

# Addressing Food Insecurity In SBH Bronx Community

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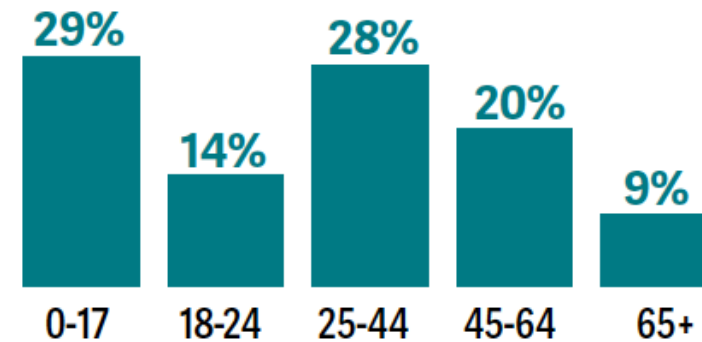
# Introduction

SBH Health is a safety net community hospital serving the Bronx community.

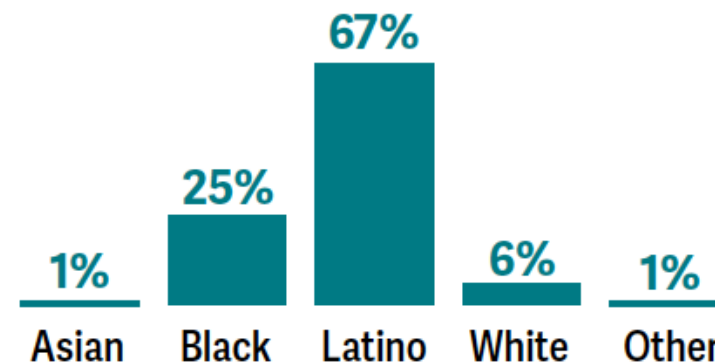
## Statistics At A Glance

- 2500 Employees
  - 435 Licensed beds
  - 17,000 Hospital discharges
  - 88,000 Emergency room visits
  - 400,000 Outpatient visits
  - 160,000 Behavioral health visits
  - Payer Mix: 90% Medicaid/5% Medicare
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- Founded in 1866
  - First US hospital for chronic diseases
  - Level 2 Trauma Center
  - Teaching hospital: 280 residents
  - NCQA NYS Patient Centered Medical Home

