wind up practicing.

#### 5. NYU Langone Health Is Family

NYU Long Island School of Medicine is affiliated with NYU Langone Health, a relationship that offers clinical experiences and future professional opportunities for its graduates. The school serves a special role in the institution as it prepares the next generation of physicians to meet the needs of the evolving healthcare system and transform how medicine is practiced.

### 2022 Residency Match Day Results for NYU Long Island School of Medicine

**100%**

matched with a residency program

**90%**

continuing training in primary care disciplines

**50%**

continuing training in New York State

**40%**

continuing training at NYU Langone



The inaugural commencement ceremony at NYU Long Island School of Medicine in spring 2022 marks the school's commitment to training primary care physicians.

## An Interview with Joyce Mei, MD

NYU Long Island School of Medicine, Class of 2022

Residency in Pediatrics at NYU Langone Hospital—Long Island



Joyce Mei, MD, is in the first graduating class of NYU Long Island School of Medicine and will begin a residency in pediatrics at NYU Langone Hospital—Long Island. Her work will help address the national shortage of primary care physicians, including pediatricians.

### Q: Why did you choose a career in pediatric medicine?

A: Before going to medical school, I always wanted to be a pediatrician. I kept an open mind throughout each rotation in medical school. But when I walked onto the pediatric floor, I felt like I was coming home.

### Q: How did rotations influence your perspective on pediatric medicine?

A: During medical school, I did pediatric rotations in inpatient and outpatient settings. In the hospital, kids are sicker and in more critical condition. Being able to see them go from unhealthy to healthy, from crying to laughing and playing again, is really amazing. In the outpatient pediatrics clinic in Hempstead, I knew I was making a difference every time I went there. I'll get to work there more consistently during residency and build relationships with my patients and their caregivers. My rotations at the clinic opened my eyes to a lot of things doctors do beyond just healthcare: filling out WIC benefit

applications, providing approval forms so that kids can play sports, giving out books to encourage early literacy, and giving out toothbrushes to promote dental health.

### Q: What did you learn about pediatrics during medical school?

A: When I first selected pediatrics, my focus was all about the kids and wanting to see them grow up healthy. During medical school, I learned a lot more about how family and other caregivers are involved in care. Parents want what's best for their children, and I learned to work with parents to set goals together for their child's health.

### Q: What are you looking forward to about residency?

A: I am looking forward to returning to the clinic in a different capacity—now as a resident instead of a medical student. Instead of worrying about tests and studying, I'll get to be 100% focused on patient care and doing the little things for patients.

## EARLY SCHOOL

# Readiness and Success

### Hearing Loss Awareness and Screening Program for Low-Income Immigrant Families

In the United States, 5 out of every 1,000 children experience hearing loss. After accounting for immigrant children from Mexico and China, that figure increases by at least 7.5%. Hearing loss affects a child's quality of life and can delay their ability to learn a language, perform well in school, and socialize with peers. Access to screening for hearing loss and timely referrals for treatment can reduce hearing loss and lead to improved quality of life.

To meet this important need, NYU Langone Health's Institute for Excellence in Health Equity and Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery launched the Hearing Loss Awareness and Screening Program for Low-Income Immigrant Families. The program, supported by a generous multiyear gift from the Silverstein family, will bring screenings to community-based settings, such as community centers and faith-based organizations, so residents can access care. The program will serve families in Sunset Park, Brooklyn; Mineola, Long Island; and other immigrant neighborhoods in the greater New York City area.

The Hearing Loss Awareness and Screening Program will address community-level barriers that most immigrant and low-income families face in accessing healthcare by leveraging the influence of trusted community partners to spread awareness of screening their children for unrecognized hearing loss. For the program's first year, the Institute for Excellence in Health Equity will draw on the infrastructure of one of its core pillars—Community Engagement—by partnering with community-based and faith-based organizations in Brooklyn.



Community volunteers are trained by NYU Langone's healthcare providers on screening techniques for hearing loss, and ways to refer children for follow-up care when necessary.

