



BUILDING HEALTH FOR ALL

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

THE
NEW YORK
ACADEMY
OF MEDICINE

From the President and Chair

To our Fellows and Members, Colleagues, and Supporters:

Thank you all for being an important part of the NYAM community and sharing our commitment to building a world where everyone has access to what they need to be healthy and live their best life.

As we write this in early 2020, the world has changed dramatically because of the spread of COVID-19, with a disproportionate impact on the people who already experience health inequities. We have been actively working to disseminate resources, support communities suffering disproportionately from COVID-19, and conduct new research to inform policymakers and healthcare decisions. For more information and updates on this work, please visit our website at [NYAM.org](https://nyam.org) and our resource hub at [WhatCanIDo.NYC](https://whatcanido.nyc).

NYAM's work to ensure health for all is more critical than ever. Only with your support can we change the systems and break down the barriers that prevent every individual from having an equal shot at a healthy life. Please donate today to ensure this vital work can continue through 2020 and beyond.

Thank you for your enduring commitment to our mission.

With gratitude,



Judith A. Salerno, MD, MS
President



James Flynn, MS
Chair, Board of Trustees

WE AGREE. THE WORLD IS NOT FAIR. WE WORK TO CHANGE THAT. EVERY DAY.

At NYAM, we bring people together to solve problems and effect change. We take knowledge and put it into action so that everyone has a fair chance to be healthy and live their best life. No matter who they are or where they live.

TO LIVE A HEALTHY LIFE, PEOPLE NEED ACCESS, NOT BARRIERS. ACCESS TO RESOURCES.

Economic resources.
Housing resources.
Educational resources.
Public safety resources.
Healthcare resources.
Social resources.
Environmental resources.

Let's tackle the barriers that get in the way of people reaching those resources.

TO LIVE A HEALTHY LIFE, PEOPLE NEED TO BE HEARD BY DECISION MAKERS, POLICY MAKERS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS.

Let's bring the right people to the table. Let's focus on and fight for those whose voices have not been heard. Let's start by first listening to them.

EVERYONE DESERVES THE CHANCE TO LIVE A HEALTHY AND FULL LIFE.

The New York Academy of Medicine.

MINDS + HEARTS FOR HEALTH EQUITY



Who We Are & What We Stand For

At The New York Academy of Medicine, we believe that everyone should have the opportunity to live a healthy life, and we're committed to breaking down the barriers that stand in the way of health equity.

In this report, you'll read more about how we put our beliefs into action through generating knowledge, changing systems and engaging the public.

Where We're Going

In 2019, our major initiatives included the launch of the East Harlem Action Collaborative for Child Health and Well-being; the expansion of our award-winning Health and Age Across All Policies initiative with the State of New York; and a new multi-year Race & Health programming series that addresses the social, economic and systemic barriers that create inequities.

Through these initiatives and many more, we bring experts together to identify the barriers to health, identify innovative solutions, and put them into practice. We're building health for all, and we hope you'll join us.



NYAM is Generating Knowledge

Though original research and evaluation, we’re building the evidence base to inform systems, policy and program decisions to create lasting change.

We brought together researchers from academia and the NYC Health Department to generate **collaborative, data-driven health equity research** through our innovative Health Data for NYC (HD4NYC) initiative.

We created IMAGE: NYC to meet a need for data on NYC’s 65+ population and available resources. The interactive, open-source map informs efforts such as **funding, planning, advocacy and direct services for older adults**.

We’re **informing ways to improve health for all New Yorkers** through collaborations on the state’s healthcare reform efforts. These include an evaluation of the New York State Innovation Model and research to support healthcare transparency and consumer empowerment through DSRIP.

In collaboration with the NYC Mayor’s Office of Labor Relations, we are evaluating the workplace wellness programs that aim to **empower all 380,000 New York City employees to lead healthy lives**.

We support the **next generation of researchers** contributing policy-relevant knowledge to advance health equity through more than \$400,000 in annual grants and fellowships for students, trainees and early-career investigators.

We studied the effectiveness of a community-based program model with the potential to **improve breast cancer screening rates among Hispanic women** around the country.