## Population By Age

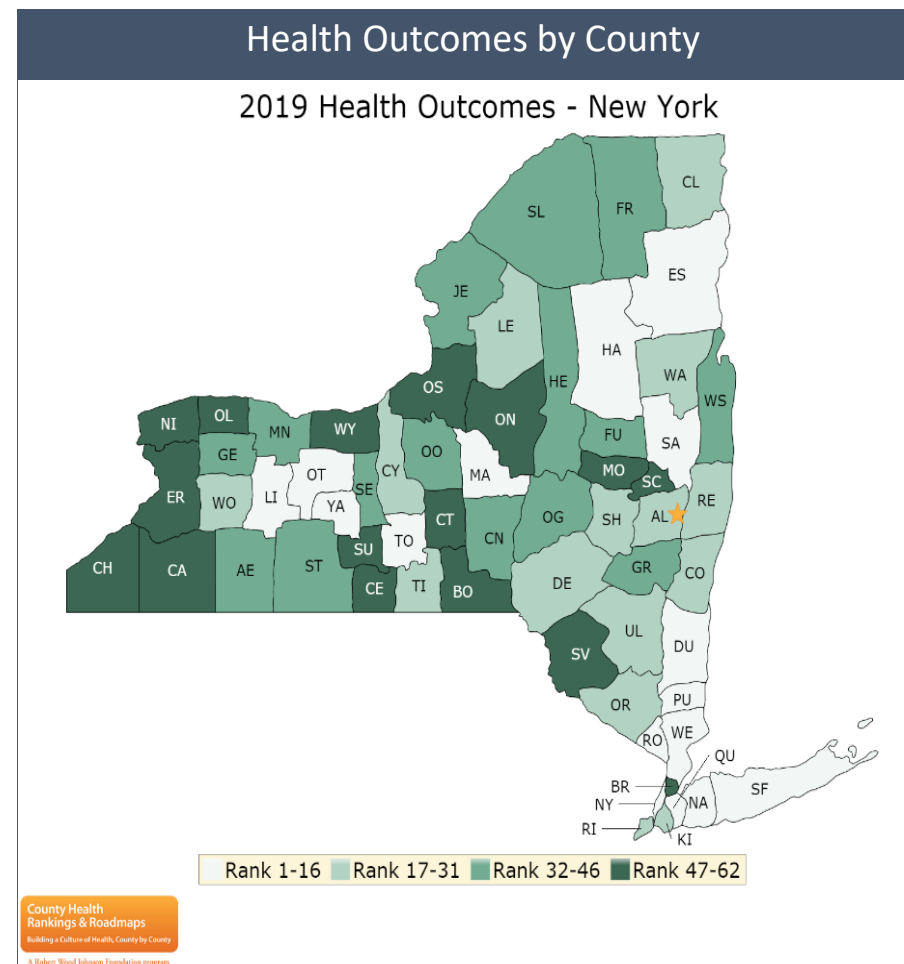
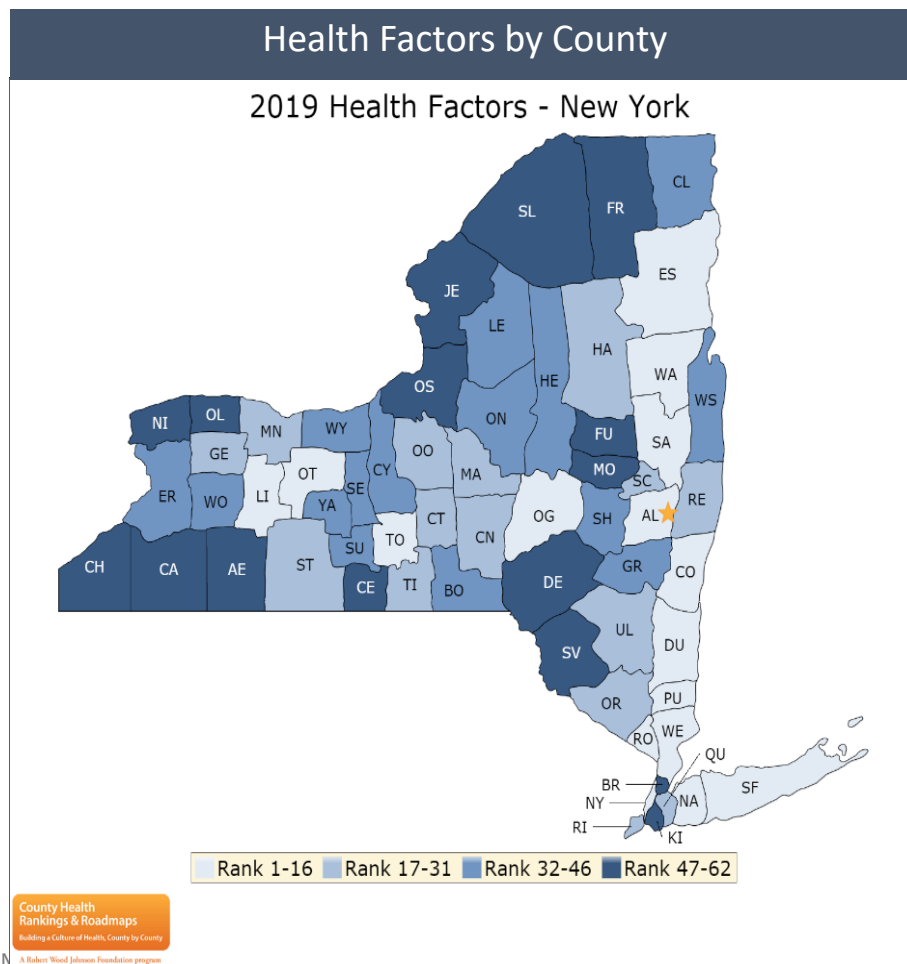


## Population By Race / Ethnicity



# Background

The Bronx is the New York State's unhealthiest county ranking 62nd of 62 New York State Counties (10 years in a row).

