

***NORTHERN MANHATTAN PERINATAL PARTNERSHIP,  
INC.***

**Comprehensive Perinatal/Prenatal Services Network**

**Contract # C-017454**

**Quarterly Report**

**April 1, 2007 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2007**

**Introduction**

Staff and consumers were very busy during the last quarter. Several conferences, forums, training sessions and out-of-town lectures took place during the quarter that assisted our team to achieve our work plan goals. NMPP was able to develop deeper roots in the Northern Manhattan community while promoting our work around the nation. The results of the above activities have built a spring offensive to build a **culture of health** in Harlem where residents' behavior and consciousness have transformed to improve maternal and overall community health.

During the quarter, Mario Drummonds was asked by Dr. Betty Duke, HRSA Administrator to join the faculty of HRSA's Quality Institute where he lectured on NMPP's campaign to dramatically work with other providers to reduce the infant mortality rate in Central Harlem. From April 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> 2007, Mr. Drummonds shared the agency's strategy and tactics with HRSA's senior management team and talked about how this work can be replicated nationally. (See Attachment 1)

The agency's teen abstinence program held a very successful parenting conference on April 28, 2007, recruiting parents and their teens to the growing Harlem Abstinence Movement. The title of the conference was, "*The Importance of Adolescent & Parenting Communications.*" Parents learned how and when to talk to their children about sex and the conference gave adolescent attendees coping skills to help them resist peer pressure. (See Attachment 2)

On April 10<sup>th</sup> 2007, NMPP's Central Harlem Healthy Start program staff traveled to Albany to attend the Healthy Start State Collaboration Title V meeting with staff from the Bureau of Women's Health and four other Healthy Start programs throughout New York State. Ms. Segrid Renne, the CHHS Program Director provided a ten minute update on program deliverables. Mr. Mario Drummonds facilitated a workshop with meeting participants on prioritizing collaborative strategies that focused on coordinating perinatal depression work throughout New York State. (See Attachment 3)

**Finally, on May 15, 2007, the New York City Regional Perinatal Forum organized a forum focused on uncovering best practices in collecting and using perinatal data in New York City. The forum attracted citywide perinatal and community-based clinicians, community organizers and policy experts to develop systems to collect quality perinatal data.**

***A. Mandatory Objective I: Develop and implement programs and outreach to increase access to care, with particular emphasis on serving women who are at high risk for poor birth outcomes.***

### **Central Harlem Healthy Start (CHHS)**

**During the period of April 1, 2007 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2007, ten women were enrolled into Central Harlem Healthy Start. To date we have provided case management services to 140 women for 2007. Referrals this quarter were largely due to consumer walk in sessions and referrals by current participants. During this quarter, Healthy Start has had only one live birth outcome reported and there were no infant fatalities or low birth weight infants reported.**

**The CHHS Consortium Manager, Ron Turner and Mario Drummonds wrote a male involvement case management proposal during the last quarter, that was sent to the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development on February 28, 2007. The name of the new project is *Mankind*, a male-staffed community health worker program in Central Harlem. The agency learned on June 24, 2007, that our proposal was funded. The new program will be under the leadership of the Central Harlem Healthy Start program and will start-up on September 1, 2007. The new program is designed to meet the health education, employment and social relationship needs of high-risk men who live in East and Central Harlem.**

**During the quarter, CHHS sponsored several perinatal depression grand round lectures and web casts. The funding sources for these events are the NYCDOH/MH Harlem Strategic Action Committee and NMPP's Harlem Maternal Mental Health Training Institute. Four of these trainings were held at diverse healthcare facilities in Harlem and Northern Manhattan with the goal of providing information on depression screening, diagnostic and treatment of perinatal mood disorders to standardize case practice. In addition two web casts were developed to deliver the same message, reaching a larger audience of clinicians. During the period NMPP and our clinical partners trained close to two hundred clinicians.**

**On April 4, 2007, Dr. Margaret Spinelli was the guest presenter speaking on psychiatric disorders during pregnancy and the post-partum period. This was a national web cast where seventy clinicians from around the country logged in.**

**On May 2, 2007, eighteen clinicians were trained at Renaissance Health Clinic. Dr. Healy Smith is a clinician with the Reproductive Psychiatry Department, New York Presbyterian Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Healy's presentation focused on culturally appropriate depression screening tools.**

**On May 14, 2007, Dr. Randye J. Semple, a researcher with the New York State Psychiatric Institute educated seventeen clinicians on the proper clinical criteria for diagnosing postpartum depression. This training took place at Boriken Family Health Center in East Harlem. On May 16, 2007, Dr. Margaret Spinelli lectured on several perinatal depression topics before twenty-six clinicians at Harlem Hospital Center. Then on May 30<sup>th</sup> 2007, Dr. Randye J. Semple lectured on cognitive behavioral therapy for depression before fourteen clinicians at the William Ryan Community Health Center. On June 6, 2007, Dr. Healy G. Smith, lectured on treatment modalities for depression during pregnancy. Over forty-six participants from the around the nation attended this web cast, the last session for the summer presented by the Harlem Strategic Action Committee.**

**Starting on June 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> 2007, the CHHS program organized Collard Greens for the Ghetto Soul 2 leadership training series for consumers associated with this perinatal case management program. Last year, several consumers developed a book that revealed their inner most trials and tribulations before and during their pregnancies and how they overcame these set-backs. This book is known as Collard Greens for the Ghetto Soul 1. The books has sold all over the country making the consumer authors celebrities at maternal and child health agencies across the nation. Ms. Rashida (Che) Moore (a CHHS consumer) spoke before five hundred National Healthy Start professionals in Washington on March 20<sup>th</sup> 2007, where she reveals her own pregnancy and life-changing stories. The positive evaluation for this workshop is included as part of the attachments for the CHHS program.**

**The second training series goal is to assist each consumer to develop their own "vision boards" depicting the destiny each woman intends to create for herself and her children. NMPP plans to film this four-part workshop series and produce a DVD that will be sold nationally. This work is a sustainability project for the consumers and will help fund self-help projects for the Central Harlem Healthy Start Consumer Involvement Organization. The Chicago MCH community recently ordered five hundreds copies of Collard Greens 1 & 2 for a consumer conference that will take place on September 23, 2007.**

