

## **Asthma Program Proposal**

**Tax ID number for Ryan-NENA:** 13-2884976

### **Description of the Organization, Project Goals, Activities, Leadership, and how proposed Project fits in organizational mission.**

The Ryan-NENA Community Health Center (Ryan-NENA) is a satellite site of the William F. Ryan Community Health Center and provides a broad range of integrated, high quality, affordable, culturally and linguistically competent primary and preventive health care, dental, mental health, and support services to minority, medically underserved residents on the Lower East Side (LES). All the centers that comprise the William F. Ryan Community Health Center share a common mission supported by the founding principle that health care is a *right*, not a privilege. Since 1969, Ryan-NENA has offered a full range of high quality, affordable, multilingual/ multicultural, coordinated health care, prevention, and support services that are responsive to the health care needs of the target populations regardless of the patient's ability to pay. They include: adult medicine, pediatrics, women's health, adolescent health, geriatrics, ophthalmology/optometry, allergy, cardiology, gastroenterology, podiatry, radiology, dental, mental health, nutrition, health education, HIV services, home visits when necessary, and transportation when medically indicated. The William F. Ryan Community Health Center's annual budget is \$41 million, which includes Ryan-NENA, as well as the other 12 Ryan service sites. *Please see attached the William F. Ryan Community Health Center's letter of incorporation and audited financial statements.*

The Ryan-NENA Community Health Center is located at 279 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (between Avenues C and D) in the Lower East Side of Manhattan, an area where nearly 1 in 4 residents is living below the poverty level (NYCDOHMH). Of Ryan-NENA's 10,361 patients, 89 percent live at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty line, and 40 percent are from the 10009 zip code, in the immediate area around the Con Edison plant at 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Avenue C. Over 1,000 patients at Ryan-NENA have been diagnosed with asthma. Asthma is a leading cause of missed school among children and the most common cause of hospitalization for children 14 years and younger. Asthma can be controlled by taking anti-inflammatory medicines which require regular check-ups and management. With control, most asthmatics can lead normal, active, healthy

lives.<sup>1</sup> Good medical management of asthma can prevent many asthma-related hospitalizations, and patients can work with health care providers to better control their asthma.

In order to help Ryan-NENA patients and the surrounding community improve their health, the Center is requesting funding to support an Asthma Care Team. The Asthma Care Team's main goals are two 1) help asthmatic patients take control of their health and well being, and 2) screen and find new cases of asthma in the target area. The overall goal of the Program will be to help impacted LES community residents gain more control over their asthma.

In the proposed Program, Ryan-NENA will provide the following deliverables: 1) 10 on-site and off-site free asthma screening events; 2) will provide 1,000 individuals with free asthma screenings via the on-site and off-site events; 3) will increase the number of Asthmatic patients seen at Ryan by 10 percent (from 1,000 patients to 1,100); 4) distribute 500 asthma kits to newly diagnosed asthmatic patients and existing patients who are not in control of their symptoms during one-on-one case management sessions; 5) conduct quarterly Asthma Control Tests on every asthmatic patient at the Center (this test is a standardized assessment tool of asthma's impairment which can measure and tracked overtime); and, 6) conduct surveys on each asthmatic patient that asks about perception of asthma control (before and after working with the Care Team).

The Care Team will be overseen by Dr. Matthew Weissman, Medical Director, and include a Registered Nurse and Licensed Practical Nurse (both positions to be hired). Dr. Weissman received a Masters in Health Management and a MD from Tufts University, and has over eight years of Internal Medicine and pediatric experience. He received the Mount Sinai Resident Clinician/Teacher Award in 2005 and was an Adjunct Medical Professor at New York Medical College. Kathy Gruber, Executive Director, has been at the Ryan Center since 1981 and will administratively oversee the proposed Project. Ms. Gruber serves on the Executive Committee of the Lower Manhattan Healthcare Coalition and co-chairs its Emergency Preparedness Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> Asthma Initiative, NYCDOHMH,

The Care Team will work to coordinate patient care, remind patients of upcoming appointments, and overall help patients navigate the health care system by creating an individualized treatment plan based on the each individual's triggers, symptoms and the medications they have been prescribed. Newly diagnosed patients will also receive an asthma kit, which includes a peak flow meter, a calendar to help track appointments, and educational materials on asthma. To help diagnose unknown cases of asthma, Ryan-NENA will provide on-site and off-site free asthma screenings and referrals for care. These screenings will be available at partner organizations in the neighborhood, in particular local schools and shelters, local health fairs, and Ryan-NENA during specified hours.

