2017 Health Fairs:

On July 9th, ECHO partnered with the Sikh Cultural Society Gurdwara and the Institute for Family Health to host the third annual Community Health Fair at the Sikh Cultural Society Gurdwara. For the third year in a row, ECHO board members travelled to Queens, NY to set up a health fair at the temple. The ECHO booth offered appointment sign-ups, information about services provided at ECHO, and health education information. Our collaborators at The Institute for Family Health screened over 100 patients for hypertension, obesity, and diabetes. We are grateful to continue our relationship with this community and we’re excited to connect them to healthcare at ECHO. Special thanks to Yash Parekh (MSII, ECHO Outreach Officer) for planning this event in partnership with Mandeep Singh.

Thank you also to the Temple, its congregants, and The Institute for Family Health -- together, we are working to make primary care more accessible for all.
PARKCHESTER COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

ECHO participated in the annual Parkchester Community Health Fair on June 10th. Lawrence Gross (MSII, ECHO Patient Advocate Volunteer) summarized his experience at the Parkchester Community Health Fair:

“At the health fair, I invited community members to have their blood pressure and blood glucose measured if they wished, and explained to them the basics of the ECHO free clinic and the Institute for Family Health clinics. It was good to be outside meeting people, also chatting with them about health and the foods they like to eat, while getting to spread the word about ECHO.”

Wei Zhao (MSII, ECHO Labs Volunteer), helping out ECHO

PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY STREET FAIR

ECHO board members were excited to help out at the Philippine Independence Day Street Fair on June 4th, 2017 sponsored by Damayan Migrant Workers Association. We helped provide free health services such as blood pressure measurement, glucose screening, and doctor consultation!

Riana Jumamil (MSII, ECHO Referrals Coordinator) from our pre-clinical board and Marika Osterbur Badhey (MSTP, ECHO Continuity Chair) with Dr. Victor Sta.Ana, Family Physician and volunteer from the Institute for Family Health at the Damayan Health Fair on June 4th, 2017

Noah Levine (MSII, ECHO Patient Advocate Volunteer), helping out ECHO at the Parkchester Community Health Fair by distributing “My Healthy Plate” pamphlets
On February 2, 2017, the ECHO Free Clinic hosted our 4th annual “Evening with ECHO Gala”. The night included a silent auction and appetizers from local Bronx restaurants. We were thrilled to have the Vice President and Assistant Professor for the Department of Family and Social Medicine at Einstein, Amanda S. Parsons (MD, MBA) as a keynote speaker for the event.

"We can see at ECHO that all people matter, and the idea that everyone deserves access to quality healthcare." -- Dr. Amanda Parsons (ECHO Gala Keynote Speaker)

"Thursday, February 2nd was a night when we all gathered to support healthcare as a human right and ensure that the patients we treat at ECHO every Saturday have the resources for comprehensive care. Members of Montefiore, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and the Institute for Family Health united in this cause for our 4th Annual ECHO Gala celebration. Thanks to our attendees and donors' generosity, we were able to raise over $12,600 dollars to improve patient care and continue our service to the Bronx community." -- Dahlia Norry (MSIV, ECHO Executive Clinic Chair).

A big thanks to our outgoing pre-clinical and clinical board for making ECHO a success in the 2016-17 year!

And welcome to our new pre-clinical board (left image) and clinical board (right image)!

Outgoing Project Director, Gina Chang, and outgoing Executive Clinic Chair, Jessica Faiz, giving thanks to keynote Speaker Amanda Parsons
IN MEMORY OF GINA CHANG

This year the ECHO community was heartbroken by the tragic passing of Gina Chang. Gina was an integral part of the ECHO family, serving as the 2016-2017 Project Director. She was a true role model to us all and her generosity, kindness, and dedication to the uninsured community of the Bronx was truly inspiring. Her legacy at ECHO will continue to benefit many more patients to come through the Gina Chang Memorial Fund.

ECHO extends its sincerest condolences to her friends and family for their tremendous loss. The ECHO family continues to grieve the loss of such a beautiful spirit. She will forever stay in our hearts, and we are committed to remembering and honoring her life.

ECHO SUMMER PRE-HEALTH PROGRAM

In the spring, the ECHO Pre-Health Summer program accepted 38 Pre-Health students. The goal of the program is to provide clinical experiences for youth in the local community so that they can be better prepared for a career in healthcare field. The Pre-Health volunteers serve as Patient advocates, Front Desk Volunteers, Community Outreach Volunteers, Women’s Health Volunteers, and Interpreters. The students came to the Albert Einstein College of Medicine campus for an interactive orientation designed to introduce them to the ECHO Clinic, their new positions, and their fellow volunteers. Pre-Health students play a crucial role in clinic operations during the summer, allowing us to continue seeing a full schedule of patients every Saturday.

By the end of the summer, students assumed full responsibilities and settled into the rhythm of Saturday clinic, ensuring that it continues to run smoothly and efficiently in the summer months. They are engaged and driven throughout the entire clinic day and they conquer all of the different twists and turns that can arise with the Pre-clinical and Clinical teams!
Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 2017 “Year in Review” edition of the Hear Our ECHO newsletter. This issue would not have been possible without the writers, editors, and designers who dedicated their time!

Newsletter Contributors: Robin Berk, Dahlia Norry, Anna Bitners, Keith Sellers, Yashesh Parekh, Riana Jumamil, Lawrence Gross, Erica Moore, Laena Frechette.

CLINICAL BOARD

Executive Clinic Chair: Dahlia Norry
Chair of Clinical Coordination: Stephen Lorenzen
Chair of Clinical Teams: Dan Nathan, Elizabeth Turbridy
Chair of Clinical Volunteers: Keneth McKellar, Heena Purswani

MEDICAL DIRECTORS

Dr. Amarilys Cortijo
Dr. Sarah Nosal

Dr. Cortijo and Dr. Nosal are family physicians at the Institute for Family Health

PRE-CLINICAL BOARD

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