**The NYC Male Involvement Consortium (NYCMIC), led by staff from the Central Harlem Healthy Start program celebrated Father's Day during the quarter. On Wednesday, June 13, 2007, several workshops were organized for fathers and their family members. A Men's Health, Job Search and Father's Legal Rights & Responsibilities workshop series was organized at NMPP from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Close to fifty men and women and their children attended the workshop series.**

**On Thursday June 14, 2007, the NYCMIC organized a panel discussion entitled: “There’s a Thin Line between Love and Lust: A Young Father’s Perspective.” The panel discussed themes such as being a young father; balancing work, school and fatherhood and knowing the difference between loving someone and lusting for someone. Finally, on June 11, 2007, the NYCMIC organized a financial literacy workshop for men entitled, “You’re Worth More than What You Think: Setting Goals for Financial Freedom.”**

**NMPP collaborated with the Mailman School of Public Health in May 2006 to develop a research intervention focused on studying gestational diabetes, weight loss and its relationship to low birth weight among African-American women who live in Harlem. NMPP and the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University received IRB approval for this study during the quarter. This study is funded by the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities.**

**Ms. Segrid Renne, the CHHS Project Director, is the co-principle investigator on this study with Mario Drummonds and Dr. Sally Findley. The research/program intervention is entitled: Healthy Body/Healthy Soul: Nutritional Behavioral Modification Initiative. The intervention kicked off on May 24<sup>th</sup> 2007 where 35 women of childbearing age enrolled into the study. During the month of June 2007, another sixty-six women join the intervention.**

**On April 10<sup>th</sup> 2007, NMPP’s Central Harlem Healthy Start program staff traveled to Albany to attend the Healthy Start State Collaboration Title V meeting with staff from the Bureau of Women’s Health and four other Healthy Start programs throughout New York State. Ms. Segrid Renne, the CHHS Program Director provided a ten minute update on program deliverables. Mr. Mario Drummonds facilitated a workshop with meeting participants on prioritizing collaborative strategies that focused on coordinating perinatal depression work throughout New York State. The CHHS Health Education division provides regularly scheduled workshops that are primarily for CHHS clients, but also open to neighborhood pregnant and parenting women. During this quarter the following workshops were held:**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>ATTENDEES</b>
<b>April 10, 2007</b>	<b>Preventing Childhood Obesity</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>April 24, 2007</b>	<b>Lead Prevention</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>May 15, 2007</b>	<b>Mother’s Day Celebration</b>	<b>33</b>
	<b>Stress Management</b>	<b>18</b>

**The following table includes a complete listing of CHHS consortium and consumer involvement events during this quarter. (See Attachment 4 CHHS data)**

Meeting Date	Consortium Committee	Major Topic	Total Attendance	Consumer Attendance
May 2, 2007	Dr. Healy Smith – Harlem Strategic Action Committee – Grand Rounds at Renaissance Health Clinic	Culturally Appropriate Depression Screening tools	18	
May 14, 2007	Dr. Randye J. Semple-Harlem Strategic Action Committee-Grand Rounds at Boriken Family Health Center	Learning about perinatal depression & pharmacology	17	
May 16, 2007	Dr. Margaret Spinelli-Harlem Strategic Action Committee-Grand Rounds at Harlem Hospital Center	Clinical Criteria for diagnosing perinatal depression	26	
May 30, 2007	Dr. Randye J. Semple -HSAC- Grand Rounds at William Ryan Community Health Center	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Depression	14	
April 4, 2007	Dr. Margaret Spinelli- HSAC-Web cast for Clinicians	Psychiatric Disorders during Pregnancy & the Post-Partum Period	70	
June 6, 2007	Dr. Healy G. Smith-HSAC-Web cast for Clinicians t	Treatment Modalities for Depression during Pregnancy	46	
June 19, 2007	Collard Greens for the Ghetto Soul 2	DVD workshop series for consumer learning how to determine what they want for the future.	2	8
June 26, 2007	Collard Greens for the Ghetto Soul 2	DVD workshop series for consumer learning how to determine what they want for the future.	1	7
June 11 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> 2007 Father's Day Workshop Series	NYC Male Involvement Consortium	Men's Health; Job Readiness; Father's Legal Rights; Financial Literacy; Understanding Differences	10	66

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**Sisterlink /Community Action for Prenatal Care (CAPC)**

**The Sisterlink Program provides training and support to community based outreach workers, who conduct outreach at various locations throughout the community targeting pregnant women who may be at risk for HIV infection. Sisterlink outreach workers come from a variety of community based organizations and hospitals. Outreach is conducted at various locations such as homeless shelters, a church food pantry, transitional housing programs for families and a large neighborhood supermarket. The participating Sisterlink outreach partners reported 82 new intakes for pregnant/at risk women this quarter.**

**The Sisterlink Consumer Advisory Group (CAG) met once during the month of June. The discussion focused on the SISTA workshop they would all be participating in. The team discussed the fact that they would be attending some upcoming training on how to do outreach and two individuals (Rashida Moore and Shelly Paris) were chosen to attend the upcoming CAG train the trainers that Cicitelli Associates will be offering through CAPC. Once these consumers complete the training, both will be able to train other organizations on how to put together an effective CAG.**

**The Steering Committee met in June and the meeting was focused only on reviewing and revising the policies and procedures for Sisterlink. Final revisions will be reviewed at the meeting in September. A General Coalition meeting was held in April. The meeting focused on a reviewing the feedback from the March 2007 conference organized by Sisterlink. The new strategic plan was distributed which discussed Sisterlink's focus on the youth population and concentrating our efforts in East and Central Harlem for the upcoming year.**

**On May 16<sup>th</sup>, Sisterlink outreach teams conducted their first informational fair with the Abyssinian Development Corp in the 10039 zip code. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, perinatal outreach squads held their second informational fairs in Washington Heights with the Community Healthcare Network in zip code 10033. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, Sisterlink held their third informational fair in East Harlem with the East Harlem Based Alliance Corporation in zip code 10029. Routine outreach continues twice a week at the Hamilton House Shelter and the teams also go to the Parkview Hotel two times a week to recruit pregnant and parenting women.**

