



**LEADERSHIP**

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**INSTITUTE FOR URBAN HEALTH: POLICY**

Improving health through research, evaluation, policy, and practice

The Academy works to improve the health of New Yorkers by bringing together researchers, practitioners, policymakers, community members, and key stakeholders to develop and implement evidence-based solutions to the root causes of poor health outcomes. We adopt a health-in-all policies approach that recognizes the broader determinants of health—including health care, education, economic development, the natural, social, and built environment, transportation, housing, and food systems—and the ways in which they impact the health of individuals and communities.

**CENTER FOR HEALTH POLICY AND PROGRAMS**

Through our Center for Health Policy and Programs, we provide evidence-based guidance to public and private sector leaders to help shape policies and programs that promote long, active, healthy lives, and healthy communities. Whether through evidence from research, expert testimony, convening of multiple stakeholders, technical assistance, or through our work leading coalitions, we are actively helping to align and shape the actions of communities, government, and business to transform the places where we live, work, play, and learn into environments that promote health.

The Academy develops and supports policies and programs that promote healthy aging, prevent disease and promote health, and reduce health disparities in New York City and across New York State.

**CAPABILITIES**

The Academy provides an extensive array of services to government, health care providers, community organizations in our priority areas, including in-depth expertise in aging, obesity, chronic disease prevention, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, behavioral health, and substance use.

- Technical assistance & training
- Convening multi-sector stakeholders
- Advisement and outreach to officials on public health & population health issues
- Original research including qualitative and quantitative analyses and program and policy evaluations

**CURRENT PROGRAMS**

**Age-friendly NYC | [agefriendlynyc.org](http://agefriendlynyc.org)**

As a founding member and contributing author of the World Health Organization's Global Age-friendly Cities Network initiative, the Academy has led the way for organizations worldwide to

improve age-friendly practices in cities around the globe. In 2007, the Academy partnered with the Office of the Mayor and the New York City Council to create Age-friendly NYC, a one-of-a-kind public-private partnership, to improve all aspects of city life here at home for older New Yorkers through modifications to policies, practices, and programs. Age-friendly NYC has worked with 13 city agencies and over 70 business improvement districts representing over 85,000 businesses and 1 million employees. Its work has catalyzed thousands of changes benefiting over 2 million people throughout the city, including in the areas of pedestrian safety, transportation, recreation, and culture.

Age-friendly NYC was awarded “Best Existing Age-Friendly Initiative in the World” by the International Federation on Ageing in 2013.

#### **DASH-NY | [dashny.org](http://dashny.org)**

Designing a Strong and Healthy New York (DASH-NY) is a statewide multi-sectorial coalition led by the Academy. It is a part of New York State's obesity prevention coalition and policy center. DASH engages multiple state and community sectors in the fight to end the epidemic of obesity, by offering community leaders training materials and technical assistance on how to make policy, systems, and environmental changes that will lead to communities where healthy eating, active living, and access to preventive health care services are a reality for all New Yorkers.

**The DASH-NYC Workgroup** is composed of experts in urban planning, economic development, education, environment, transportation, housing, and community services. DASH-NYC will investigate and spread proven, community-level approaches to chronic disease prevention, to improve health and promote health equity for all in New York City.

#### **Advancing Prevention Project** **[advancingpreventionproject.org](http://advancingpreventionproject.org)**

The Academy has been a leading partner in the development of the New York State Prevention Agenda, the plan for state and local action to improve the health of New Yorkers in five priority areas and reduce health disparities. As an outgrowth of this work, the Academy provides technical assistance including trainings, tools, and resources to local health departments, community-based organizations, and hospitals to collaboratively implement plans to advance the New York State Prevention Agenda, through a grant from the New York State Health Foundation.

#### **The Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP)**

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), in partnership with the Fund for Public Health in New York, the United Hospital Fund, and the Academy, launched the New York City Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP) to bring together leaders in health care delivery and public health and community-based groups to support population health activities in New York City, particularly those related to the New York State Prevention Agenda.

#### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

**“Mental Health: Context Matters”** (The New York Academy of Medicine, 2015)

**“City Voices: New Yorkers on Health”** (The New York Academy of Medicine, 2015)

**“The Integration of Harm Reduction and Health Care”** (The New York Academy of Medicine, 2015)

**“Resilient Communities: Empowering Older Adults in Disasters and Daily Life”** (The New York Academy of Medicine, 2014)

**“Blueprint for a Public Health and Safety Approach to Drug Policy”** (The New York Academy of Medicine, Drug Policy Alliance, 2013)

**For more information on the Institute health policy work and programs, visit:**  
**[NYAM.org/institute-urban-health/policy-programs](http://NYAM.org/institute-urban-health/policy-programs)**