

# Partners for a Healthier Paterson

Paterson, NJ

## Background

Partners for a Healthier Paterson consists of local and regional organizations driven by a mission to create healthy and thriving communities for generations to come. In 2020, St. Joseph's University Medical Center formalized a partnership with the City of Paterson, New Jersey Community Capital, and New Jersey Community Development Corporation to pioneer one of the first projects in the nation to combine state financing with hospital investment to develop affordable housing. The project, once complete, will be a 71-unit supportive housing complex with 10 rooms set aside to support homeless populations that frequently use the emergency room and patients with special needs, each of whom will receive wrap around services that range from individualized case management, behavioral therapy and job training. This project is indicative of the Partnership's potential to leverage cross-sectoral expertise and assets to advance health equity among the most vulnerable residents of Paterson.

## Network Partners in the Integrator Learning Lab

- City of Paterson
- Health Coalition of Passaic County\*
- New Jersey Community Capital\*
- New Jersey Community Development Corporation
- Passaic County Community College
- St. Joseph's Health\*

\*Network representatives in the 2020 Integrator Learning Lab



### For more information:

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### Near-Term, Lab-Related Goals

- Refine partnership vision, goals and 1-2 projects to accomplish in the next 6-8 months
- Refine equitable development statement and implementation plan
- Create a plan for convening various entities in Paterson that are working on related initiatives to create a shared goal around housing as a social determinant of health
- Complete a network mapping process to identify gatekeepers/potential peers to support PHP efforts
- Establish and align a data collection system and evaluation measures



The 2020 Integrator Learning Lab was made possible through the support of The Kresge Foundation. To learn more about the Learning Lab, please email [MHCU@Nemours.org](mailto:MHCU@Nemours.org) or visit the project web pages at [www.movinghealthcareupstream.org/2020-integrator-learning-lab/](http://www.movinghealthcareupstream.org/2020-integrator-learning-lab/)

### Achievements Supported by Technical Assistance from the Learning Lab

- Created equitable development statement and implementation plan
- Convened entities and designated Health Coalition of Passaic County (HCPC) as convener/gatekeeper for Building Healthier, More Equitable Communities (BHEC) in New Jersey initiative; grant secured
- The partnership secured national grants to support community development projects with focus on affordable housing and community greening
  - RWJF & Gehl Institute: Inclusive Healthy Places
  - RWJF & Reinvestment Fund Building Healthier More Equitable Communities
  - Children and Nature Network: Green School Yards Revitalization
  - United HealthCare/Optum Build Neighborhood Fund
- Other funding opportunities identified and being pursued

### Integrative Areas of Future Focus

Though the 2020 Integrator Learning Lab has drawn to a close, Partners for a Healthier Paterson will continue to be deliberate and strategic about deploying integrative activities in support of the goals of the network. This will include a focus on health equity and community engagement, with actions such as:

- Completing a network mapping process in the spirit of identifying the most essential stakeholders for the network's success (value of partners over volume of partners)
- Continuing to define "the ask" of each organization within the network, as well as "the ask" of each specific organizational representative, to maximize the value and impact of each organization's, and each individual's, contributions
- Broadening the network leadership table, inclusive of leadership and decision-making roles for community residents