NYAM is Changing Systems

Our award-winning programs amplify community voices to change the status quo and break down barriers to good health for all.

Our Advocacy in Medicine initiative helps medical and nursing students build their advocacy skills to **ensure the next generation of health professionals can address the social factors that influence health**.

By listening to the needs of older adults in Brooklyn, we’re **improving the ability to age in place** for the borough’s nearly 340,000 older adults through the Age-friendly Brooklyn initiative.

We’re raising the voices of East Harlem caregivers to **advance policy change for children’s futures** through our East Harlem Action Collaborative for Child Health and Well-being.

We launched an award-winning **Health and Age Across All Policies** collaboration with the State of New York, and are now working directly with 16 counties across the state to make local-level changes that will improve health for people of all ages.

We made sure the 1.8 million New Yorkers with limited English proficiency can access medication information in their chosen language—our research **shaped City & State pharmacy regulations** that require it.

By studying the perspectives of patients with chronic pain, we’re **informing safer opioid prescribing practices**.

NYAM is Engaging the Public

Through our original programming and resources, we aim to inform, promote social justice, and open minds.

Our Race & Health programming series seeks to create a more just society by examining and addressing the **systemic barriers like racism that create inequities**.

The 2019 Opioid Symposium brought together professionals, policy makers, harm reduction advocates and others to **address the dual challenge of overdose and underdose** in the opioid overdose epidemic and highlight best practices.

Our world-class Library continued to engage **researchers, students and the public with research and reference services, classes and tours, and digital exhibits** that bring to life our incredible collections in the history of medicine and public health.

Germ City: Microbes and the Metropolis, the **exhibition and programming series on infectious disease** that we co-curated with the Museum of the City of New York in 2018, continued to enlighten audiences through spring 2019. The programming raised awareness of past disease outbreaks and shared timely historical learnings on preparing for and addressing pandemics.

NYAM is a professional home for our Fellows and Members—a group of **accomplished health professionals from across institutions and disciplines** who come together for events, workgroups and other collaborations with the shared goal of advancing health equity.

“Our goal in creating the AIM workgroup is to create a tangible network for all future advocacy endeavors, for physicians and healthcare professionals to come together and support each other, as well as to shift the tide in medicine towards patient-centered care for all persons regardless of their socio-economic status, identity and how they present.”



– Shean Hinds, BS
2019 Advocacy in Medicine Conference



“[Hospital desegregation] was a really important piece of history, a moment where the federal government made something happen very quickly, and a very important victory—but we aren’t there yet. We still have a long way to go to equity.”

– Dr. Barbara Berney, producer, POWER TO HEAL
Race & Health Series: How Long Will We Wait? The Desegregation of American Hospitals



Q&A

The Road to Health Equity:

with NYAM President
Dr. Judith A. Salerno

Why is health equity so important to you?

Throughout my 40-year career in health and medicine, I have participated in the provision of care to the most vulnerable among us: veterans for whom the VA system is a safety net; immigrants who seek care from a free clinic; frail older adults who depend on others for the most basic of needs. These experiences have shown me the glaring inequities in our communities and their direct effects on health and well-being.

To me, righting those wrongs is personal and reflects my lifelong values and sense of moral obligation to work for social justice. My tools happen to be health and medicine, and the compelling mission of our organization offers me the opportunity to work toward more equitable systems for all to live their healthiest lives—and to share this vision with like-minded colleagues and many vital communities. Together, we can create essential change.

What is NYAM doing to attain health equity?

NYAM has 175 years of history as a leader in public health in New York City, as an exemplar for the nation. We are a convener of public discourse around crucial health issues, a membership home for leading health professionals, and a valuable source of historical resources through our world-class library collections.

Never have NYAM's resources been more critical than they are today. While our 2019 annual report reflects on the persistent issues and social conditions that influence health, the current COVID-19 pandemic exposes the decades of marginalization of communities and disinvestment in our healthcare safety nets and public health systems that today is costing lives, especially for communities of color. Only by addressing and removing those barriers that contribute to health inequities can we fulfill our commitment to being a true public health institution. That is our commitment to you—today and beyond the pandemic.

What is unique about NYAM's role in health equity?