## Impact of Hearing Loss on Kids

In the United States  
**5** out of every **1,000** children  
experience hearing loss

Affects a child's  
**quality of life**

**Delays**  
ability to learn a language, perform well  
in school, and socialize with peers



## Proven Enhancement to the Pre-K Experience for Children and Families

### ParentCorps



ParentCorps transforms the pre-K experience in historically disinvested neighborhoods by helping schools partner with families to build a future where all children thrive. ParentCorps was founded by Laurie Brotman, PhD, and colleagues in the Center for Early Childhood Health and Development in the Department of Population Health at NYU Langone. A wealth of research shows that early childhood education can have profound impacts on children's lifelong health and well-being. This evidence has fueled the rapid expansion of pre-K, considered a powerful policy lever for Black and Brown children facing inequities rooted in structural racism.

Though the expansion of pre-K holds promise, decades of research and practice at the Center for Early Childhood Health and Development highlight that educators often feel unprepared to engage with families, especially families whose culture and lived racial experiences are different from their own. ParentCorps targets this gap to help unlock the full promise of early childhood education. In close partnership with pre-K programs, ParentCorps works to build a pre-K experience that centers race and culture, engages parents as partners, and supports children's social/emotional well-being.

ParentCorps strengthens adult capacity to support young children's development in the face of early childhood adversity, including poverty, racism, discrimination, and immigration-related stress, through the following components.

#### Professional Development

Professional Development supports school staff in forming strong, culturally responsive relationships with families. Staff engage in authentic dialogue to examine their beliefs, reflect on the challenges families face, and consider how to apply the science of early childhood development in their classrooms.

#### Parenting Program

Parenting Program is offered to families as part of the pre-K experience. In an environment that affirms each family's culture and values, parents explore evidence-based parenting practices they may choose to incorporate at home to promote children's early learning and development.

#### Friends School

This program is incorporated into the pre-K classroom to support children's social/emotional learning, creating a foundation for school success and lifelong health. Children learn to communicate their thoughts and feelings, build healthy relationships, and develop a positive sense of self, with a focus on racial and cultural identities and family pride.

ParentCorps has meaningful impacts on children's academic achievement, mental health, and physical health, with a 4 to 1 return on investment.

Kindergarten

**24%**

lower risk of  
reading below  
grade level

Elementary  
School

**50%**

fewer mental  
health problems

Elementary  
School

**50%**

less likely  
to be obese

Middle School

**44%**

less likely to  
be chronically  
absent

# Nutrition Support

## Nutrition Education Programs Tailored for Diverse Populations

**Culturally and Cost Appropriate Rapid Intergenerational Nutrition Guidance (CARING)** is a culturally and linguistically adapted nutrition education program for immigrant families in New York City. CARING was created by the NYU Grossman School of Medicine’s Department of Population Health in collaboration with community-based organizations that have highlighted significant gaps in whole-family nutrition education programs and the lack of culturally familiar foods provided through NYC food assistance programs.

CARING provides workshops and materials that encourage a multigenerational approach to healthy eating habits at home. Nutrition education materials offer culturally appropriate “healthy swaps” that also incorporate food cost and neighborhood access considerations. The program was initially developed for the Chinese-American community and is expanding to other immigrant communities in the city, including the Mexican/Central American and Arab communities.

**Greenlight** teaches families about healthy eating and activity at primary care pediatric visits. The program improves parent health literacy and fosters family engagement through the use of a toolkit of materials, which includes image-laden, easy-to-understand booklets that provide

age-specific nutrition and activity-related recommendations and “tangible tools” to support parents in following recommendations, such as portion-size snack cups. Healthcare providers are also trained to use evidence-based clear health communication strategies. Families are engaged in the waiting room by health educators, who help start the conversation on how parents can get their children off to a good start by beginning healthy habits in the first months and years of life.

The NYU Langone Health Department of Pediatrics, in partnership with the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center (CBWCHC), which oversees a network of federally qualified health centers, culturally adapted Greenlight, an evidence-based program originally designed with funding from the National Institutes of Health to prevent early childhood obesity among Latino and African-American families, for use by the Chinese-American community. The Greenlight program has now been incorporated as part of routine well-child visits at the CBWCHC Chinatown and Flushing sites, as well as the Seventh Avenue Family Health Center at NYU Langone in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, with plans to extend the program to additional Family Health Centers locations this fall, as well as the NYU Langone Health pediatric practice in Hempstead, Long Island.

CARING is a complementary effort to BASIS—Building Access to Food through Systems and Solidarity. A cornerstone of BASIS is a subsidized fresh produce box program that features Chinese-specific vegetables—the goal of which is to provide culturally appropriate food access and, importantly, promote ethnic pride and cross-cultural learning through food. BASIS is a partnership between NYU Grossman School of Medicine, Brooklyn Grange, the Chinese American Planning Council, The Table Food Pantry, and The Glynwood Regional Center for Food and Farming.



