



## NYC Nurse-Family Partnership E-News

January 2019

[www.nyc.gov/health/nfp](http://www.nyc.gov/health/nfp)

### Happy New Year From NYC Nurse-Family Partnership

Greetings, and happy new year from the staff of New York City Nurse-Family Partnership. As some readers know, we took a hiatus from the *E-News* last year as we underwent an expansion of the program that included the addition of three new sites and four new teams.

#### Expansion

Our Targeted Citywide Initiative, which serves those who are homeless, in foster care or involved in the criminal or juvenile justice system, added a third team to serve the city's growing needs in these areas. In addition, NYC NFP created two new sites: Manhattan NFP, which includes the Harlem Hospital team and Metropolitan Hospital team, and, helping us expand our reach in Brooklyn, Woodhull Hospital NFP. All three sites will eventually be located at their respective Health + Hospitals facility. Overall, NYC NFP's expansion has allowed the program to increase its client capacity by about one-third, bringing it close to 3,000. We're proud to say that as of 2018 all four new teams are up and running, conducting outreach to develop strong bi-directional referral streams and building the teams' caseloads.

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#### NYC NFP RELEASES NEW PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS, VIDEOS

While NYC NFP's communications team was taking a break from the *E-News*, they were hard at work creating an entire new suite of promotional materials for both clients and providers, including four brand new videos that are available on social media and will be distributed on DVD to providers.

Building on the design of the 2017 "Here for You"



Woodhull Hospital NFP client Barbara Heckstall (right) and daughter Naomi-Christine pose with their nurse, Carlyne Alexander, at the site's Client Appreciation Day on December 21, 2018.

### Graduations

Whether you are one of NYC NFP's newest community partners or have a longstanding relationship with the program, we'd like to offer a short refresher of the client timeline in the Nurse-Family Partnership model: First-time mothers enroll when they are pregnant for 28 weeks or less and are paired with their own personal nurses, who support them through pregnancy, childbirth, infancy and toddlerhood. These home visits continue until the clients' children turn two years old, at which time they graduate from the program.



subway and bus campaign, the new materials feature NYC NFP's own nurses, clients and graduates telling their own stories and letting other first-time moms know that they can also have **their own personal nurse**.

Among the new print materials available are our:

- [Brochure](#)
- [Poster](#)
- [One-page overview](#)
- [Provider referral guide](#)

All client materials are available in English, Spanish and French. PDFs of all our literature can be found on the [NYC NFP provider information page](#) of the NYC Health Department website and hard copies can be ordered by calling 311 or reaching out to us directly at 347-396-4200 or [nycnfp@health.nyc.gov](mailto:nycnfp@health.nyc.gov).

Our videos, in English and Spanish and soon to be available on DVD, can be viewed on the Health Department's [NYCHealth](#) YouTube channel (see links below).

Little Nahla Olmo, whose T-shirt shows she's wise beyond her two years, was clearly having a great time at the Bronx NFP September graduation.

While the first wave of graduations for clients of our new teams won't happen for quite some time, 2018 saw our six senior sites graduate more than 350 clients. Their achievements were celebrated at eight graduation ceremonies spanning all five boroughs.



Northern Queens NFP graduate Farhana Islam, husband Tanvir Habib and baby Safwaan enjoy the site's October celebration.

Bronx NFP—which is run by Visiting Nurse Service of New York under contract with the Health Department— is the program's largest site, with four teams of nurses serving up to 800 families throughout the borough, and holds two graduations per year. While almost all NYC NFP graduations feature at least one client speaker, our Bronx clients have been outdoing themselves the last few years, and this year five graduating moms took to the stage to speak warmly of their relationships with their nurses and enthusiastically about their experience in the program. At one of the ceremonies, New York State Assembly Member Nathalia Fernandez delivered congratulatory remarks, assisted the nurses in giving out certificates and took photos with some of the proud grads and their families.

- [NYC NFP video \(English\)](#)
- [NYC NFP video \(Spanish\)](#)

We hope that you will help spread the word about the truly life-changing work that NYC NFP nurses are doing every day for first-time moms in New York City. If you'd like to partner with us to increase the program's visibility on social media, please get in touch. We have 30-second video spots formatted for Facebook and Twitter as well as the YouTube versions listed below.

- [NYC NFP spot \(English\)](#)
- [NYC NFP spot \(Spanish\)](#)

We look forward to a bright and hopeful 2019, working together to build a better, stronger future for New York City's first-time families!

