

**NSTAT Working Group #5**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**Notetaker: Patrice**

**Please fill out the NSTAT Action Agenda survey here:** <https://tinyurl.com/ActionAgenda1>.

The NStat team will be allocating part of our budget we have access to right now towards one of our identified policy events. This project vote is due next week. Please contact Renita Francios at [rfrancois@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:rfrancois@cityhall.nyc.gov) for more information.

**Working Group Timeline**

- This meeting is geared towards a wrap-up and shareback on all the work each working group has completed and an opportunity to make necessary connections across all of our work.

**Action Agenda Process**

- We are creating a process for ourselves, neighbors, colleagues and related agendas to put these policy events in motion with the goal of not treating the action agenda as a stagnant document, but one that we enact, reflect on and revise. Treating the action agenda as a live document allows us to be flexible.
- We want to take a more macro view of MAP after all of the conversations we have had within each working group. These
- Our Youth Council, the youth development working group, of over 50 youth across all 15 developments have also been creating their own recommendations that have influenced the policy events and priorities of the other 4 working groups.

**Common Themes Across Working Groups**

- There's a lot of overlap among all 5 working groups. For example, safety + justice will speak to how residents feel safe or unsafe as it relates to the physical space which overlaps with the work of the Physical Space working group.
- We will continue to make these connections in our breakout sessions today as well.

**Get Ready for LocalStat**

- There are many ways to engage your neighbors to welcome a larger network of residents to participate in this work and connect those to needed resources and supports as will be detailed in the Action Agenda.
- We are excited to have LocalStat as a next tangible step on the ground with your neighbors across all 15 developments.

**Physical Space: Areas of Discussion**

1. Building + Campus Security
  - a. GOAL: Develop rapid responses to unsafe conditions like construction and low lighting.
2. Clean + Sanitary Conditions

- a. GOAL: Clean common spaces led by active residents with better NYCHA infrastructure & service
3. Recreation + Play
  - a. GOAL: All NYCHA residents have access to quality open and recreation facilities and programming.

### **Health + Well-Being: Areas of Discussion**

1. Mental Wellness
  - a. GOAL: Increase access to and training around culturally competent "mental wellness" information and services for NYCHA MAP communities.
2. COVID-19 + Emergencies
  - a. GOAL: Increase equitable access to supportive services, preparedness, testing, and vaccination.
3. Food Security
  - a. Support the creation, sustainability and access of local food distribution systems/networks to ensure availability day-to-day and during emergency relief.
  - b. *Some of the COVID-19 relief is directed towards food justice which is exciting for our upcoming LocalStat work.*

### **Safety + Justice: Areas of Discussion**

1. Crime + Gun Violence
  - a. GOAL: Reduce gun violence.
2. Community Responses to Social and/or Public Health Issues
  - a. GOAL: Courteous, professional and respectful interactions between law enforcement and community
3. Community + Police Relations
  - a. GOAL: Courteous, professional and respectful interactions between law enforcement and community

### **Economic Stability: Areas of Discussion**

1. Education + Training Access
  - a. GOAL: Increase residents' access, awareness and participation in education + employment opportunities, trainings and programs.
2. Entrepreneurship Opportunities
  - a. GOAL: Connect residents launching their own businesses to resources to help them be successful.

### **Post Breakout Group Recap:**

- Safety + Justice shared the environmental justice issues related to our strategies. We are also on the same page about ownership of our property. It's important for NYCHA to recognize that this is not transient housing. Many of us live here for decades, this is our home. We care about if we are safe and whether our spaces are clean.
- Health + Well-Being came up in all the groups. Specifically for Safety + Justice, we discussed the concern of adequate approaches to dealing with individual and collective trauma to identify appropriate levels of support for those with mental health concerns.

We also want to figure out how to improve youth and police relations as it relates to trauma and trust. It's important for us to start slow and work with those who are already doing the work to engage youth.

- Economic Stability identified better communication and networking across key stakeholders and residents on all MAP development sites. We also identified the need for securing funding for all our work across the working groups and ensuring that we have the infrastructure in our physical space to ensure economic empowerment and financial security. Trust is also a huge key across all working groups. Economic Stability also identified teaching youth and families to sustain what we are talking about accomplishing across all working groups. Teach a man to fish and they will eat for a lifetime.