### **Community Health Worker Program (CHWP)**

**The CHWP was fully staffed during this reporting period. There was a newly hired CHW at the beginning of the quarter that had difficulties with outreach activities and client engagement. However overall program performance has significantly improved, which is demonstrated in the number of active cases, increased number of newborn ASQs completed and increased number of home visits.**

#### **Program Activities:**

##### **Outreach:**

**All staff is currently conducting outreach activities in the target area. The Program Director has made presentations at different programs, clinics and hospitals to strengthen collaborations and create new ones. These programs are: Association to Benefit Children; Esperanza del Barrio; Little Sister of the Assumption; NYCDOH/MH Newborn Home Visiting Program; Mexicanos Unidos and Planned Parenthood of NYC. CHWs continue to conduct street, door-to-door, tabling, as well as participating in health fairs to promote program services. At the end of the quarter the program surpassed the number of clients served for the year. The contractual number of clients to be served for FY2006-07 was 160 women. The CHWP served 192 women during the fiscal year.**

##### **Home Visits:**

**CHWs conducted a total of 241 home visits to provide case management, health education and advocacy to program clients. The Program Director is training staff to help them feel more comfortable engaging client's partners in the family planning, HIV/AIDS and ASQs health education sessions.**

##### **Workshops:**

**The CHWP is working with trained facilitators to provide health education workshops on oral health, lead poisoning, HIV/AIDS, post partum depression, stress reduction techniques and nutrition while breastfeeding. Average attendance was ten women per workshop. The total attendance was ninety-seven women.**

**During this quarter six workshops were conducted in January and February 2007, including Women's Anatomy, Contraceptives, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Domestic Violence, HIV/AIDS, Gynecological and Breast Exams.**

**The CHWP staff worked with the Department of Health (NYSDOH) site visit staff to conduct a full review of the CHWP on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007. The objectives of the site visit includes ensuring compliance with DOH priorities and contract conditions; verifying documented agency activities; ensuring appropriate use of funds and assessing scope of the program; and identifying strengths and challenges.**

**Circulo de Mamas/Motherhood Circle Support Group:**

**The NYCDOH/MH Harlem Strategic Action Committee funded this program to provide support services to women experiencing prenatal and post partum depression or high levels of stress. Fifty women enrolled in two groups and forty completed the 12-week cycle. The groups began on April 1, 2007 and all the women graduated from the group by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2007.**

**Site Visit:**

**The program was visited by Ms. Nancy Bradford on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2007. She interviewed executive, program and line staff and reviewed charts and program operating procedures. The CHWP is still awaiting a formal update on the status of the visit in writing.**

**(See Attachment #5 CHWP)**

**Healthy Families New York Home Visiting Program (Baby Steps)**

**At the end of the quarter, a Prevent Child Abuse New York (PCANY) Staff Development Specialist, Ms. Sobeira Guillien conducted a Family Support Worker (FSW) and Program Supervisor Quality Assurance Visit. She observed the work of a FSW conducting a home visit and observed the FSW supervisor during supervision of the FSW. She was also able to videotape the supervisory session. Her feedback on the performance of both employees was very positive.**

**Throughout this fiscal year the program has been challenged by participant attrition. To increase the census, the program has begun to address deficiencies in outreach. One strategy is to assign the Clinical Coordinator to the role of co-supervisor of the Outreach Worker to allow the program to closely monitor her outreach activities and add structure and accountability to her role.**

**The program received several new referrals from new community sources. A significant number of referrals came from the NYC Administration for Children's Services (ACS). The staff has established relationships with a number of workers and made a diligent effort to accommodate ACS. Referrals also came from Mount Sinai and Metropolitan Hospitals.**

**The Program Director is also working to develop a relationship with Cornell Medical Center. Several pediatric residents are scheduled to visit the program next quarter to learn more about services offered by Baby Steps. The Program Director plans to recruit one of the residents to conduct wrap around training.**

**During the quarter, Baby Steps achieved twenty of twenty one performance targets. Baby Steps submitted a proposal in response to a request for proposal released by the NYS Office of Children & Family (OCFS). In the proposal, the Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership, Baby Steps host agency outlined plans to expand the program into East Harlem. NMPP learned during the quarter that the proposal was not selected for funding.**

**(See Attachment #6 Baby Steps Final Report)**

**ACS Preventive Program (St. Nicholas Family Life Support Network)**

**The ACS Preventive Program provides individual, group, family counseling, and support services to address high-risk families in Harlem with children who have a high probability of entering the NYC foster care system. The staff of social workers, psychologist and support staff, work with these families to prevent child abuse and neglect. The ACS Preventive Program provides support to 75 families and continues to operate above the program's capacity at 101%. Pregnant women or new mothers are referred to NMPP's other MCH case management programs for additional perinatal support.**

**By the end of June 2007, the Network Achieved the Following Outcomes:**

- \*Utilization at the end of June 2007 was 100%**
- \*Average number of case work contacts with families was 2.3 per month**
- \*New cases accepted into the program was ten**
- \*Cases projected to be closed was ten**
- \*Total case families served 75: seventy-three active and two pending**
- \*The program placed one child in the foster care system**

**The Network's Start Right Immunization Coalition participation produced the following results for enrolled families:**

- \*Network finished the contract year meeting all milestones**
- \*Ms. Pearson read 295 immunization cards during the quarter**
- \*Completed 200 follow-up sessions**
- \*Work with grantee (Columbia) to prepare new competitive proposal to CDC**

**Network Projects for Next Three Months:**

- \*8/16/07-Collaboration meeting set with Mount Sinai Hospital System**
- \*8/31/07-Back to School Forum organized for all clients**

**\*9/12/07-Staff Retreat Planned**

**\*10/17/07 Redeploy Parent Advisory Group**

**\*10/19/07 Redeploy case and clinical teams into St. Nicholas Housing Development  
(See Attachment #7 ACS Preventive Program)**

### **Comprehensive Prenatal-Perinatal Services Network (CPPSN)**

**During this quarter, four workshops were organized for staff and clients by the CPPSN Health Educator. A chronic disease management workshop was held at NMPP on May 15, 2007. It focused on the challenges of living with a chronic illness such as asthma, obesity, hypertension and diabetes. Staff learned the causes, symptoms, treatment, prevention and management for the fore mentioned illnesses. Additionally, resources were distributed to staff to pass on to consumers. Seven staff members attended this workshop.**

