

**Decreasing Depression and Increasing Social Connectedness
Among NYC’s Older Adults
Request for Proposals (RFP)**

**Issued by Public Health Solutions on behalf of the
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Issue Date: February 24, 2016**

Contract Awards

Agency	Service Area
Henry Street Settlement	Manhattan Zones 3 & 12
Jewish Association for Services for the Aged (JASA)	Bronx Zones 1, 2 ,9 & 10
OHEL Children’s Home and Family Services, Inc.	Queens Zones 5 & 6
OHEL Children’s Home and Family Services, Inc.	Brooklyn Zones 11 & 15
OHEL Children’s Home and Family Services, Inc.	Brooklyn Zones 13 & 14
OHEL Children’s Home and Family Services, Inc.	Staten Island
Visiting Nurse Service of New York Home Care	Manhattan Zones 7 & 8
Visiting Nurse Service of New York Home Care	Queens Zones 1 & 12
Visiting Nurse Service of New York Home Care	Queens Zone 7

Background and Purpose: This RFP was developed as part of NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s (DOHMH) efforts to improve the mental health of older adults in NYC, specifically those that are homebound. DOHMH sites research results that show homebound older adults are more likely to suffer from depression when compared to their mobile peers (Choi, 2013)ⁱ. In an effort to increase the availability of mental health services to older adults, outreach models of care were developed to provide services to older adults where they reside or spend a significant amount of time, including the Program to Encourage Active, Rewarding Lives for Seniors (PEARLS).

Contractors awarded from this RFP, listed above, are tasked with following the PEARLS model with all of its components, and activities including:

- A robust outreach strategy to targeting adults 65 years of age and older with a special focus on those that are homebound
- Increase the # of older adults in NYC who are being screened & treated for depression needs using the PEARLS model

- Increase the # of older adults who are screened for substance use & receive counseling (e.g. alcohol, drug, tobacco cessation)
- Engage isolated & stigmatized older adults in screening, care & treatment
- Assess older adults for mental and cognitive treatment needs using the PEARLS model
- Provide culturally competent & linguistically appropriate screening, care & treatment

ⁱ Choi, N. S. (2013). Retrieved from <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3582679/>