### **Additional Opportunities for NYCHA Residents**

- **ATLAS:** One of the main goals of MAP is to get residents closer to where decisions are made. We are also offering a program called ATLAS and its innovation fund through its partnership with United Way to invest in community organizations fostering peace. The fund will do grantmaking throughout the summer and is part of our efforts towards a safe summer and stem the tide we have experienced with COVID-19 and violence. We are looking for 5-10 community leaders, justice-involved individuals and others to decide who will receive this funding. If you would like to apply, please email Renita Francios at [rfrancois@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:rfrancois@cityhall.nyc.gov) after you have completed the application in order to participate, selection will random and must believe in the power of community safety. Participants will receive \$1,000 stipend. Atlas Innovation Fund Review Committee Application:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdfYuAwCHtuVOtZwrzWDj\\_o6YrBDSMiZZGvcFonUIKaB1jrmg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdfYuAwCHtuVOtZwrzWDj_o6YrBDSMiZZGvcFonUIKaB1jrmg/viewform)
- **THRIVE:** There are groups in Harlem (THRIVE) to work with residents to review trauma-informed mental health support with \$50 stipends for 1 hour of residents time. This is a great opportunity for residents to shape materials that raise awareness of this program with THRIVE. Please contact Renita Francios at [rfrancois@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:rfrancois@cityhall.nyc.gov) for more information.

### **Resources + Materials shared during WG #5**

- Recovery for All of Us: New York City Launches New Deal- Inspired City Cleanup Corps  
<https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/246-21/recovery-all-us-new-york-city-launches-new-deal-inspired-city-cleanup-corps>
- New Citywide Resources to Reduce Gun Violence: Safe in the City Grant  
<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/peacenyc/resources/community-resources.page#:~:text=Safe%20in%20the%20City%20Grant,in%20communities%20across%20the%20city>
- Public Safety Toolkit  
<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/peacenyc/downloads/pdf/public-safety-toolkit.pdf>

**Central NStat Working Group #5 - Physical Space**  
**Thursday, May 20, 2021 - 4-6pm**  
**Notetaker: Kristen**

**Overlaps**

- Health + wellbeing
  - More urban farms and gardens
  - Recreation + Play, cleanliness

**How are you going to move the Action Agenda forward?**

- Alaire Chappell (Van Dyke)
  - Clean up Days, connect with neighbors
  - Erin Johnson, Green City Force coming to help!!
  - Signage is important - have to start putting messages up. Let's love our community.
- Help Terry tackle Garbage at Butler:
  - Rhonda Bennett -
    - Recs for Terry Hurd:
      - Danny Barber
      - Speak to Vito
    - "Residents have power! Right to talk and demand that your development gets cleaned up!"
    - Get in touch with community centers - get kids involved
    - Build rapport with Supervisor of Grounds
  - Rodney-
    - Put pressure on NYCHA to move things faster
    - Policy Events
      - 1- Call Vito for support from the top;
      - 2- Connect Terry w/Rhonda to help with advocacy;
      - 3- Set priorities for Clean Up Corps;
      - 4- help shape the Campaign for Clean NYCHA at Butler Houses
  - Javier
    - NYCHA is hiring. But if it's not enough or not in time, MAP stakeholders can have a powerful campaigns of calls & letters to NYCHA.
    - the new mgmt at Butler say they have been asking for more staff since they got there. so next step could be to pressure those in charge/responsible for grounds, sanitation & staffing
    - there are groups of organizations & residents asking for \$80 billion for public housing from the Federal government
- Erin Johnson
  - Campaign for a Clean NYCHA
    - Data collection + surveying
    - Implementation in a month

**Central NStat Working Group #5 - Main Room & Economic Stability**  
**Thursday, May 20, 2021 - 4-6pm**  
**Notetaker: Patrice**

**What similarities and overlaps did you hear between our Working Group and other Working Groups?**

- Communication is also coordination which is important to ensure that all important information is in one place. This is something that all of the working groups struggle with.
- Important to model for our youth and families to show how we can all work together to accomplish these goals. Trust is the cornerstone to accomplish this work which allows for better networking, partnerships and overall success.
- Important to support youth in engaging in this work and receiving the necessary resources. It's also important to create partnerships among youth and older residents to ensure collaboration and inter-generational community building.
  - Youth also need support in navigating basics, keeping focus and bringing helpful resources/information to their immediate and extended families on how to maintain financial stability.
- Concerns with securing funding for the programs and initiatives residents want to launch. We need to identify stakeholders in our communities to reach out to to support residents in accomplishing long-term goals.