**On May 21, 2007, a nutrition workshop was held. This workshop focused on fostering positive health behaviors and reducing the risk of preventable disease as well as developing good nutritional habits, participants also learned how to calculate their BMI scores and read food labels. This workshop had nine attendees.**

**A maternal substance abuse workshop was held on June 11, 2007. The dangers of over the counter drugs, nicotine and illegal drugs were the focus of this workshop. Staff learned how to aid in the prevention of smoking during pregnancy. They also learned about the effects on the neonate from maternal use of heroine, methadone, cocaine and alcohol. Symptoms of withdrawal for the various drugs mentioned above and treatment options available to substance using/abusing women during pregnancy were also discussed. This workshop had eight attendees.**

**On May 8<sup>th</sup>, nine staff attended the First Annual Conference Sponsored by the Manhattan Regional Perinatal Forum Committee on Education. The conference focused on adolescent health, adolescent psychological development, reducing communication barriers and the child obesity crisis in America today. Health resources and ideas to implement and improve the health curriculum for adolescent was also a component of this conference.**

**On June 21<sup>st</sup>, eleven NMPP staff attended the FCN annual conference. The focus of this conference was eliminating adolescent health disparities, improving adolescent reproductive health and conceptualizing and executing an adolescent health agenda.**

**On June 23rd, NMPP participated in the Building Bridges, Building Knowledge, Building Health Coalition's 3rd annual Day of Hope. This event was held in East Harlem. All of NMPP's programs participated in this event. There was nine staff in attendance along with fifteen teen and pregnant and parenting clients.**

**At this event we were able to market our program to community residents. NMPP disseminated program information to the attendees at this event. Program materials and incentives were disseminated to over 650 participants.**

**On June 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> 2007, senior CPPSN staff traveled to Albany New York to attend the New York State Department of Health Bureau of Women's Health Community-Based Programs Contractor Meeting. Several speakers educated the participants on preconception care, managing change, best practices in case management, outreach quality assurance and social marketing. The focus of the meeting was learning new methods to reduce racial disparities in birth outcomes. Senior Bureau staff also updated staff on MCH priorities and how they are collaborating with other state agencies to achieve Bureau objectives.**

**Mr. Drummonds built a working relationship with Ms. Laura Payack, Director, Community Outreach and Public Education NYS Office of Mental Health. Ms. Payack agreed to set up a meeting with Dr. Michael F. Hogan, Commissioner, New York State Office of Mental Health to discuss maternal mental health capacity and reimbursement issues in New York City.  
(See Attachment #8 CPPSN)**

#### **Managed Care Consumer Assistance Program**

**The MCCAP Program has continued to provide case management assistance for currently insured individuals and families with navigational managed care issues. During this quarter, the MCCAP staff organized workshop presentations including Child Health Plus, at various health service provider locations throughout Harlem, such as Harlem Hospital Center and the Helen B. Atkinson Health Care Center.**

**The Managed Care Consumer Assistance Program conducted a total of twelve workshops during this quarter, the workshops were held at Helen B. Atkinson Clinic and on site at the Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership, Inc. The workshop topics were Child Health Plus and Chronic Illness.**

**In the Child Health Plus workshops consumers learned about the different types of child health insurance and learned about the managed health care system. The Chronic Illness Workshop was for consumers who have Medicaid, Child Health Plus or commercial insurance and a chronic illness. Consumers were given assistance if they had questions or problems with their managed health care insurance. As a result 42 new cases were opened.**

### Adolescent Services

**The agency's teen abstinence program held a very successful parenting conference on April 28, 2007, recruiting parents and their teens to the growing Harlem Abstinence Movement. The title of the conference was, "*The Importance of Adolescent & Parenting Communications*." Parents learned how and when to talk to their children about sex and the conference gave adolescent attendees coping skills to help them resist peer pressure. (See Attachment 2)**

**On May 21, 22, and 25, 2007, the Abstinence staff conducted a three-day workshop series of the "Not Me, Not Now" Abstinence Education Program curriculum for 11-13 year old students at NMPP. On June 8, 2007, the Abstinence Education Program hosted a graduation ceremony for participants who successfully completed the Abstinence Education Workshop Series. Nineteen people attended. On June 15, 2007, the abstinence staff, outreach worker, and peer counselors set up an abstinence education information table at the Harlem Alliance Corporation Health Fair. The purpose of the staff attending this event was to sensitize the public about the need to promote abstinence from sexual activity among adolescents. The staff and outreach workers passed out 2,000 "Worth the Wait" abstinence fliers, 300 abstinence postcards and 150 abstinence information packets.**

**On May 4, 2007, the program staff and outreach workers conducted abstinence presentations at Wadleigh Middle School for 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. These efforts will help to increase youth participation in upcoming "Not Me, Not Now" workshop series. Thirty-five presentation packets were distributed to community parents and students.**

**On May 11, 2007, the staff completed street outreach and distributed 2,000 flyers and postcards to community youth in after school programs and churches throughout Harlem. On that same day, the staff conducted outreach presentations to twenty-six males at community programs in an effort to recruit male adolescents to participate in pending abstinence trainings.**

**On June 28, 2007, NMPP's Club Moms adolescent pregnancy prevention program held their first Cook-Out Celebration from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the backyard of NMPP. Over three-hundred and fifty teens, their infants and parents attended the function. Community health providers interacted with the teen audience distributing family planning, parenting, HIV/STD prevention, breastfeeding, domestic violence and academic goal setting literature. Over forty new pregnant and parenting teens joined the program.**

**Finally, on June 22, 2007, Mr. Drummonds received a letter from Inez E. Dickens, Majority Whip, New York City Council revealing that she allocated another five thousand dollars to support NMPP's Club Moms Program from July 1, 2007 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2008.**

**(See Attachment# 9 Teen Health Work)**

### **Center for Preschool and Family Learning Head Start**

**NMPP's center-based Head Start model provides early childhood education, health care referrals, parent and childhood education, parent and child interactive skill building, and family development services in Washington Heights and West Harlem. An active parent organization of volunteers in each classroom provides direction to the staff on Head Start operations. The program has three classrooms; fifteen teachers and support staff with the capacity to services forty-five children and their parents.**

