



## Community Health Program and Fellowship

Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation’s 2016-2020 strategic plan adopts Community Health as a central objective. Community Health is not solely a program or component of the work being done in Old Brooklyn, instead it is an approach to that work. Across the country researchers, policy experts, and in some cases practitioners are recognizing the alignment of quality of life and geography.

An issue brief from the Kaiser Family Foundation explores the issue of these social determinants of health, describing them as the “conditions in which people are born, grow, live and work”. This description could easily be compared with the idea of CDCs building a community as a place to live, work and play but on a more critical level. In the 21st century, CDCs are not limited to improving homes or small businesses, rather they occupy the zip code improvement business - the intersection of community development and public health.

The Community Health Fellow (Fellow) will be initially a two year fellowship starting in spring 2017. The Fellow will bring together resources and partners around the work in Old Brooklyn. This will include an health assessment of the neighborhood’s strengths and weaknesses, mapping of relevant factors throughout the community, analyzing available data, evaluation of programs both current and design future programs, education and training for the staff on new policies and directives around community health and build partnerships to conduct interventions around our community.

The Fellow will use academic resources and studies on the role of public health and community development in building strong and equitable neighborhoods to support innovative programs. The adjusting and reframing of the traditional community development work will start with the Fellow but expand to all staff and create a new culture within the CDC. The Fellow will utilize existing and to-be-collected data to better design, track and evaluate the success of community health activities. As an outcome, the Fellow will publish policy briefs on community health in Old Brooklyn.

Critical to the success of the Fellow will be an advisory committee on community health that will bring together partners and leaders in the industry to advise and work with the Fellow.

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### Short Term expectations from Community Health Advisory Committee (January – March 2017)

- One meeting in Old Brooklyn
- Assist in development of job description
- Share job posting with networks

### Mid Term expectations from Community Health Advisory Committee (May 2017 – )

- Meet with Fellow during on-boarding process
- Quarterly meetings to advise Fellow and program
- Share resources and ideas to help Fellow implement program

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Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation serves Cleveland’s largest neighborhood. Old Brooklyn is a great place to grow, with over 30,000 residents, multi-generational small businesses, and regional anchor institutions including MetroHealth and the Cleveland Metroparks. The CDC serves the neighborhood through community organizing, education and youth engagement, safety, housing, real estate redevelopment, and planning.