

Lenox Hill Neighborhood House

WINTER 2011 Newsletter



City Comptroller Liu Visits 70th Street Senior Center

City Comptroller John Liu visited the 70th Street Senior Center in November. He spoke with dozens of members about the issues facing New Yorkers and joined the Senior Chorale for an impromptu concert. ■



Neighborhood House Launches Economic Security Initiative Clinic for Low-Income Seniors

Project SCOPE, our case management program for thousands of frail and homebound seniors on Manhattan's East Side, has just launched a new Economic Security Initiative (ESI) Clinic with the help of six trained senior volunteers. The ESI Clinic will permit us to expand our work to increase the economic security for seniors living below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (\$2,256 a month for a single individual). Volunteers have begun to provide comprehensive reviews of seniors' financial situations and are working to increase their incomes and decrease their expenses. We are measuring our progress against the Elder Economic Security Standard Index, which provides a realistic, geographically-based operating budget for seniors residing in their own homes. The Index quantifies the actual costs of basic expenses for older adults and is calibrated to reflect the needs of specific living situations, including varying housing and health statuses.



and covered topics such as client engagement, the economic case management process, government benefits and available resources. Many of our community volunteers came to us with significant experience in finance and social services. ESI Clinic volunteers are now meeting individually with clients, conducting holistic economic assessments, assisting clients in developing a plan that addresses their unique economic needs and then implementing those plans, whether it involves assisting someone in obtaining a public benefit like Food Stamps, referring someone to a job-training program or providing advocacy related to health insurance. The clinic meets three days a week, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and all day on Fridays. Clients receive individual help with one of our volunteers; the ESI volunteer team is supervised by