**The center moved forward during the quarter to complete the budget and bid process to secure a construction firm to build the fourth classroom that is set to open by September 1, 2007. During the last quarter, NMPP secured a grant from ACS to build a fourth classroom. The administrative director has begun the staffing up process to hire education and family service staff.**

**During the quarter, NMPP learned that our proposal with Mount Sinai Medical Center Child Adolescent Program was funded by the New York State Office of Mental Health. This new Clinic Plus grant will meet the mental health needs of preventive services and Head Start children and families in East & Central Harlem and Washington Heights over the next five years.**

**Finally, on May 8, 2007, the New York City Department of Education sent a letter to Mr. Drummonds that revealed that our competitive re-application submitted during the last quarter was funded and therefore we will continue to deliver UPK services in Washington Heights over the next three years.**

**(See Attachment# 10 Early Childhood Development Services)**

### **Other Services**

**Consistent with our objective to educate women in Harlem regarding the dangers of obesity, the collaboration with Weight Watchers continued this quarter. NMPP hosts the only Weight Watchers meeting in Northern Manhattan. Every Thursday approximately 125 women participate in Weight Watchers meetings which are held at NMPP.**

***B. Mandatory Objective II: Work collaboratively, to improve access to community resources, to address the needs of pre conceptual and pregnant women and their families, with a consortium of regional health and social service providers and consumers.***

**The Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership continues to participate in several collaborative efforts to improve access to community resources and to address the needs of pre-conceptual and pregnant women and their families as follows:**

**Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative (IMRI)**

**The long range goals of the IMRI Program is to help women actualize the importance of their bodies, make informed decisions about family planning as well as strengthen the infrastructure of families. IMRI uses services both internal and external to NMPP to achieve these goals. These organizations provide a variety of interventions and activities such as workshops, risk assessment and referrals, case management and home visits, outreach, coalition meetings and mini-resource centers.**

**Monthly internal and external contractor update meetings have been held and conducted by Fajah Ferrer, Program Associate for IMRI. At these meetings team members discuss the status of deliverables. *As a result of NMPP's and other lead agencies who are apart of the IMRI initiative education activities, the Mayor's Office and the New York City Council allocated 5.6 million dollars to continue to fund this initiative during Fiscal Year 09.***

***The New York State Department of Health allocation increases the total IMRI reimbursement to 7.5 million dollars to be spent between July 1, 2007 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2008. NMPP and FCN advocacy efforts helped to bring about this funding result. During the quarter, senior NMPP staff completed citywide evaluation, theoretical MCH model development work and assisted the New York City Department of Health to strengthen the data collection and reporting functions of the entire initiative.***

**During the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership, Inc. (NMPP) has worked diligently to achieve the deliverables of the Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative and has been successful despite substantial challenges with delays in the contract execution process.**

**NMPP was contracted to perform a range of services including convening the Manhattan Public Health Consortium and working in partnership with the Federation of County Networks (FCN) to organize the FCN conference. During the last quarter, NMPP completed all conference organizing, case management, workshops and information and referral deliverables. Based on this reality, NMPP will be reimbursed for the full allocation of our IMRI contract with the NYCDOH/MH.**

**During the months of March, April, May and June, the NMPP executive director worked with senior research staff at the NYCDOH/MH and evaluation and program design consultants from the other perinatal networks to better define the core IMRI interventions (case management, outreach, peer education, health education workshops, etc.) to move the program from an in-coherent listing of interventions towards a few theoretical models of MCH care that really reduces infant mortality. New forms were developed to measure these core concepts and a citywide logic model was developed for the project.**

**The Citywide Evaluation Workgroup worked hard during the quarter to standardize data collection forms (Intake, Referrals, Case Management, Peer Education, Workshops) that are used by the organizations providing IMRI services to ensure standardization of the collection and evaluation of IMRI data. Annex C, the contract menu of services contractors can select from was transformed based on the work outlined above. The plan is to jump-start the contracting process for next year's funds by early August 2007. Copies of the minutes of the above theoretical and evaluation meetings are attached to this section of the report.**

**(See Attachment# 11 IMRI Work)**

**Citywide Coalition to End Infant Mortality (CCEIM)/Federation of County Networks (FCN)**

**CCEIM and FCN are two organizations comprised of numerous community-based service providers whose mission is to reduce the rate of infant and maternal morbidity and mortality through the implementation of innovative citywide and local initiatives, advocacy, outreach and training.**

**On June 21, 2007, the FCN organized their annual citywide MCH symposium entitled: "Eliminating Health Disparities: Developing and Implementing an Adolescent Reproductive Health Agenda." Rev. Alfonso Wyatt, Vice President Fund for the City of New York was the keynote speaker.**

**A panel of adolescent health specialists from the NYSDOH, NYCDOH/MH and ACT for Youth Center of Excellence gave informative presentations to the audience. During the afternoon session, action steps were discussed to develop an adolescent reproductive health agenda. This agenda will be published during the next quarter and plans are being developed to execute the agenda.**

**(See Attachment#12 FCN)**

**Building Bridges, Building Knowledge and Hope Coalition (BBKH)**

**NMPP's NYSDOH Office of Minority Health-funded diabetes coalition was very busy during the quarter. Two diabetes focus groups were organized in April 2007. A final focus group report was published and attached. Work began during the quarter to develop several poster social marketing campaigns throughout East and Central Harlem and the South Bronx.**

**City Councilman Joel Rivera, Chair of the Council's Health Committee met with BBKH coalition leadership on July 24, 2007. During the meeting BBKH leadership update the councilman on their work to date and reviewed various policy proposals to regulate fast food restaurants in poor and working class communities throughout NYC.**

**Several Diabetes Jazz Sundays were organized within the four United Methodist Churches in East and Central Harlem who are members of the coalition. Diabetes screening and health education workshops take place during these religious health celebrations.**

**The final evaluation report from the "Diabetes Empowerment Education Program: Train the Trainer Session" was received by Mario Drummonds from the training team at the Midwest Latino Health Research, Training and Policy Center associated with the University of Illinois at Chicago. A copy of the report is attached. All of the community health workers trained received their graduation certificates.**

**During the quarter, Mr. Drummonds worked with Dr. Wilma Waithe and her team from the Office of Minority Health to submit a proposal to the HRSA Office of Women's Health to expand the work of the coalition by hiring two more diabetes community health workers. Staff from the Office of Women's Health contacted OMH recently to schedule a site visit to review our proposal.**