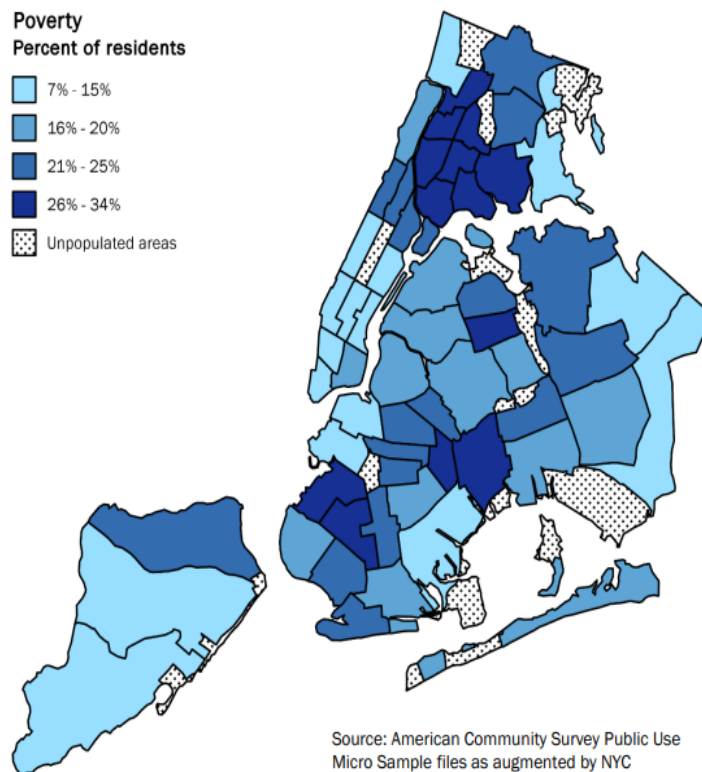
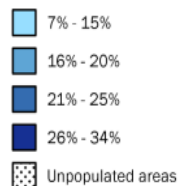


# Background

There is a large health disparity issue which is apparent when Manhattan County just across the Harlem River is one of the healthiest in the state.

## Poverty

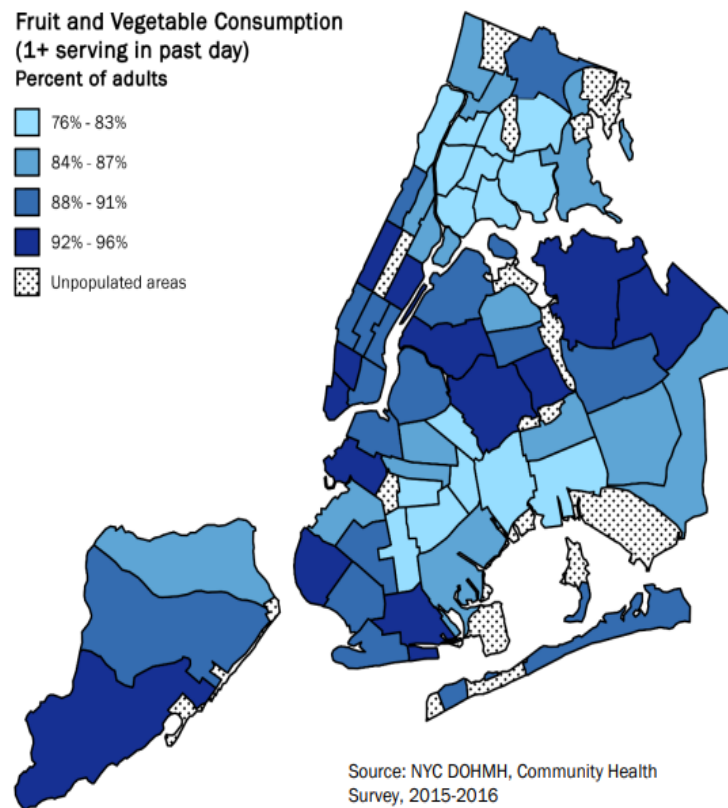
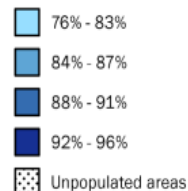
Poverty  
Percent of residents



