HEALTH – TEXTS, HOUSING, DAYCARE: Healthcare providers are tackling health inequities by texting expectant mothers, building affordable housing with onsite health centers, and partnering with a local YMCA to subsidize day care to bolster both local families and their own work force.

What we're working on: The connection between broadband access and public health. "The rural and underserved populations who stand to benefit the most from telehealth approaches are also the least likely to have access to broadband or high-speed internet," leading public health researchers concluded.

Join us on September 15th for "The Fourth Trimester and Beyond: The Case for Bond Investments in Maternal and Early Childhood Health," where we'll discuss how government, philanthropy, finance, and the healthcare sector can join forces to ensure every child has access to the care they need to thrive. Hosted in partnership with NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Low Income Investment Fund and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

CLIMATE – FLOODS, FIRES, HEAT: Extreme weather has everyone from central bankers to city council reps taking on climate change.

What's happening: The governors of both New York and New Jersey announced the states would be "climate ready" following Hurricane Ida. The EPA said climate change will disproportionately harm racial minorities. And one in three homes in the U.S. is at high risk from natural disasters, while separate data shows that one in three counties in the country experienced a climate disaster this summer.

Actions: The Bank of Japan is offering zero-rate low-term climate loans. New York's state-backed green bank received a $444 million loan to fund projects. New York City's Council is taking up the issue of heat and cooling poverty. New York's mayor is working to build a "living laboratory for climate research." And the Rockefeller and Ford foundations are launching a $1 billion "clean power grid" in developing nations.

What we're thinking about: Potential climate solutions. Read about those from an event we hosted featuring activists and policymakers living in places including frequently flooded Hoboken, the snow-dependent Vermont ski slopes, and grid-challenged Puerto Rico.

HOUSEHOLD FINANCIAL WELLBEING: FOOD VS. RENT: Even before the pandemic, your rent spent more than half your monthly income on housing. During the pandemic, households cut back on essentials, including food and medical care, to remain housed.

What we're developing: A briefing, to be released later this fall, that will elevate some of the best ideas to address this issue. Among them: Congress is using its $5.2 billion in federal emergency rental assistance funds to cover 100% of unpaid and future rent and utilities for income-eligible renters and landlords through the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) COVID-19 Eviction Diversion program, which could serve as a model for other states. Philadelphia has rolled out a robust rental assistance and Eviction Diversion Program in response to the pandemic, while the Atlantic Regional Commission built an Eviction Tracker by capturing court data in a five-county region.

The New York Fed's Community Development unit works with community leaders to understand community needs and with capital providers to foster economic opportunities. We are searching for ideas that help low- and moderate-income people find their place in the dynamic drivers of healthy, financial well-being, and climate-related risks. Our goal is to elevate these ideas and connect them with funding. To see our past events and learn more, visit our website.