**During the quarter over ninety diabetic patients' care was managed by NMPP trained community health workers and parish nurses under the clinical leadership of New York Presbyterian nurse and doctors.**

**On June 22, 2007, contract managers from the NYSDOH/OMH visited NMPP to meet and interview members of the BBKH Coalition. A BBKH status report was presented, questions were answered related to budget, coalition leadership, work plan task execution and plans for the future development of the coalition were reviewed. The team left the session with a better understanding of the work, challenges and opportunities for growth. They also agreed to attend the Day of Hope event on Saturday, June 23, 2007.**

**On June 23, 2007, the third annual Day of Hope was organized in East Harlem by the BBKH coalition. Over 750 community members and providers attended this diabetes health fair. One hundred and twelve residents were registered. Ninety five patients were screened. Forty-nine had abnormal glucose scores. Forty-six had abnormal BP.**

**Follow-up calls were made to all patients with abnormal glucose scores. Twenty residents were screened for HIV. Over three hundred residents signed up for NYPH Health Plan and eighteen have been approved to date. Over twenty-five health providers set up along the street distributing health education materials to community residents.**

**(See Attachment # 13 BBKH Coalition)**

### **Harlem Food and Fitness Consortium (HFFC)**

**NMPP has been participating in the Harlem Food and Fitness Consortium, convened by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, East and Central Harlem District Public Health Office. The Consortium is an alliance of coalitions, faith based groups, businesses, government, health care providers and community based organizations that serve Harlem. The mission of the Consortium is to foster healthier lifestyles and environments for East and Central Harlem residents.**

**During the quarter, the Consortium organized its first Spring into Action: Free Block Health Party at Marcus Garvey Park in Harlem on May 12, 2007. Close to four hundred community residents and providers shared the day by involving themselves in various exercise and dance classes, tasting healthy drinks and food, experiencing a Yoga class, learning about nutrition and healthy cooking tips while learning about speed aerobics. It was a fun filled day and an opportunity to introduce the Harlem Food & Fitness Consortium to the community. A Harlem Food and Fitness Town Hall meeting is being planned for October 2007.**

**The Social Marketing Subcommittee completed work during the quarter to develop a logo for the HFFC. A copy of the approved art work developed by NMPP's Social Health Marketing Group is attached with this report. The logo will be used in all future communications with the public.**

**During the quarter, the Social Marketing Subcommittee, chaired by Mario Drummonds, worked with NYCDOH/MH communications staff to develop a press release summarizing a report entitled, "Eating Well in Harlem: How Available Is Healthy Food?"**

**The research revealed that Harlem residents are three times as likely to be obese and four times as likely to have diabetes as Upper East Side residents. The report's findings revealed that bodegas are more abundant and supermarkets are less common in East and Central Harlem compared to the Upper East Side.**

**Bodegas carrying healthy foods are less likely to be located in East and Central Harlem than on the Upper East Side. The press release was picked up and printed in several mainstream and local newspapers and aired on news television and radio shows here in NYC and throughout the nation.**

**Finally the report revealed that restaurants are common in all three communities, but fast-food establishments are more prevalent in East and Central Harlem than on the Upper East Side. Several public health recommendations were offered that make up the programmatic charge of the Harlem Food & Fitness Consortium. A copy of the press release and report is attached.**

During the quarter, the HFFC completed mass educational work with various City Council representatives on the Health Committee to educate them about the food and fitness crisis in East and Central Harlem. The NYCDOH/MH East and Central Harlem District Public Health Office secured several major funding allocations approved in the Mayor's budget on June 17, 2007 that will address the public health food and fitness crisis in Harlem and throughout NYC.

**As result of our press work, Lieutenant Governor David Paterson published a May 17, 2007 statement regarding the food and diabetes crisis in East and Central Harlem. A portion of the statement reads like this,**

**"Today's report by the NYCDOH/MH regarding the relative lack of healthy food in Harlem raises many serious questions about the nutritional needs of the Harlem community. That the absence of healthy food contributes to deleterious health outcomes for many people cannot be denied. I salute the Governor for his efforts to respond to this crisis with legislation (executive order creating council on food policy) that will make a real difference to our children and their future."**

**(See Attachment#14 HFFC)**

### **The Cancer Project**

**NMPP and Columbia University, Health Sciences Division have joined together to improve the recruitment and enrollment of minorities into cancer clinical trials. This collaboration is being funded by the NYSDOH, Office of Minority Health. Recruitment is one of the most significant challenges in conducting research within ethnic minority communities for many reasons including, 1) individuals are unaware of the option of participating in trials, 2) they are fearful, distrusting, or suspicious of research, and 3) they are concerned about the potential costs of trials.**

**Consumer education about clinical trials will be driven by the use of seven NMPP outreach workers including Community Health Workers, Health Aides, Case Managers, and Supervisors. The Cancer project outreach workers completed training at Columbia during the last week in March 2007. The group of seven NMPP staff members received HIPPA training, and Informed Consent training from Dr. Card at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. Each staff member received a certificate of completion for their participation. The outreach workers also attended a two-day training session in March 2007, with the Cancer center's outreach staff.**

**During the quarter, NMPP outreach workers and community health workers have educated over one hundred and sixty community members of various ethnicities and referred them to Columbia University's Health Sciences Division cancer clinical trials staff. The outreach teams have experimented with various outreach and education methods and will write a final report to the funding source on the best methods to educate and recruit African American and Latino respondents to cancer trials.**

### **Asthma Basics for Children Program**

**NMPP and Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health are collaborating to identify children with asthma and asthma symptoms, and to educate and enable the Northern Manhattan and East Harlem communities to better manage children with asthma. The program is designed to link clients to needed medical care and to provide parent education and empowerment workshops. The workshops and materials are available in English, French, and Spanish.**

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual community asthma forum to celebrate World Asthma Day was a four-hour educational activity that attracted ninety five professionals from various health and social service agencies. The event took place at NMPP on May 30, 2007. The topics discussed during the forum were selected by ABC Coalition members that included: latest asthma medications; immigration issues, nutrition, diabetes and obesity.**