**How are you going to move the Action Agenda forward? What are you going to do on Monday?**

- Maria can reach out to NYECT to find out what can be done.
- Connect youth to SYEP + NYCHA-specific initiatives focused on MAP developments (Shanna Castillo). This is one example of summer opportunities that can lead to a partnership with providers or create a great learning experience for youth.
- We can identify partners with store locations or store fronts who can compensate youth for internships for their time while they learn new skill sets. An HGVP and youth partnership could also be another opportunity for youth. Guaranteed paid internships are key for youth creating financial independence while building valuable skill sets for career paths. (Dorin Hammond)
  - One thing I will do is print out paper SYEP applications and conduct a pop-up tabling at St. Nicholas Houses for ages 14-24. I will also let them know that youth income will not be considered household income that affects the household composition, but stipends. (Dorin Hammond)
    - I have tables to support this (Deymis Baquero)
    - I can also do what I call "Family and Community Matters" pop up resources (Heleana Bell)
- Important to identify new, potential partners for paid youth internships. This is something that can happen right now. (Jose Torres)
  - There is non-traditional, meaningful work that youth can benefit from. When thinking about policy events, it's important to break this down into tiny chunks.

For example, who can champion creating this list? Who will make phone calls?  
(Rasmia Kirmani).

- Residents can use a NYCHA portal to submit resumes and other resources. We also have posters that go up in property management offices, a resident hotline and an email distribution list for all residents. Emails used are from annual recertifications.
- Important to connect with neighbors and identify how we can support one another based on our skill sets and knowledge. For example, I've recently found out that a couple of my neighbors are nurses which was really helpful for me in identifying programs. (Christine Brown).

**Central NStat Working Group #5 - Health + Well-being**  
**Thursday, May 20, 2021 - 4-6pm**  
**Notetaker: Lillian**

**BREAKOUT ROOM**

**Prompts:**

- **What similarities and overlaps did you hear between our Working Group and other Working Groups?**
- **How are you going to move the Action Agenda forward? What are you going to do on Monday?**

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- 1. What similarities and overlaps did you hear between our Working Group and other Working Groups?**

Cheryl Starks: heard lot of things that resonated with what we've been talking about. Overlap w/ other teams -eg. QR codes. We're also doing similar things with the youth.

Serena Chandler: excited about the info we heard. Many of the other groups are directly connected to Health & Wellbeing.

- Engaging police officers
- Cleaning up
- All of these issues impact our health & wellbeing
- Pet Day, registered, treats and grooming - relate to things I'm doing
- Talking to Police: planning a Throwback day, stickball, hopscotch, doubledutch - OUT of UNIFORM
- Friendship bench - provide resources on the bench, talk to that resource
- All of this is tied to H&W

More in common threads, it is not accidental that there are so many overlaps to which we need a systemic solution. Categories are created just for our own productivity in meeting in groups in smaller settings.

Phyllis Walker: love how it's all intertwined. Safe Space program - everything we're doing, going to do Excited about the quick response and training for residents on mental illness, having resources to deal with it. When given the opportunity to move - decided to stay put due to all the great things going on here now!

Cheryl: Wagner community came together to program around our green space, start wed program for seniors - providing Bingo - safe and clean environment. We have basketball ct is finished. Trash cans in place. Volleyball & Tennis to come.

Holly: a lot of overlap. Excited about resident centered and driven initiatives and creative ideas around programming. We can't have H+W if the space is not clean. If people don't have opp to advance education, work and home lives. That's directly connected to our HEALTH. Safety- NYPD showing up in uniform reflects lack of awareness of those symbols - all these affect H+W.

Cheryl: excited to hear that the youth were interested in the entrepreneurship program. Eg. Starting a 12-week program with outcome: biz plan and an event to showcase their product. Learn how to promote themselves. Learn to obtain LLC. Too bad it's just for the youth! Happy to know that we engaged the youth in this process - learning to speak up, and how to get things to happen.

Baptise: Like how to address issues not in a punitive way but rather positive, encourage ownership of their home. Love where you live. Office of Gender based Violence - working with ASPCA. They're already working together. **Baptise could become a Champion on making this connection!**

**1. How are you going to move the Action Agenda forward? What are you going to do on Monday?**

Jackie Kennedy: Additional similarities: Residents as champions, Identifying ways to fund the work. I am curious of the connection between mental health and public safety

Would be good for us to come back together again to reflect as DOHMH on our Action Agenda - trainings and community conversations. TO set things up. Holly agrees - plug into programs we already have going that residents are interested in working on.

This is policy change! Within Jackie and Holly - working WITHIN an agency to figure out how to DO SOMETHING together, communicating between

Jackie - Transparency about policies and process is important - esp within an enormous agency - it's hard to know what everyone is doing just within our own agency!