Source: American Community Survey Public Use Micro Sample files as augmented by NYC Opportunity, 2012-2016 (community district and NYC), 2016 (borough)

## Fruit and Vegetable Consumption

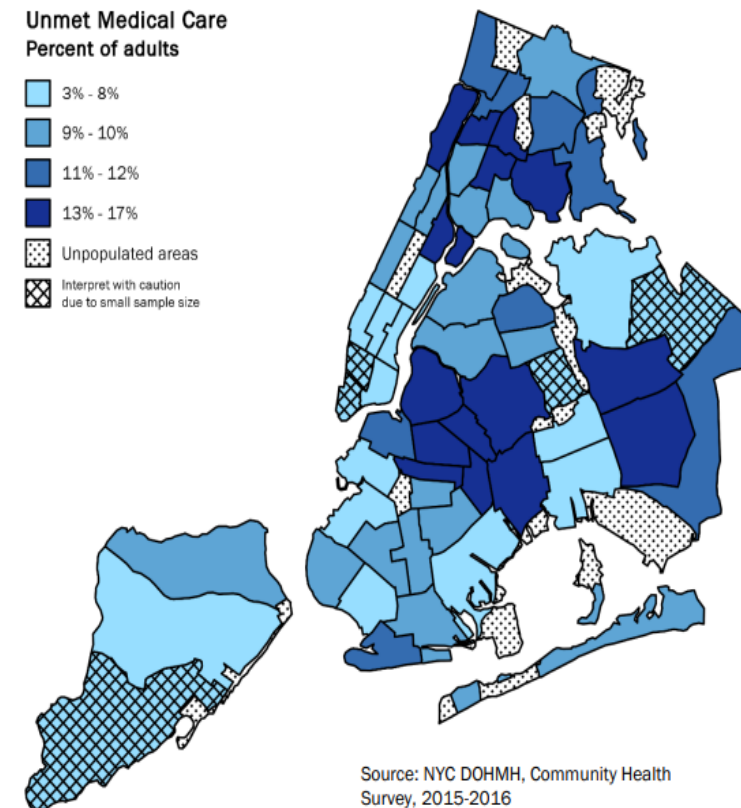
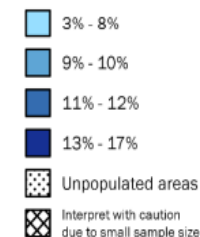
Fruit and Vegetable Consumption  
(1+ serving in past day)  
Percent of adults



Source: NYC DOHMH, Community Health Survey, 2015-2016

## Unmet Medical Care

Unmet Medical Care  
Percent of adults






Source: NYC DOHMH, Community Health Survey, 2015-2016

# Background

## Community Need: Belmont/East Tremont vs. Bronx Comparison

Our neighborhood is even more challenged when compared to other neighborhoods in the Bronx.

