

# Building Better Health

Beth Israel Lahey Health   
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

## An Update on BIDMC's Community-Based Health Initiative

### Welcome

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) is investing about **\$18 million dollars** into the community. BIDMC has spent the past year meeting with community members to decide how to best use the funding. You may have participated in these conversations in person, completed a survey online, or perhaps simply have an interest in learning more.

As our first year of planning comes to a close, I am excited to share our findings, decisions, and future plans, all based on what we heard from the community. Thank you to all of the community members who have contributed to this process.

*Nancy Kasen,*

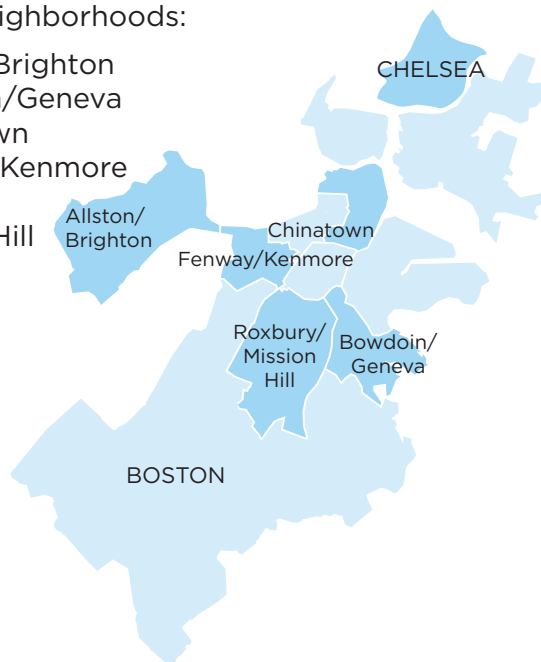
Vice President, Community Benefits and Community Relations at Beth Israel Lahey Health

### Working together

BIDMC created a committee to help select the health priorities for funding. The committee is made up of local leaders and residents in specific neighborhoods that BIDMC serves.

The money will address important health issues in the city of Chelsea and the following Boston neighborhoods:

- Allston/Brighton
- Bowdoin/Geneva
- Chinatown
- Fenway/Kenmore
- Roxbury
- Mission Hill



### Listening to you

BIDMC held five meetings to ask people in each neighborhood about their health concerns. People shared their opinions and experiences in small groups. BIDMC also participated in regional efforts that involved hospitals, community-based organizations, and other partners throughout Boston and Chelsea to hear from community members about their priorities. Using the information collected from the community and existing research, the committee discussed, voted on, and approved four health areas of focus:

- Housing affordability
- Behavioral health
- Jobs and financial security
- Healthy neighborhoods

### Save the date

On **Monday, April 6** BIDMC will announce how local organizations can apply for funding.

To learn more about the funding opportunity and proposal process, join BIDMC on **Tuesday, April 7 at 2:30 pm** for a meeting that will be held at 99 Brookline Avenue, Room RN-103.

### Stay in touch

For more information about BIDMC's Community-based Health Initiative visit us at [bidmc.org/chi](http://bidmc.org/chi). For questions, please email [NIBCHI@bidmc.harvard.edu](mailto:NIBCHI@bidmc.harvard.edu).