**ABC collaborated with Harlem Hospital Center to provide glucose, cholesterol, and blood pressure screening services. NMPP provided information and registered participants for the cancer clinical trials project. The forum gave other community-based organizations the chance to promote their programs, especially new programs designed for children and families living with asthma. The following entities gave brief presentations: Harlem Hospital Children's Asthma Initiative; Asthma Swim, Asthma Free School Zone, Lower Washington Heights Neighborhood Association.**

**(See attachment # 15 ABC Coalition)**

### **Harlem Strategic Action Committee (HSAC)**

**The Harlem Strategic Action Committee met on June 12, 2007 to summarize their work for the year and plot strategy and actions for the next fiscal year. The HSAC is composed of three work groups, social support, women's health and policy. The HSAC and its work groups are funded by the Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative. On June 12, 2007, the leaders of these work groups gave reports on the status of their work. Copies of their presentations are attached.**

**All of the work outlined in the reports is targeted to reducing the infant mortality and low birth weight rates in Harlem. During the June 12, 2007 meeting, senior staff from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene proposed several changes to how the Harlem Strategic Action Committee should operate for the coming year. The streamline proposal argued for the reduction in work group sub assignments. Also the entire committee discussed recommended activities for the next fiscal year.**

**On June 28, 2007, the Harlem Strategic Action Committee's Social Support Workgroup organized a policy forum entitled: *"Conversations in Harlem: The Political-Economy of Maternal Mental health Care-Expanding Capacity, Increasing Reimbursement Rates, Developing "Patients First" Policy Proposals!"* The featured speaker was Dr. Sherry A. Glied, Department Chair, Health Policy and Management at the Mailman School of Public Health.**

**Dr. Glied provided the workgroup with a historical analysis of mental health care in the United States as well as NYC and Harlem. She summed up the clinical impact of Timothy's Law on the local maternal mental health system of care in Harlem. She provided the workgroup with advocacy planks to further the work to increase reimbursement rates for clinicians in Albany and the integration of maternal mental health and primary care throughout NYC.**

**Dr. Glied defined “Medicaid Neutrality” and how to legislatively repeal this law to expand mental health capacity in Harlem. Finally, she reviewed with the team several organizing strategies to hold managed care organizations accountable for providing mental health services to pregnant and parenting women. A copy of her PowerPoint slides is attached.**

**(See attachment # 16 HSAC)**

### **Harlem Birth Action Committee (HBAC)**

**The Harlem Birth Action Committee is an indigenous maternal and child health entity in Harlem. Over the past seventeen years, the midwives, Doulas and health educators associated with the HBAC have managed the birth of thousands of Harlem women. Every year the HBAC organizes an Empowerment and Pampering Day for Expectant and New Moms. This event took place on June 15, 2007, at the Harlem State Office Building. NMPP funded this mass birthing activity utilizing Infant Mortality Reduction Initiative funding.**

**Over two hundred and fifty pregnant and parenting mothers received free massages and facials. They participated in belly dancing, breastfeeding, creative parenting, yoga and sex after birth workshops. A maternity fashion show was staged and several motivational speakers rounded out the day. Lunch was served to all mothers and babies and several maternity gifts were given to each attendee.**

**(See Attachment # 17 Harlem Birth Action Committee)**

### **DOHMH & NMPP & Harlem Hospital Network Meeting**

**On Friday, April 13, 2007, senior staff from NMPP, Harlem Hospital and the New York City Department of Health met at Harlem Hospital to discuss the possibility of developing a maternal and child health system of care in Harlem. All parties recognized that most of the perinatal case management programs operate in a vacuum in Harlem. The team also agreed that many clients ask why so many different programs knock on their door and why don’t these programs start talk to each other.**

**Based on this reality Dr. Mary Bassett, Dr. Palmer, Debbie Kaplan and Mario Drummonds decided to call a meeting to discuss an expansive agenda that could resolve some of the system bottlenecks. Mr. Drummonds argued that if an integrated system of care is to be built, the following clinical and systems building tasks must be implemented:**

1. **Work to develop trust among local Harlem providers who currently compete with each other for clients and resources.**
2. **Work to develop state legislation for universal screening of all infants and moms before and after pregnancy.**
3. **Developing a neutral triage system where moms and newborns are screened and referred to the most appropriate level of care in the Harlem community.**
4. **Centralized or decentralized (CAPC) screening teams made up of social workers and nurses who will refer women to local programs based on a formal assessment and referral protocols agreed to by all parties**
5. **Create a web-based central data system (**child stat**) where each local MCH case management program will upload their data so a regional data mine is created identify trends, see graphically where MCH public health troops need to be redeployed or where new MCH programming must be stationed to reduce infant mortality.**
6. **Organize regular team meetings to make sure care is coordinated, resources are allocated and clients receive the right services they need for optimal health.**

**Attached are some rough minutes of our first meeting. A second meeting has been scheduled for early September 2007 where all parties will continue to build trust and continue the hard work of developing a system of care for pregnant and parenting women in Harlem.**

**(See Attachment #18 System of Care Meeting)**

### **The NYC Coalition for a Smoke-Free City**

**The NYC Coalition for a Smoke-Free City has been mobilizing public health, government, education, business, and community organizations to promote the rights of New Yorkers to live and work in smoke-free environments, as well as educating New Yorkers about the health benefits of clean indoor air, among other initiatives.**

**Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership has been a grantee of the coalition for their Smoke-Free Homes Campaign to better the health of Harlem families through the reduction of second-hand smoke exposure in the home. In 2005, NMPP conducted focus groups to obtain information about issues relating to the community's ability to render their homes smoke-free zones. The focus groups also advised NMPP's Social Health Marketing Group on media messages the community could embrace. In 2006, some of the focus group data was used to create a Smoke-Free Homes poster that continues to be distributed to health and social service providers throughout Harlem.**

**Given the rates of childhood asthma and pre-mature births in Northern Manhattan, social workers, case managers, counselors, and health educators in the community must continue to address the dangers of smoking and second-hand smoke exposure to the families they serve. During the quarter, NMPP's smoke-free home staff continued to plan a community forum for health and social service providers that will take place on July 24, 2007 at NMPP. The major topics the forum will cover include:**

- 1. Clinical and social ramifications of smoking and second-hand smoke exposure.**
- 2. Issues surrounding smoking initiation and cessation for pregnant and parenting women.**
- 3. Effective ways to communicate with individuals to modify smoking behaviors.**
- 4. Medicaid policies regarding coverage of smoking cessation services.**
- 5. Targeting and marketing practices of tobacco companies on specific groups.**

