

### BACKGROUND

- Brooklyn is the most populous borough in New York City with 2.6 million residents, nearly half of whom receive Medicaid (1.2 million beneficiaries). Community Care of Brooklyn (CCB) is a network of over 1,000 health and social service organizations working together to improve the health and well-being of over 600,000 Medicaid beneficiaries in Brooklyn, and receives administrative support from the Maimonides Department of Population Health.
- The partnership between CCB and New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) originated during the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program in 2018, and seeks to assist Medicaid patients with navigating the complex legal system, at no cost to patients. CCB-NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic was one element working towards the ultimate goal of DSRIP – to improve health outcomes and reduce potentially avoidable hospital utilization among Medicaid patients.
- The data in this poster is within the timeframe from August 2018 to January 2023. The Patient Consented Data contains 333 unique clients. Based on available data, the cohort used for the research methodology and proposal are 195 unique consented clients in Brooklyn with Medicaid ID Numbers. With the cohort of 195 unique consented patients in Brooklyn with Medicaid ID Numbers, we are able to identify specific demographic information. The collected data contains the gender, neighborhoods/zip codes, age and need area(s) of each unique consented client in the cohort.

### Training Clinical Providers to Recognize Patients' Social Needs

- The referring provider or care coordinator/manager should complete the "Legal Heath Services" course available in the CCB Resource Portal.
- The virtual course is a vital resource for providers or care coordinators/managers to learn about appropriate types of referrals. Then, they can refer clients who are facing legal difficulties or uncertain circumstances.

### Centrally Tracking & Driving Referrals

- CCB receives referrals and confirms provider and patient eligibility.
- Providers must work for an organization in the CCB network or be referring a patient who is currently enrolled in a CCB network Health Home.
- Patients must be referred by eligible provider; a health-harming legal need must be present.

### Facilitating the Operation of a Legal Assistance Clinic

- The CCB-NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic offers six appointments per week.
- In-person appointments (first and third Wednesday of the month) are available at Brooklyn Plaza Medical Center located in Downtown Brooklyn.

### Issues That Can Be Addressed Through the CCB-NYLAG LegalHealth Clinic

**Income Maintenance** SSI/SSD, Unemployment, welfare **Insurance Disputes** *Medicaid/Essential* Plan denial, trouble meeting Medicare copays, commercial insurance denial Fair Hearings

**Housing** *eviction*, *tenant-landlord* mediation, difficulty paying rent, conditions/utilities issues, public/NYCHA housing

Family Law custody/visitation, Orders of *Protection, child support, situations* involving abuse or neglect of children **Consumer Finance** *obtained or preserved* credit, stopped/reduced debt collection activity, averted repossession

**Immigration** screen for immigration remedies/benefits eligibility, advise on public charge rule **Debtor/Creditor Issues** *benefits, bankruptcy* considerations Workplace Accommodations disability accommodations, leaves, financial options Advance Planning will, health care proxy, *living will, Power of Attorney, permanency* planning for minors **Safety** *feeling unsafe with partner or in home*, vulnerable elderly person Health Medicare/Medicaid benefits, stopped/obtained redress for harmful medical treatment