The development of the individualized treatment plan includes a comprehensive review how asthma affects an individual's body, the triggers which instigate symptoms of asthma, and how to reduce or eliminate triggers, as well as recognize the ones which affect each individual. Patients need to know and recognize the symptoms of asthma, and what to do once the symptoms occur. The sooner a patient can identify an on-coming attack, the sooner the patient will be able to work to prevent symptoms from worsening. The patient and provider must identify the appropriate treatment among the various medications available. Ryan-NENA staff will also provide free screening services both onsite and offsite at partner organizations and appropriate health fairs. Individuals identified as having asthma will be referred for care at Ryan-NENA for follow-up services, including one-on-one case management to tailor individual treatment plans, including making an Asthma Action Plan, and a referral to the Center for ongoing care. The Care Team will link families to primary care and help patients overcome any barriers they face to asthma control.

### **Monitoring and Data Analysis.**

In order to quantify effectiveness, the project will include monitoring of a number of data parameters, including:

- **Asthma Control:** Monitor each individual's asthma control (frequency of symptoms, attacks, hospitalization, and medication use) throughout the duration of the program via the quarterly Asthma Control Test.

- **Knowledge:** Questionnaires before and after the program to measure patient awareness and knowledge regarding asthma control. Based on the idea that education is the key to all behavioral change from within, the program aims to be sustainable and raise awareness levels in patients and community members.

Patients seen at the Center and diagnosed with asthma will be followed by a practitioner in keeping with the guidelines of the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute and operating in a team based model. Nurses and other staff members will work with patients and families to educate them on appropriate asthma control and proper use of asthma-related devices. Pediatric patients are generally given Asthma Action Plans, which are scanned into the electronic medical record, and are reassessed every three to four months. At schools where Ryan-NENA operates School Based Health Centers (PS 188 and PS 64), the Nurse Practitioner currently follows-up with the patients to ensure their asthma is stable and to treat them for exacerbations. Patients needing pulmonary consult are referred to Beth Israel Medical Center, Ryan-NENA’s back up hospital. Ryan-NENA currently offers programs such as Asthma Awareness Fairs and workshops about reducing asthma triggers, which will be useful companions to the proposed Program.

**Proposed Project Timeline**

<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Staff Responsible</b>
<b>Month 1</b> ( <i>or upon notification of funding</i> )	Hire RN and assistant, have them receive the proper training on asthma and asthma education.	K. Gruber, Executive Director; M. Weissman, Medical Director
<b>Month 1 - ongoing</b>	Begin outreach to community partners to schedule screening events and fairs	K. Gruber, Executive Director; M. Weissman, Medical Director
<b>Month 2</b>	Purchase Materials and equipment	RN, Project Manager, TBH; Project Assistant, TBH
<b>Month 2</b>	Staff training for Asthma Care Coordination Certification	M. Weissman, Medical Director ; RN, Project Manager, TBH; Project Assistant, TBH
<b>Month 2-3</b>	Identify existing Patients who would benefit from more dedicated services (ie, patients who currently do not have asthma under control)	M. Weissman; RN, Project Manager, TBH
<b>Month 3</b>	Begin conduct screenings on-site and at existing community based partner sites	RN, Project Manager, TBH; Project Assistant, TBH

<b>Month 3 - ongoing</b>	Maintain existing relationships and create new partnership with organizations in the community for screening services	RN, Project Manager, TBH; Project Assistant, TBH
<b>Month 4 - ongoing</b>	Start meeting with new asthmatic patients, as well as current patients who are not in control of their asthma (one on one case management)	RN, Project Manager, TBH; Project Assistant, TBH
<b>Month 4 - ongoing</b>	Ongoing evaluation of Program, including chart reviews, patient surveys, and monthly meetings with the Care Team	M. Weissman; RN, Project Manager, TBH

**Detailed Project Budget.**

The proposed Asthma Care Team will markedly improve the level of care that asthmatic patients receive and improve coordination of services.

The personnel included in the budget include 1) Dr. Matthew Weissman, Medical Director (in-kind support); 2) a full-time Registered Nurse/Project Manager, To Be Hired; and 3) a Certified Asthma Educator/ Program Assistant. Program materials will include educational pamphlets to inform patients and the community on how to manage their asthma. Equipment will include air purifiers, spacers, peak flow meters and pulse oximeters, to distribute to patients, as needed.

<b>Clinical Informatics Budget</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Requested Support</b>	<b>In-Kind Support</b>
Personnel (including fringe benefits)	\$120,000	\$110,000	\$10,000
Staff Training	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
Program Materials	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
Equipment	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$160,000</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
Indirect Costs (10% of budget)	\$16,000	\$0	\$16,000
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$176,000</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$26,000</b>

**Other Funding and Sustainability.**

Ryan-NENA does not currently have other funds to cover the cost of the proposed Program.