	Economic Stress		
	Belmont and East Tremont	Bronx	NYC
<b>Poverty</b> (percent of residents)	<b>31%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Unemployment</b> (percent of people ages 16 and older)	<b>16%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Rent Burden</b> (percent of renter-occupied homes)	<b>60%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>51%</b>

	Disease Prevalence		
	Belmont and East Tremont	Bronx	NYC
 <b>Obesity</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>24%</b>
 <b>Diabetes</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>11%</b>
 <b>Hypertension</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>28%</b>

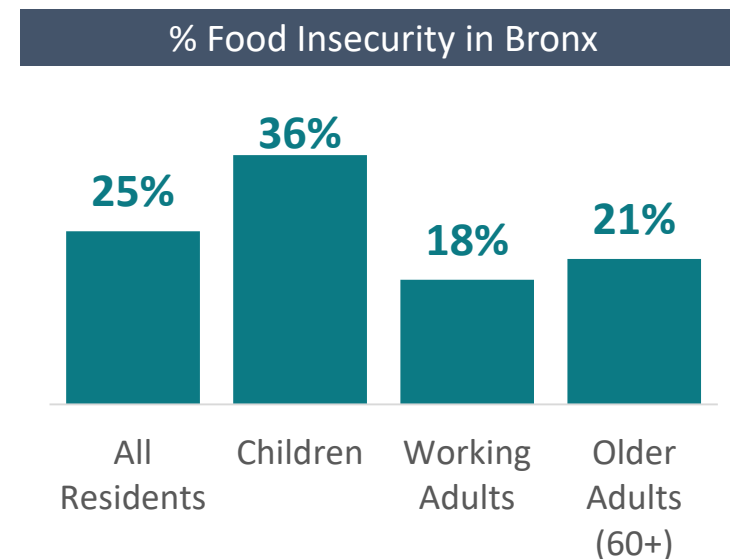
### Source:

NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene Community Health Profile: Belmont and East Tremont, <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/data/2018chp-bx6.pdf>

# Problem statement

The Bronx is the city’s “hungriest borough” with one in four residents experiencing food insecurity, with the problem worsening over the last few years. There is a strong connection between hunger and reduced learning and productivity, mental health, health outcomes, chronic diseases and overweight status.

**SMART Goal Metric:** Increase the food pantry distribution by 50% from 50 bags distributed to 75 bags distributed per week over the four-month period (August to November 2022). The 2021 baseline is 50 bags distributed per week.



## Sources:

1. NYC Food Policy Report 2020. <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/foodpolicy/downloads/pdf/Food-Metrics-Report-2021.pdf>
2. Hunger Free America: New York 2021. [https://hfa-website.cdn.prismic.io/hfa-website/4d3dd213-f5a5-45ed-923c-6d0615b78636\\_NY+Press+Release+-+2021.docx](https://hfa-website.cdn.prismic.io/hfa-website/4d3dd213-f5a5-45ed-923c-6d0615b78636_NY+Press+Release+-+2021.docx)
3. NYC Dept of Health and Mental Hygiene Community Health Profile: Belmont and East Tremont, <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/data/2018chp-bx6.pdf>

# Our Approach

SBH uses the Plan Do Study Act (PDSA) approach.