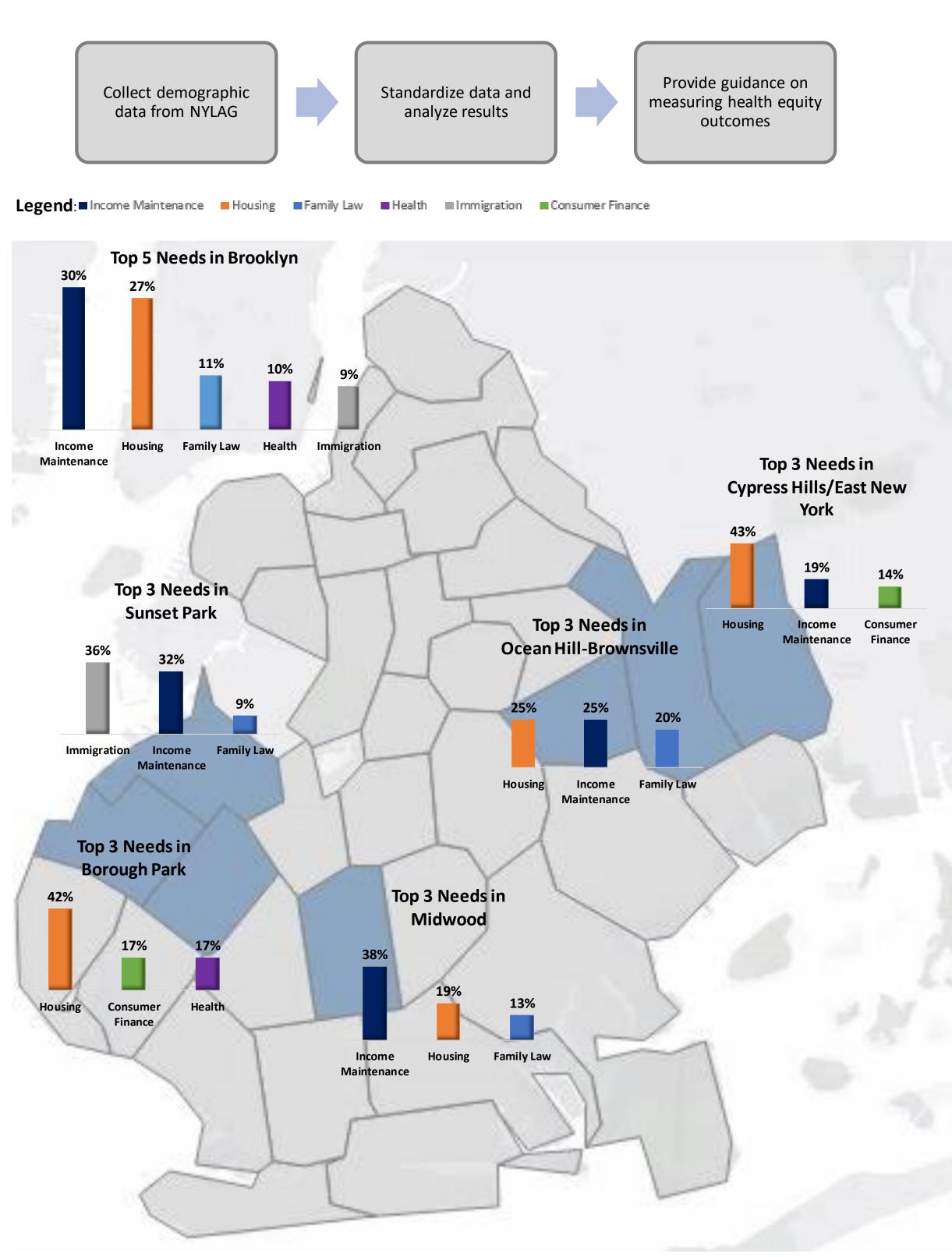
General difficulty paying rent, for food, utilities, health insurance costs

# CMS HEALTH EQUITY CONFERENCE

# **Evaluating a Collaborative LegalHealth Clinic Model in Brooklyn**

Priority 1: Expanding the Collection, Reporting and Analysis of Standardized Data

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## MONITORING OF PROGRAM DELIVERY AND **EVALUATION OF OUTCOMES**

- For this analysis, we are able to identify the top 5 utilizing zip codes and their specific legal need. Then, we can delve deeper and identify the gender of the clients within those zip codes, alongside their specific need.
- NYLAG includes the type(s) of resolutions that are provided by the attorney within their reporting, so we can determine the percentage of resolutions for a specific need area.

Top 5 Utilizing Neighborhoods	% of Cohort
Cypress Hills/East New York	9%
Ocean Hill-Brownsville	8%
Sunset Park	8%
Midwood	6%
Borough Park	5%

Age Ranges	% of Cohort
0-17	1%
18-44	29%
45-64	46%
65+	24%
Total	100%

Gender	% of Cohort
Male	67%
Female	32%
Trans Woman	1%
Total	100%

#### Conclusions

- The MMC Department of Population Health is currently collaborating with NYLAG to expand and refine data reporting.
- Within CCB's participant network, we can report on demographic data, allowing resources to be allocated appropriately to address the issues relating to the social determinants of health within specific neighborhoods and zip codes.
- This partnership is ongoing and, pending access to further clinical data, can provide guidance on measuring health equity outcomes.

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