The breadth of NYAM's expertise in research, evaluation and policy enables us to approach health equity in a holistic way—from contributing to the knowledge base on underlying systemic conditions that perpetuate inequities, to informing policymakers and powerbrokers, to evaluating what works and disseminating best practices through publications, events, trainings and technical assistance. Our deep connections to the communities and partners we serve allow us to have a distinctive role in elevating important voices in our pursuit of health equity.

What are some actions people can take to advance health equity?

As with all injustices that need our attention, advocacy, support and raising all voices are among the most important actions we can take.

Learn about the issues that most impact your community. Then join a community group, attend a town hall or council meeting, and speak up about the systems you believe need to be changed.

Donate to organizations who put people first when working on health equity.

Volunteer. Speak up! And if you're in the health professions, join us as a NYAM a Fellow or Member!

Our deep connections to the communities and partners we serve allow us to have a distinctive role in elevating important voices in our pursuit of health equity.

Voices for Health Equity: The Next Generation

At the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Fellows, we spoke with some of our newest Members—who represent the next generation of health professionals—about health equity and why they decided to join NYAM.

Jessica Schwartz, BSN, RN

"As a new Member, I hope to make connections and build partnerships that will really be able to influence health policy and improve the state of health equity in this city and nationally."

Janelle Sauz, BS

"I wanted to be a part of an institution that engages in public discourse, that is not afraid of confronting societal issues at the moment, such as health equity. And it completely aligns my principles and values of equity, diversity and inclusion."

Dennis Grishin, MPA, BS

"I really wanted to join a network that was just as interested and devoted to health equity as I was, and applying the knowledge that I was getting in school to real life."

April Ancheta, BS, RN

"Continuing to be a part of a community that promotes health equity and important scholarly work to help decrease health disparities means a lot to me."



Statement of Financial Position

	DECEMBER 31	
	2019	2018
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$299,924	\$503,132
Contributions and grants receivable, net	1,213,434	2,615,275
Accounts receivable	120,335	189,457
Prepaid expenses and other assets	111,834	123,543
Investments	69,091,952	62,076,330
Property and equipment, net	7,841,882	8,380,651
Beneficial interest in perpetual trust	172,457	172,872
	\$78,851,818	\$74,061,260
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$798,232	\$879,839
Other payables	933,453	-
Grants payable	284,000	153,650
Deferred income	309,675	202,649
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$2,325,360	\$1,236,138
NET ASSETS		
WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	\$43,977,197	\$39,068,901
WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	20,597,470	21,950,031
Time or purpose restricted	11,951,791	11,806,190
Investments held in perpetuity	32,549,261	33,756,221
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$76,526,458	\$72,825,122

Statement of Activities

		With Restrictions			
	Without Donor Restrictions	Time or Purpose Restricted	Investments Held in Perpetuity	2019 Total	2018 Total
OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
OPERATING SUPPORT					
Grants and contributions	\$259,136	\$4,856,473	-	\$5,115,609	\$6,560,454
Special events revenue (net of direct benefit to donors of \$259,816 and \$235,467)	785,673	-	-	\$785,673	763,924
TOTAL OPERATING SUPPORT	1,044,809	4,856,473	-	5,901,282	7,324,378
OPERATING REVENUES					
Investment return designated for current operations	4,052,338	-	-	4,052,338	4,341,104
Subscriptions and fees	2,389,102	5,000	-	2,394,102	2,552,739
Membership dues	134,215	-	-	134,215	154,590
Miscellaneous	500,986	-	-	500,986	493,164
Net assets released from restrictions for operations	8,084,132	(8,084,132)	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING ACTIVITIES	16,205,582	(3,222,659)	-	12,982,923	14,865,975
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Program services	11,492,650	-	-	11,492,650	10,461,323
Management and general	3,423,342	-	-	3,423,342	3,493,156
Fundraising	1,377,925	-	-	1,377,925	1,040,417
TOTAL OPERATING ACTIVITIES	16,293,917	-	-	16,293,917	14,994,896
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	(88,335)	(3,222,659)	-	(3,310,994)	(128,921)
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Change in value of beneficial interest in perpetual trust	-	-	(415)	(415)	(8,605)
Investment return not designated for current operations	4,996,631	1,870,098	146,016	7,012,745	(7,794,127)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	4,908,296	(1,352,561)	145,601	3,701,336	(7,931,653)
NET ASSETS					
BEGINNING OF YEAR	39,068,901	21,950,031	11,806,190	72,825,122	80,756,775
END OF YEAR	\$43,977,197	\$20,597,470	\$11,951,791	\$76,526,458	\$72,825,122

