

February 14, 2019

Adrienne Abbate, MPA
Executive Director
Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness
444 St Marks Place, Third Floor
Staten Island, NY 10301

Dear Ms. Abbate,

I am pleased to offer my support to the Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness (SIPCW) in their application for a grant from the Anthem Foundation. SIPCW has been a strong partner in our initiatives here at Borough Hall, including the Health and Wellness Advisory Group and the Substance Use Prevention Taskforce, both of which focus on prevention and aiming to improve health outcomes in communities across Staten Island.

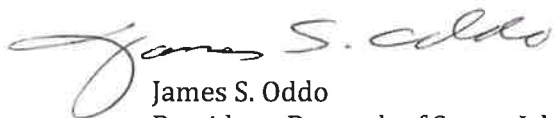
Our most recent collaboration has been a collective impact initiative to tackle childhood obesity and promote wellness, with a focus on North Shore neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by obesity and chronic illness. This initiative originated in the Borough Hall Health and Wellness Advisory Committee and was transitioned to SIPCW to facilitate stakeholder engagement and develop a blueprint for action. Our goal is now to expand and include asthma as part of our Child Wellness Initiative (CWI) and similarly transition our Borough Hall led Asthma Coalition on to SIPCW.

The Asthma Coalition works across multiple sectors to achieve its vision to reduce unnecessary ED visits, hospitalizations and school absences. One strategy developed to attain this goal is comprehensive asthma education and self-management. We are working with American Lung Association (ALA) to assist in implementing and have started a small pilot using asthma flip chart education in our afterschool setting and hospital outpatient clinics.

We plan to expand to other clinical settings (inpatient, ED, FQHC's) and also train Community Health workers and nurses as well as other partners doing asthma home visits.

We stand ready to help SIPCW examine social determinants of health, implement evidence-based strategies, engage stakeholders, and provide available county data to assist in achieving the goals of the Anthem Foundation's grant.

Sincerely,



James S. Oddo
President, Borough of Staten Island