Whether you're a health care provider, social worker, teacher, community leader or member of the clergy, or you work at a CBO or one of our sister City agencies, we want to partner with you to bring NYC NFP's services to as many low-income first-time mothers in NYC as possible. So please reach out to us at 347-396-4200 or



Proud Bronx NFP grad Lysette Reynoso and son Isaiah Contreras pose with Bronx Assembly Member Nathalia Fernandez at the site's October client graduation.

Across the river at the Queens Public Library's Langston Hughes branch, Northern Queens NFP, run under contract with the Health Department by Public Health Solutions (PHS), attracted some star power of its own. Congratulatory remarks at the festive event were delivered by NYC Health Department Acting Commissioner (now Commissioner) Dr. Oxiris Barbot. Presiding over a room full of proud parents and superhero-caped toddlers, she clearly enjoyed her first NYC NFP graduation, and we look forward to her participation in future ceremonies. You can read more and watch a [lovely video on PHS's blog](#). The event was also featured on NY1 Noticias and in a piece in the *Queens Tribune*.(see article links below).



[nycnfp@health.nyc.gov](mailto:nycnfp@health.nyc.gov), and let's talk about how we can work together to improve the lives of our fellow New Yorkers, one family at a time.

## **HEALTH DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES STANDARDS FOR RESPECTFUL CARE AT BIRTH**

We are pleased to announce the release of the NYC Standards for Respectful Care at Birth, which details the human rights of pregnant New Yorkers during and after childbirth. The document, which was developed with the [Sexual and Reproductive Justice](#) Community Engagement Group (SRJ CEG), creates a foundation to support patients, community members and health care providers in advocating for respectful care for mothers and mothers-to-be.

Northern Queens NFP client Blanca Macias and daughter Sophie celebrate their graduation from the program.



NYC Health Department Commissioner Dr. Oxiris Barbot delivered congratulatory remarks to an audience of clients, dads, family members, nurses, staff and other well-wishers at Northern Queens NFP's October 2018 graduation.

### Client Events

NYC NFP graduations were not the only hot ticket in town in 2018, however. Our sites held a variety of events for their clients, from ongoing breastfeeding support groups, "Mommy Meet-ups" and picnics in parks and at zoos to Mother's Day events providing moms with some well-deserved pampering and holiday celebrations complete with gifts for the children (including at least one Santa Claus to hand them out).



Available in both poster and brochure format, the Standards will be used to engage the city's 38 maternity hospitals, other clinical providers and over 100 community-based organizations in conversations around health care education, decision-making and support, as well as the right to informed consent, quality health care, dignity and nondiscrimination. You can order them in English, Spanish, French, Haitian Creole and Mandarin by calling 311.

The NYC Standards encourage those giving birth in NYC to know their human rights and be active decision-makers in their birthing experiences. The goal is for providers, community leaders and health care and other practitioners to integrate the Standards into their routine clinical care and community engagement



Woodhull Hospital NFP client Jardonna Constant and daughter Leilaah enjoy Client Appreciation Day, a December event hosted by one of NYC NFP's newest sites.



Teresita Trujillo and Gonzalo Minchala enjoy the Northern Queens NFP holiday party with their son, Gael—joined by, of course, Santa.

### **Friends of NYC NFP**

On hand for some of these events were the volunteers

work. You can download the standards and find out more about on the [Health Department's SRJ page](#) or by searching for "SRJ" on [nyc.gov](#).

### **JOIN THE NYC NFP TEAM!**

Do you or does someone you know want to be part of the NYC NFP team? NYC NFP is hiring for two bilingual (English/Spanish) positions. To find the job descriptions for the positions listed below, go to the [NYC Jobs website](#) and search for "bilingual Nurse-Family Partnership."

We hope you will share these listings with anyone who may be interested.

**Woodhull Hospital NFP**  
[Bilingual Nurse Home Visitor \(English/Spanish\)](#)

**NYC NFP Mental Health Support Team**  
[Bilingual Clinical Social Worker \(English/Spanish\)](#)

### **FOLLOW US ON TWITTER**

from Friends of New York City Nurse-Family Partnership (“the Friends”), who also lead their own programs for NYC NFP moms. Known as the Learn, Eat and Play (or LEAP) program, the sessions have a rotating set of topics, ranging from reading to your baby to choosing the right doctor for your needs to infant massage, and also include crafts and baby play time. In 2018 the group conducted 18 LEAP sessions, serving over 100 mothers.



NYC NFP clients enjoy a LEAP workshop learning how to make educational toys from common household items.