**A copy of NMPP's \$25,000 work plan with MHRA and the NYC Coalition for a Smoke Free City is attached.**

**(See Attachment # 19 Smoke-Free Campaign)**

***C. Mandatory Objective III: Promote healthy behaviors, including HIV counseling and testing, during pregnancy and reduce the impact of risky behaviors on birth outcomes.***

#### **Sisterlink /Community Action for Prenatal Care (CAPC)**

**The Sisterlink Program provides training and support to community-based outreach workers, who conduct outreach at various locations throughout the community targeting pregnant women who may be at risk for HIV infection. Sisterlink outreach workers come from a variety of community based organizations and hospitals.**

**Outreach is conducted at various locations such as homeless shelters, a church food pantry, transitional housing programs for families and a large neighborhood supermarket. The participating Sisterlink outreach partners reported 82 new intakes for pregnant/at risk women this quarter.**

**The Sisterlink Consumer Advisory Group (CAG) met once during the month of June. The discussion focused on the SISTA workshop they would all be participating in. The team discussed the fact that they would be attending some upcoming trainings on how to do outreach and two individuals (Rashida Moore and Shelly Paris) were chosen to attend the upcoming CAG train the trainers that Cicatelli Associates will be offering through CAPC. Once these consumers complete the training, both will be able to train other organizations on how to put together an effective CAG.**

**The Steering Committee met in June and the meeting was focused only on reviewing and revising the policies and procedures for Sisterlink. Final revisions will be reviewed at the meeting in September. A general Coalition meeting was held on April 13, 2007. The meeting focused on a reviewing the feedback from the March 2007 conference organized by Sisterlink.**

**The new strategic plan was distributed which discussed Sisterlink's focus on the youth population and concentrating our efforts in East and Central Harlem for the upcoming year to recruit high-risk HIV positive pregnant women.**

**On May 5, 2007, Ms. Schuk, Program Manager of the Sisterlink Coalition spoke at the Caribbean Health Association Health Disparities Affecting Nigerians and Ghanaians Conference that took place in Harlem New York. NMPP also completed outreach and marketing services for this event.**

**On May 16<sup>th</sup>, Sisterlink outreach teams conducted their first informational fair with the Abyssinian Development Corp in the 10039 zip code. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, perinatal outreach squads held their second informational fairs in Washington Heights with the Community Healthcare Network in zip code 10033.**

**On May 30<sup>th</sup> 2007, Ms. Schuk spoke at the New York City Administration for Children's Services quarterly meeting. During the meeting Sisterlink renewed their connections with The Door. This agency serves the needs of high risk adolescents. During the meeting, many of the ACS staff gave Ms. Schuk pointers on how to reach the youth population within ACS's foster care and preventive systems.**

**On June 15<sup>th</sup>, Sisterlink held their third informational fair in East Harlem with the East Harlem Based Alliance Corporation in zip code 10029. Routine outreach continues twice a week at the Hamilton House Shelter and the teams also go to the Parkview Hotel two times a week to recruit pregnant and parenting women.**

**(See Attachment # 20 HIV Work)**

***D. Mandatory Objective IV: Work collaboratively with the Regional Perinatal Centers to address public health issues related to maternal and child health, particularly in the implementation and operation of Regional Perinatal Forums.***

**The Manhattan Regional Perinatal Forum was very busy during the quarter. On May 15, 2007, the New York City Regional Perinatal Forum organized a forum focused on uncovering best practices in collecting and using perinatal data in New York City. The forum attracted citywide perinatal and community-based clinicians, community organizers and policy experts to develop systems to collect quality perinatal data.**

**MRPF leaders were very active in marketing and planning this forum. The forum helped the citywide data committee move closer to the goal of creating the conditions where the New York City and New York State's perinatal data systems begin to merge.**

**On May 3, 2007, the MRPF Steering Committee met and reviewed the status of all projects and committee work. The data committee reported out and revealed that the May 15, 2007 Citywide Data Conference was on schedule to be very successful. Mr. Drummonds revealed that the plan to organize the next general meeting of the MRPF on June 12, 2007 was being executed. Dr. Joseph Schulman from Weill Medical College of Cornell University had agreed to speak on the daily work of perinatal care. The Education Committee gave their final report on the status of the organizing of their first conference entitled, Healthy Students/Healthy Communities that was set to take place on May 8, 2007.**

**On May 8, 2007, the MRPF's Healthy Students, Healthy Communities Conference took place at NYU Medical Center from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Over ninety-five clinicians, policy wonks, social workers, health educators, teachers attended from across Manhattan. The purpose of the conference was to learn about the link between student health and adult health. Acquire health resources and ideas to implement an effective health curriculum in a middle school. Finally, join the MRPF's Education Committee to enhance the overall health of students in middle schools.**

**There were several informative keynote presentations, workshops and panel discussions that assisted the Education Committee in achieving its objectives. Funding for this workshop was secured through two grants. One of the funding sources was the March of Dimes. A copy of the program is attached. The MRPF began its important work to develop and field test an interconceptional care curriculum in the public schools by organizing this conference. The MRPF also achieve an important milestone in its Regional Action Plan.**

**On June 12, 2007, the MRPF organized its final general meeting for the period at Weill Cornell Medical Center. Dr. Joseph Schulman, Associate Professor, Pediatrics & Newborn Medicine lectured on: *"The Daily Work of Perinatal Care: How Are We Doing? How Do We Know? How Do We Do Better?"* The lecture was a primer on total quality management within a NICU. Dr. Schulman took the audience of practitioners on a journey of how work gets done in the NICU by highlighting standards of quality practice, talking about the supervisory process to eliminate mistakes in clinical practice from the janitor to the neonatologist and creating a pendulum of excellence as it relates to taking care of sick babies. A copy of Dr. Schulman's slides is attached.**

**Finally, the MRPF finalized its annual Regional Action Plan and Final Report and sent both documents to Albany. Many of the milestones in the Regional Action Plan have been achieved as the MRPF prepares for the next wave of MCH work that will stabilize care for mothers and babies throughout the borough of Manhattan.**

**(See Attachment # 21 MRPF)**