## Research with a Policy Impact: Modernized Supermarkets Trim Childhood Obesity in New York City

A study by NYU Grossman School of Medicine researchers showed that access to newer or newly updated supermarkets that offer fresh foods in some of New York City's poorest neighborhoods was linked to a 1% decline in obesity rates among public school students living nearby. The NIH-funded study examined supermarkets that participated in New York City's Food Retail Expansion to Support Health (FRESH) program. As part of FRESH, the city offered grants and tax breaks to renovate or build nearly two dozen supermarkets in low-income neighborhoods with high unemployment to improve local access to healthy foods. The results demonstrate that supermarket subsidies might play an effective role in addressing the complex problem of childhood obesity in America, especially among high-risk Hispanic and Black children.



## Learning How Food Grows with Local Roots NYC

The registered dietitian at the Stephen D. Hassenfeld Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders supports families by providing medical nutrition therapy for

children undergoing cancer treatment. As part of nutrition and community education, Local Roots NYC provides local, farm-fresh produce for families to take home and enjoy together. Local Roots works with more than 15 family farms within a five-hour radius of the city to offer local and organic produce, with the goal to build a community-driven, regenerative food system in New York City. During quarterly produce drop-offs at the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders, children have the opportunity to explore new plant foods, farms, and gardening, and learn where our food comes from.



New York City Mayor Eric Adams conducts a plant-based cooking demonstration with The Table Food Pantry of the Family Health Centers at NYU Langone. In 2022, the Mayor expanded the popular and successful Plant-Based Lifestyle Medicine Program at NYC H+H/Bellevue Hospital Center to additional H+H sites across New York City.





Researchers at NYU Langone Health found that newborns whose mothers had been vaccinated during pregnancy had high levels of antibodies to COVID-19.

Photo credit: Getty Images/Leo Patrizi

## COVID-19 Vaccines during Pregnancy Extend Protection to Newborns

Antibodies developed against COVID-19 infection during pregnancy can reach the placenta, extending protection to a newborn during its earliest and most vulnerable days of life. But do the antibodies a mother develops after immunization also protect the newborn?

Researchers at NYU Langone Health set out to tackle this question with a study to evaluate the immune response to mRNA vaccines in pregnancy. The study results showed that newborns whose mothers had been vaccinated during pregnancy had high levels of antibodies unique to the mRNA vaccines.

The protection conferred to newborns was recently confirmed by new data from the CDC, which found that babies born to mothers who received two doses of an mRNA vaccine during pregnancy were 61% less likely to be hospitalized with COVID-19 in their first six months of life than those born to unvaccinated people.

Building on these findings, NYU Langone's Vaccine Center is a trial site for a national effort funded by the National Institutes of Health. Called the Multisite Observational Maternal and Infant Study for COVID-19, or MOMI-VAX, the study will evaluate the immune responses generated by COVID-19 vaccines in more than 2,000 pregnant and postpartum patients.

## Increasing Early Childhood Immunizations

With the aim of improving childhood immunization rates, the Family Health Centers (FHC) at NYU Langone launched a quality improvement initiative to engage with families and caregivers and to reduce common barriers to immunizations. For many patients, COVID-19 resulted in delayed care. This was of particular concern for children up to two years old, who need numerous immunizations early in life. The FHC staff employed technology-based strategies to reach parents of young children with no upcoming appointments, including texting parents with a reminder in their preferred language. As a result of this effort, the FHC performed above the state and national averages for childhood immunizations by age two among the patients we serve.

## Assessing HPV Vaccination Uptake among Immigrant Youth

In partnership with community-based organizations serving immigrant youth in Brooklyn, Stamp Out Cancer Brooklyn, an initiative of NYU Langone Health's Perlmutter Cancer Center and Department of Population Health, led a study to engage Arab and Mexican communities in Brooklyn to identify challenges and opportunities for encouraging HPV vaccination among immigrant youth and adolescents. This research, funded by the National Cancer Institute, demonstrated that there are low levels of knowledge of HPV and a lack of linguistically and culturally centered education reaching the Arab and Mexican communities.