## Awareness and Education – Social Media



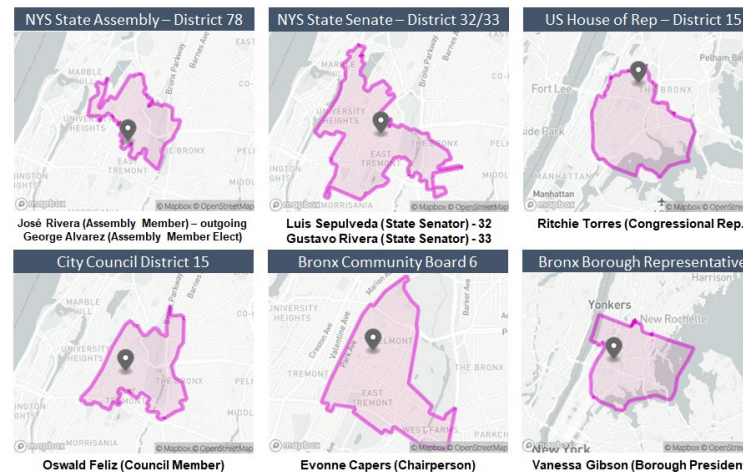
Signs & Social Media

## Collaborate with Primary Care



Providers

## Collaborate with Legislators



Source: <https://www.nygovnc.org/>

Legislators

## Collaborate with NYCDOHMH (#Not62, Wellness Alliance, Bronx Health Action Center)



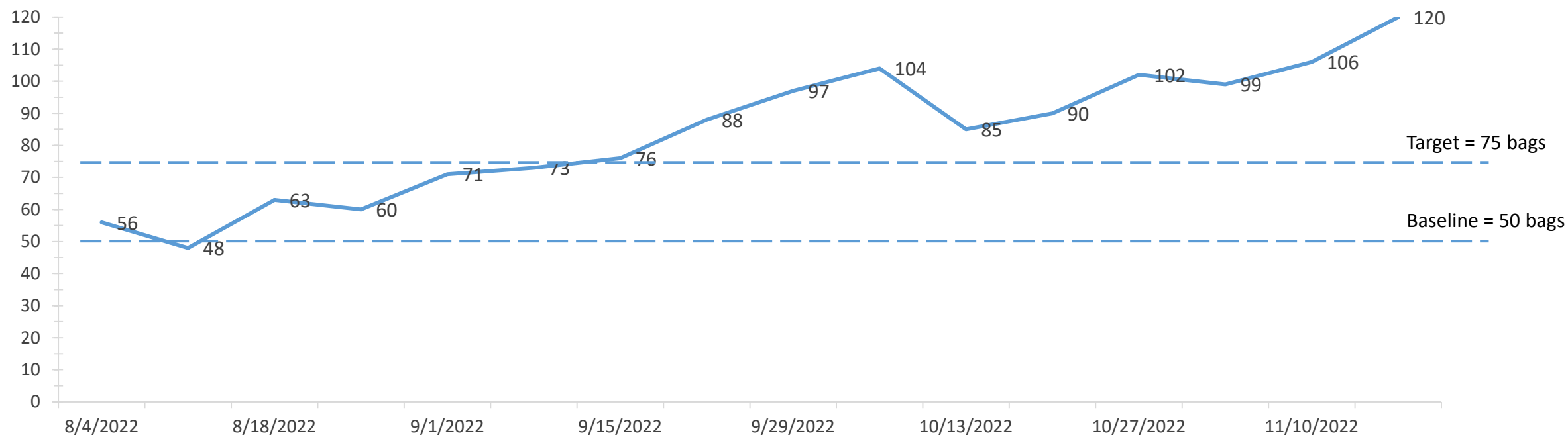
NYC DOHMH

# Results

The project was a success. We exceeded our goal of 75 bags by 180%.



Weekly Food Pantry Distribution (August to November 2022)





# Lessons learned

## What went well?

1. Communication plan to alert the community and CBO's about our food security programs
  - Word of mouth and location in the lobby (visible from street)
  - Monthly Wellness Alliance meetings
  - Community Health Fairs
  - Social Media
  - NYC DOHMH, Legislators and other partners
2. Onsite tours helped partners better understand our program
3. Accepted into The Emergency Food Assistance Program: added dry goods

## What did not go so well?

1. Forecasting was hard
  - Community demand vs food capacity
  - Food yields; growing food on rooftop is different than on the ground
2. Pantry cannibalized sales from Farm Stand
3. Additional staffing and line management strategies needed

# What's next?

Share your plans for the coming year.

1. Increase yield:
  - Focus on vegetable and fruits that grow well on rooftop
  - Supplement with food from other farms (tomatoes, apples, peaches)
  - Find ways to extend what's in the bag (add more non-perishable)
2. Coordinate food pantry with Teaching Kitchen (demo, classes, recipes)
3. Plan activities in winter months to keep families engaged
4. Design partnership programs with NYCDOHMH
5. Develop sustainability plan



**ADVANCING HEALTHCARE**  
**EXCELLENCE AND INCLUSION**

# Questions?

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