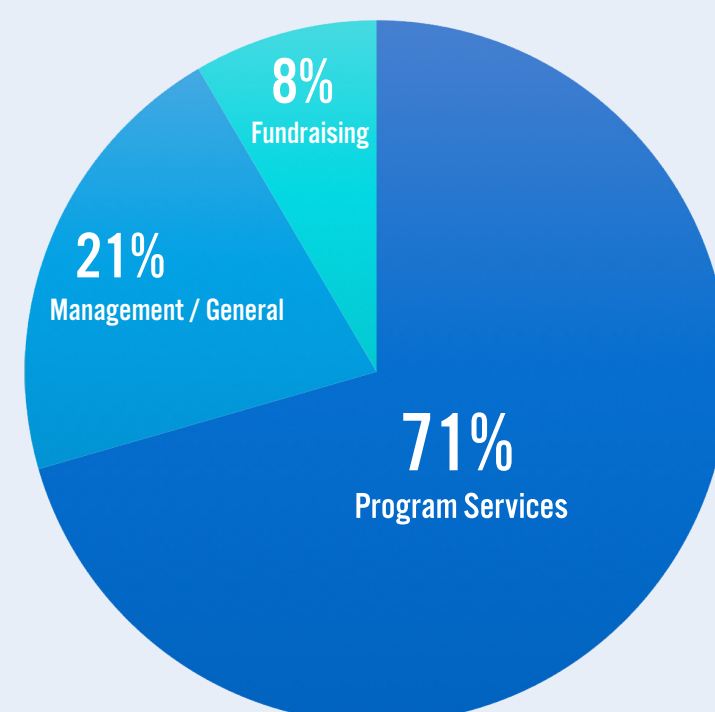
In 2019 NYAM's operating expenses were \$16.2M

Program Services Areas:

[Research, Evaluation & Policy](#)

[Community Partnerships & Programs](#)

[Fellows](#) [Library](#)



Your Dollars at Work

GENERATING KNOWLEDGE

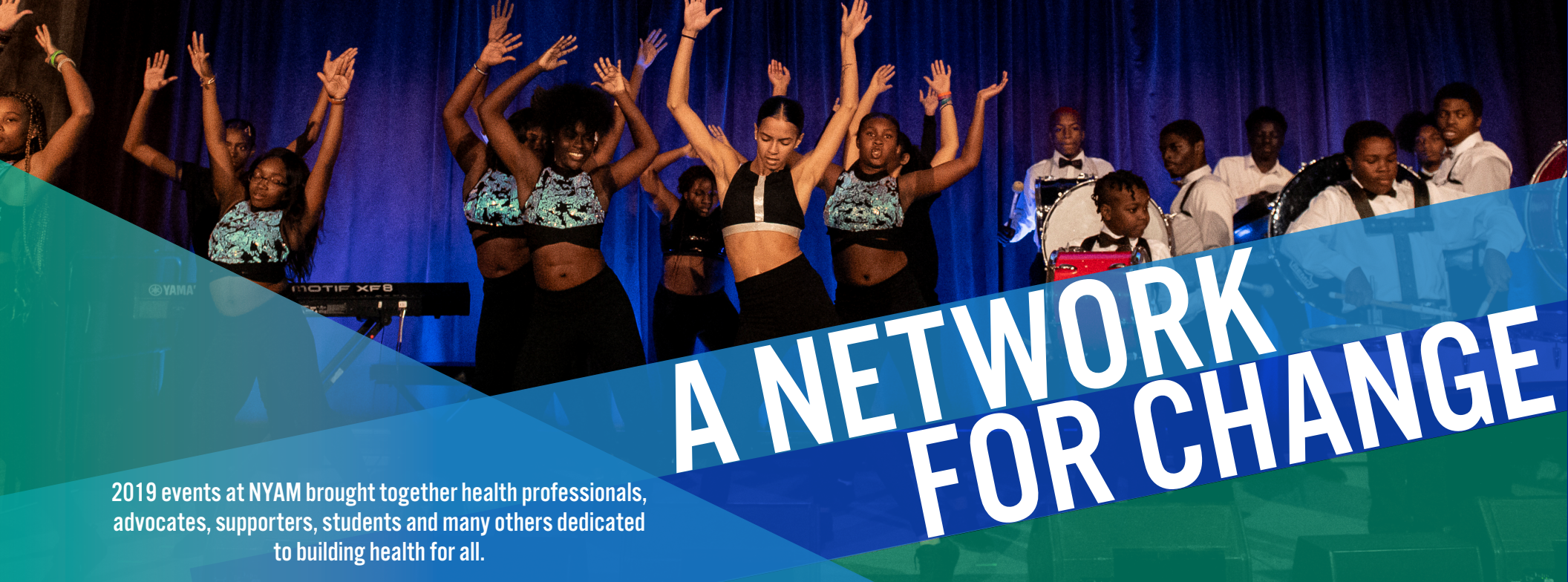
- + Qualitative, quantitative & community-engaged research
- + Program evaluation
- + Policy analysis & testimony
- + Community needs assessment
- + Technical assistance & training