In order to improve HPV vaccination uptake in immigrant communities, education campaigns must be linguistically tailored and align with cultural norms. Recommendation from a trusted healthcare provider is highly influential in encouraging HPV vaccination acceptance and uptake, indicating the opportunity to systemize provider recommendation in clinical settings to avoid missed opportunities for HPV immunization.

Community-based participatory research is a key strategy for equitable engagement of community partners throughout

the research process. Researchers are eager to build on this collaboration with community partners, which include Center for Family Life, Riseboro, Arab American Association of New York, Arab American Family Support Center, and Women's Empowerment Coalition of NYC, to create a culturally and linguistically tailored education campaign that supports HPV vaccine acceptance.

### Stamp Out Cancer Brooklyn

Stamp Out Cancer Brooklyn is a multipronged, community-engaged initiative that aims to reduce cancer-related disparities and the overall burden of cancer in Brooklyn. Spearheaded by NYU Langone Health's Perlmutter Cancer Center and Department of Population Health, the initiative engages trusted community stakeholders as partners to disseminate innovative, evidence-based solutions for cancer prevention, early detection, care, and survivorship.



The opening event for a new School-Based Health Center at P.S. 676 in Red Hook, Brooklyn, allowed families and children to learn more about the new services and enroll students in care. In addition to other preventive and primary health services, immunizations are offered at our School-Based Health Centers across New York City.

## Nurses Lead the Way to Transform Care for Black Mothers



NYU Langone Hospital—Long Island's NICU nurse educator Leticia Rios, PhD(c), RN, IBCLC, cochairs the Black Mothers Matter Committee.

### Black Mothers Matter Committee

The NYU Langone Health Black Mothers Matter Committee (BMMC) was founded in the spring of 2019 by a group of Labor and Delivery nurses to address racial disparities in health outcomes. The BMMC developed the Holistic Black Birth Project as a new model of obstetric care with the hope to cultivate a culture of safety and satisfaction for Black birthing families in NYC. From its inception, the BMMC has spearheaded initiatives to address disparities faced by Black people in the community we serve.

### An interview with nursing leaders of the Black Mothers Matter Committee about the Holistic Black Birth Project:

Antoinette Grant, BSN, RN; Gina Hurt, BSN, RN; Georgette Paulycarpe, MSN, CNM, RN, LCCE; Aisha Rab, BSN, RN; Leticia Rios, PhD(c), RN, IBCLC; Kelly Williams, BSN, RN.

#### **Q: What is the Holistic Black Birth Project, and why did the Black Mothers Matter Committee create this project?**

**A:** The Holistic Black Birth Project aims to improve the health of Black birthing people and their children by providing culturally congruent registered nurse–led care coordination and childbirth education. We designed this project to center the voices of Black patients and empower Black childbearing families to make informed decisions for their care. It was inspired by our work as nurses and our experiences as providers in Labor and Delivery.



**Q: What are the different components of the Holistic Black Birth Project?**

A: This project provides support to Black birthing people during prenatal care, in the hospital, and through one year postpartum. A nurse serves as the holistic care partner to the patient and leads care coordination, connection to other services, and postpartum care. Patients also have the option to participate in our monthly Safe Spaces Support Group and childbirth education classes.

**Q: How does the program address implicit bias in medicine?**

A: Beyond this project, the committee is committed to providing antiracist care, which begins with implementing training, and assessing and changing our practices and policies. All newly hired nurses receive obstetrics-specific implicit bias training taught by Black Mothers Matter Committee nurses. We are also bringing experts in the field of reproductive birth justice to speak to NYU Langone providers as part of our Black Mothers Matter Speaker Series.

**Q: What do you hope to achieve with this program?**

A: We hope to alleviate fear, create healing, and repair trust between Black birthing families and their obstetric providers by building relationships based on mutual respect while offering an extra measure of support through pregnancy and the first year postpartum.

## Preventing Postpartum Depression

**Reach Out and Stay Strong Essentials** for New Mothers (ROSE) is a six-session postpartum-depression prevention intervention for pregnant women, with a seventh session conducted after birth. ROSE has been implemented at the Family Health Centers at NYU Langone in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, among Spanish-speaking pregnant women and is being adapted for the Chinese-speaking population.

The ROSE program focuses on building social supports, reducing and managing stress, and enhancing interpersonal relationships and communication among pregnant women. One component of ROSE focuses on important communication skills that can help new mothers navigate all the new demands on their time. Many women report that these skills resonate most once their baby is born.