Third-party revenue obtained from providing medical services to new patients will help bolster the Program to ensure the continuation of services. As with all of its grant-funded activities, Ryan diligently seeks alternative funding for all programs providing services to the Centers’

patients. Ryan has previously received support for similar Patient Navigator services and will continue these efforts to ensure future sustainability.

Finally, in support of Ryan-NENA's commitment to serving the Lower East Side and as a testament of the Center's history of successfully implementing needed programs to serve the community, attached are letters of support from Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, and State Senator Daniel Squadron. New York City Councilmember Rosie Mendez also wrote a letter of support for the proposed Project but it was not received in time for this submission. The Ryan Center has over 44 years of experience serving Manhattan and is committed to improving the health of residents suffering from Asthma in the target area.



Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

P.O. Box 2508  
Cincinnati OH 45201

In reply refer to: 0248562351  
July 29, 2008 LTR 4168C E0  
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BODC: TE

WILLIAM F RYAN COMMUNITY HEALTH  
CENTER INC  
110 W 97TH ST  
NEW YORK NY 10025-6450106



010475

Employer Identification Number: 13-2884976  
Person to Contact: Mrs. Glisson  
Toll Free Telephone Number: 1-877-829-5500

Dear Taxpayer:

This is in response to your request of July 18, 2008, regarding your tax-exempt status.

Our records indicate that a determination letter was issued in June 1977, that recognized you as exempt from Federal income tax, and discloses that you are currently exempt under section 501(c)(03) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records also indicate you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are described in section 509(a)(2).

Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for Federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of sections 2055, 2106, and 2522 of the Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Michele M. Sullivan, Oper. Mgr.  
Accounts Management Operations I

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS  
RANKING DEMOCRATIC MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INSURANCE, HOUSING AND  
COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
AND CONSUMER CREDIT

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

**NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ**

12TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS

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WOMEN'S ISSUES

CONGRESSIONAL  
PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

OLDER AMERICANS CAUCUS

CONGRESSIONAL  
CHILDREN'S CAUCUS

April 27, 2012

Kathy Gruber  
Executive Director  
Ryan-NENA Community Health Center  
279 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
New York, New York 10009

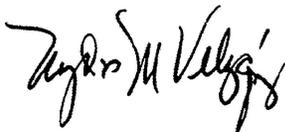
Dear Ms. Gruber:

I am writing to express my support for the Ryan-NENA Community Health Center's application to Community Board 3 Consolidated Edison Settlement Funds task force. Ryan-NENA, a satellite of the William F. Ryan Community Health Center, has been a vital health care resource in Manhattan for over 40 years, particularly for the communities of the Lower East Side. As such, it seeks your support in providing screenings, treatment and chronic care management for patients suffering from Asthma in the Lower East Side.

The services the Ryan-NENA Community Health Center provides are critical for the growing number of residents who have little or no access to culturally and linguistically competent primary care and social support services. Many of these people are uninsured and underinsured with chronic conditions, including Asthma. The resources that the Ryan-NENA is requesting will help ensure that quality health care is accessible to those that need it and continue its mission that "health care is a right, not a privilege."

It is for these reasons and more that I am proud to support the Ryan-NENA Community Health Center application and have confidence in its continued success.

Sincerely,



Nydia Velazquez  
Member of Congress



THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK

**RANKING MEMBER**  
INVESTIGATIONS AND  
GOVERNMENT  
OPERATIONS  
SOCIAL SERVICES  
**COMMITTEES**  
CODES  
CONSUMER PROTECTION  
CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES  
& COMMISSIONS  
FINANCE  
JUDICIARY  
TRANSPORTATION

April 30, 2012

Kathy Gruber  
Executive Director  
Ryan-NENA Community Health Center  
279 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
New York, New York 10009

Dear Ms. Gruber:

I support the application of the Ryan-NENA Community Health Center, a satellite of the William F. Ryan Community Health Center, to the Community Board 3 Consolidated Edison Settlement Funds. Ryan-NENA has been a vital health care resource in Manhattan for 43 years, particularly for the communities of the Lower East Side.

The health services provided by Ryan-NENA have been essential for residents in the community that lack the access to the high quality treatment. Ryan-NENA provides its users with cultural and linguistic support as well as competent primary care and social services. The neighborhood appreciates the strong leadership that the Board of Directors and Staff provides the community as well as the affordable and comprehensive services, including medical, mental health, dental and health education.

I recently hosted my annual Community Convention, where my constituents gathered together to discuss a variety of issues. Many of them spoke about the importance of healthcare services for those who most desperately need them. The Ryan-NENA Community Health Center is instrumental in providing these services.

The Ryan-NENA Community Health Center is an essential resource to the residents of Manhattan, and I am pleased to offer this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Daniel Squadron  
State Senator  
25<sup>th</sup> District

cc: E. Ronald Guy, Chairperson, Board of Directors, Ryan  
Barbra E. Minch, President & CEO