WLWD: Map does have such an overlap. We want to start immediately: so focused in our own work, we don't stop to see all the diff partners and who's doing what. Increase our referrals. We recommend to other Selena's org, Rising  
Immediate next step: help ID what is and is not a crisis.

Master Resource Guide – WLWD

Phyllis Walker: What we're doing on Monday is something we're probably already doing.  
Current action plan: When Love Works activates space, came together with neighbors



improving basketball ct and wanting to build on that. Master resource guides have been around but now w/ social media/tech we can use QR codes to make it more accessible.

Baptise could become a Champion on making this connection!

Cheryl: QR Code with complete listing of all the partners, what they do and contact info

How can we find opportunities to sustain the work we've all been doing!

**Central NStat Working Group #5 - Safety + Justice**  
**Thursday, May 20, 2021 - 4-6pm**  
**Notetaker: Daryle**

**What similarities and overlaps did you hear between our Working Group and other Working Groups?**

- **Physical Space**

- A lot of overlap between us and physical space. Liked the idea of having groups of dog owners for stewardship actually worked where I live. Had an issue with people not cleaning up. After we got groups together, no one wanted to be the bad guy, Helped to educate people on things they didn't know. Kinda like positive peer pressure.
- In our group, we are going forward with an action plan to clean up. Was happy to hear about it in physical space. Dog waste is also included in the action plan.
- Sharing space right now sorry for the screen being off. I think I noticed a lot of similarities to what we speak about during our resident meetings i.e Dog poop etc.
- In Red Hook, it has been difficult because there are no trash cans.
- So much direct connection to physical space, kinda like broken windows but not applied in the same way. Shows connection b/t how people feel about the environment. If the window is broken, where is the person to fix the window? Not police to arrest those who broke the window
- Idea of doing something to you, instead of with you
- You wouldn't let your dog pee in the front door of your home, but in tenant situations it happens because there is a lack of ownership. Need to help people have sense of ownership of surroundings
- How to get NYCHA into the idea that residents do have ownership over their homes
- Intentional way of carving out space for young people. Reminder that they are key stakeholders and impacted by these issues. Continue to include young people at the table
- Most residents don't realize their power

- **Health + Well Being**

- **Economic Stability**

- Crime being about opportunity or lack thereof
- Create potential pathways to employment, like clean up corp
- Finding additional funding, Police Foundation has a lot of money
- How can this impact public safety
- Telling people to get out of the streets but no pathway for people to gain stability
- Advanced Peace Model - gun violence reduction. Pay individuals not to carry weapons.

## How are you going to move the Action Agenda forward? What are you going to do on Monday?

- Talked about non law enforcement responses to public health issues. Thrive initiative (pilot on mental health emergencies) is working on a pilot in harlem. Offering opp residents to advise on campaign building.
- Be Heard program - providing alternatives to police involved response to 911 calls that come in, where there is no violence or weapons indicated. Respond with 2 EMTs and a social worker. Would provider some de-escalation, and would do assessment, medical/psychological
- Not saying call 911 for everybody, understanding what are the options. Don't want to encourage people to call 911 everytime, how to get appropriate response every time
- How do we get resident voices amplified. Good opportunities for residents to be at the table. We are also responsible for disseminating information
- You would call 911 as regular and they will consider proper channels (social worker/EMT vs police involvement)
- Have conversations with young people about trauma, racism, mental health with police officers. How can we get this off the ground
  - Build bridges between cops and young people - how do we continue to build on what's already happening. Hard to get young people into conversations, especially with cops.
  - Young people unpacking trauma around their relationship with police
- Who should be the host of these conversations?
  - Reach out to orgs who have built bridges with cops
  - Talk to NCOs, YCOs and like Ramon said there has been huge success in the past let's see how we can build on that.
  - Need to center the young people and their experience
  - I think also educating officers and residents on issues like implicit bias, colorism etc. Having space to talk about how this intersects with trauma is super important.
  - Have youth talk about their experiences amongst themselves. Then think about police presence. First support young people unpack trauma without police presence.
  - Need to reach out to organizations because they're the ones with the young people.
  - It's hard to talk about trauma. After these conversations, there is no follow up. When conversations are initiated, need to have plan to close them (follow-up)
  - Children of Promise in Bed Stuy - works with children of incarcerated parents
  - In red hook, 3 part series about trauma. Peacemaking circles with young people and officers do team building  
(<http://www.star-revue.com/justice-center-celebrates-bridging-gap-birthday-sarah-matusek/>) an article about some past work in Re Hook working with young people and police
  - Gun violence reduction