*ROSE is part of the Together Growing Strong Initiative and is funded by the Robin Hood Foundation.*



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ROSE has been shown to be effective in reducing the onset of depression in mothers up to 12 months after delivery, providing women with skills to help them reduce stress even after the postpartum period.

## MEASURING OUR IMPACT:

# Access to World-Class Care

NYU Langone strives to provide medically necessary care to patients of their inpatient and outpatient facilities regardless of patients' ability to pay for the services rendered. We're here to help you navigate through any questions you have about your bill from NYU Langone, which includes our Manhattan hospitals (Tisch Hospital, Kimmel, Hassenfeld, Langone Orthopedic Hospital (LOH), Rusk Rehabilitation), NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn, NYU Langone Hospital—Long Island, the Family Health Centers at NYU Langone, as well as associated patient locations.

### Payor Mix and Navigating Insurance Coverage

NYU Langone participates in many health plan networks. Each health plan creates a network of doctors and hospitals who have agreed to be in that network. Some health plans use smaller networks for certain services, so it is important to check whether we participate in the specific plan that covers you.

In 2021, 99% of our inpatients were enrolled in a commercial or government-sponsored insurance plan. Nearly two-thirds of our inpatients were enrolled in a government-sponsored insurance plan.

If you do not have health insurance, please call us at 212-263-1481 to get information about an out-of-pocket cost estimate, or to learn more about our Financial Assistance Policy and your eligibility for subsidized health insurance through programs such as Medicaid.

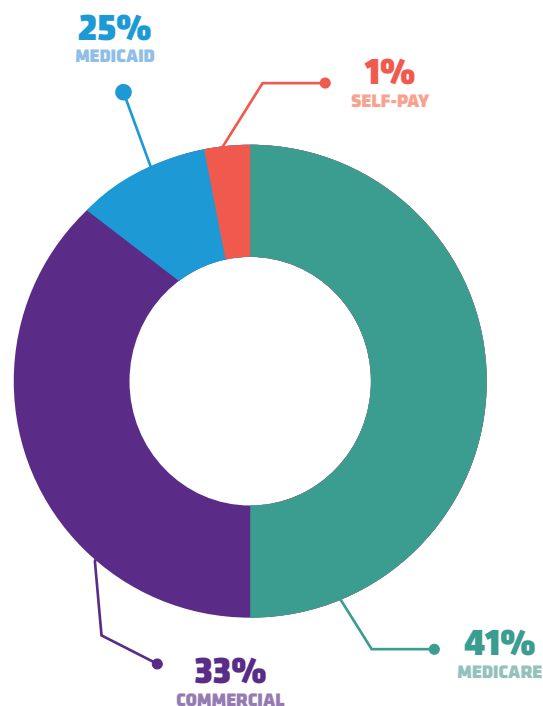
### Price Transparency and Out-of-Pocket Costs

Out-of-pocket costs for healthcare services may vary significantly across health systems, even for common procedures. At NYU Langone, we are committed to providing you with this information up front so that you can make the best choice for yourself and your family. For more information, please visit our website at <https://med.nyu.edu/standard-charges/pricing-form>.

### Charity Care and Financial Assistance Policy

In the last fiscal year, NYU Langone Hospitals provided over \$56M in charity care to our patients. NYU Langone Hospitals recognizes that there are times when patients in need of care will have difficulty paying for the services provided. The hospitals provide discounts to qualifying individuals based on income. In addition, we can help you apply for free or low-cost insurance if you qualify. Just contact one of our Financial Counseling Offices at these convenient locations for free, confidential assistance.

### CALENDAR YEAR 2021 PAYOR MIX



#### Manhattan

550 1st Avenue, Room Tisch SK 1-33  
301 East 17th Street, Room 203B  
1-866-486-9847

#### Brooklyn

150 55th Street, Suite LB 2940  
1-718-630-6252

#### Long Island

131 Mineola Blvd., Suite 105  
1-516-663-8373

For more information, please visit our website at [www.nyulangone.org/insurance-billing-financial-assistance](http://www.nyulangone.org/insurance-billing-financial-assistance).

The Office of Government and Community Affairs at NYU Langone Health collaborates with city, state, and federal officials, community boards, and community-based organizations through partnerships that enhance the vibrancy of the communities in which our patients reside, and that provide services, programs, and events to the community at large.

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