In addition to providing this valuable programming, the Friends continued to administer the Heart's Desire Fund (HDF), which in 2018 gave out nearly \$50,000 in awards to more than 60 NYC NFP clients. Heart's Desire awards were created to provide NYC NFP moms with financial support to assist them in working towards education and employment goals. Awards can be a laptop to allow a mom to do her school work at home with her baby; funding for child care; and tuition assistance for higher education or for career training programs, certificates or licensing.



For news and updates on NYC NFP, please follow the NYC Health Department's Twitter feed, [@nycHealthy](https://twitter.com/nycHealthy).

### **FACEBOOK PAGE: OUR LITTLEST NEW YORKERS**



Our Littlest New Yorkers  
[@LittlestNYers](https://www.facebook.com/LittlestNYers)

Stay in touch with NYC NFP and all of the Division of Family and Child Health on the ["Our Littlest New Yorkers" Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/LittlestNYers), where NYC parents and families are talking about the joys and challenges of raising young children. Visit it daily for tips, events, photos and more at [www.facebook.com/LittlestNYers](https://www.facebook.com/LittlestNYers)



Jamaica NFP client and Heart's Desire Fund awardee Nusrat Kadary, shown here with daughter Amira, received \$1,400 to help pay her tuition so she could continue her studies.

Since the Friends started administering the Heart's Desire Fund in 2016, the group has awarded \$87,000 to improve the lives and futures of 105 families. In 2019, the group plans to grant a minimum of \$75,000 in awards. NYC NFP clients, nurses and staff are incredibly grateful for the generous support the Friends has shown over the last several years and continues to show as its fundraising goals—and support for our moms and their babies—continue to grow. We encourage you to [read more about the life-changing work of the Friends and the amazing mothers they support](#). Also on their website is a [short video featuring HDF winners](#) speaking about what their awards have meant to them.

## NYC NFP in the News

Extra, extra! 2018 saw some great press coverage for two of our sites: Bronx NFP and Northern Queens NFP. Click on the links below and read all about it!

### **NY1 Noticias, March 16, 2018**

[Noticias Servicio de Enfermeras Para Madres Primeriza en Inwood](#)

## ABOUT US

Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) is an evidence-based nationwide nurse home visiting program committed to improving the health, well-being and self-sufficiency of low-income first-time mothers and their children ([national NFP website](#)).

The program is voluntary and there is no cost to the client. NYC NFP is the largest urban program in the country, having served more than 16,000 clients since its inception in 2003 and currently serving more than 2,000 families across all five boroughs.





**Queens Tribune (QNS), October 29, 2018**

[New moms from Queens graduate from program that helped them get parenthood off to a great start](#)

**News 12, Bronx, November 20, 2018**

[Evening News Feature](#)

## Oh, Baby! New Additions to the NYC NFP Family

Last but not least, we wanted to share with you the happy news that more NFP babies than usual—but in a different way— were born last year. Engaging in the truest form of empathy with their clients, five NYC NFP staffers—four nurses and one nurse supervisor—gave birth to babies of their own. Congratulations to Bettina Confident, Julia Donahue, Janaye Heath, Deneige Outram and Shevon Skinner! We are so pleased to welcome these special new additions to the NYC NFP family!

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**To join our mailing list, send an email with  
“subscribe” in the subject line to  
[nycnfp@health.nyc.gov](mailto:nycnfp@health.nyc.gov).**

*The New York City Nurse-Family Partnership is administered by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, which contracts with the following agencies to provide services: **Harlem Hospital Center, Public Health Solutions, SCO Family of Services and Visiting Nurse Service of New York.** The program is funded by New York City and State as well as with federal Medicaid, MIECHV (Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program) and TANF dollars. In addition, since 2003 it has received generous support from dedicated individual donors and private foundations, including the **Altman Foundation, The Arthur Foundation, The Dunn Foundation, the Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence, the New York State Health Foundation, Newman's Own Foundation, The Pinkerton Foundation, Robin Hood, the Samberg Family Foundation, Schwartz Cousins Fund, The Edith Glick Shoolman Children's Foundation and Starr International Foundation.** All private grants for NYC NFP are managed by the Fund for Public Health in New York, a nonprofit organization that works with the NYC Health Department to develop innovative, valuable and lasting public-private partnerships that increase the agency's capacity and reach.*

**NYC Nurse-Family Partnership | 347-396-4200 | [nycnfp@health.nyc.gov](mailto:nycnfp@health.nyc.gov)**

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