CHANGING SYSTEMS

- + Healthcare delivery
- + Health across all policies
- + Age-friendly communities
- + Safer prescribing
- + Advocacy in medicine
- + Public & private partnerships

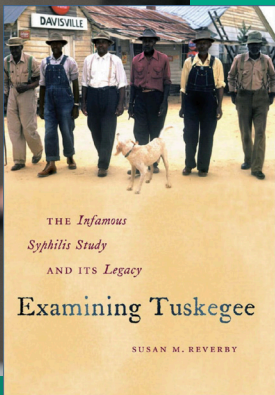
ENGAGING THE PUBLIC

- + Elevating community voices
- + Race & Health Series
- + 2019 Opioid Symposium
- + Germ City exhibition & programming
- + 32 Fellows & Members events
- + 3,152 Library visitors & users



A NETWORK FOR CHANGE

2019 events at NYAM brought together health professionals, advocates, supporters, students and many others dedicated to building health for all.

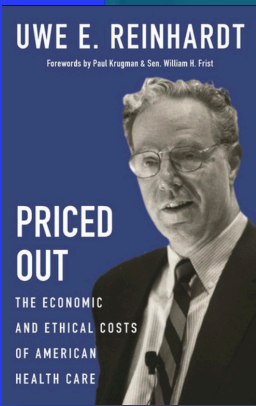


Could Tuskegee Happen Today?

Our Race & Health event series kicked off on February 26 with an in-depth look at the history and legacy of the unethical Tuskegee Syphilis Study, which was conducted on hundreds of African American men from 1932-1972.

Priced Out: In Conversation

On September 24, we hosted a special conversation with Nobel Laureate Paul Krugman and Princeton University's Tsung-Mei Cheng on the high cost of American healthcare and how to improve the system.

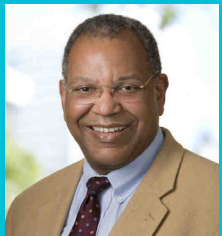


ACCESS HEALTH GALA 2019 THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

Our ACCESS: Health Gala on October 21 honored three visionary, equity-focused leaders: Robert F. Smith, Chairman and CEO of Vista Equity Partners, who joined NYAM President Dr. Judith Salerno for an exclusive interview; Cynthia Germanotta, President and Co-Founder of the Born This Way Foundation; and Harlem Capital, a venture capital firm with a mission to invest in 1,000 diverse founders over the next 20 years.

Annual Meeting of the Fellows

At this year's Annual Meeting on November 7, we inducted 96 new Fellows and Members into our community of distinguished health professionals committed to advancing health equity.



Later in the evening, Dr. Otis Brawley of Johns Hopkins University delivered the inspiring Anniversary Discourse on addressing cancer disparities.



   
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NYAM.org

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