The Katz Institute for Women’s Health (KIWH) is a champion of women’s health and wellness and is dedicated as a health care partner to educate, empower, nurture and guide women through their healthcare needs at every stage of life. KIWH operates on a fundamental belief that healthier women mean healthier families and healthier communities.

In June 2011, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the nation’s “National Prevention Strategy (NPS).” Called for under the Affordable Care Act, the NPS aims to increase the number of Americans who are healthy at every stage of life. The 4 “Strategic Directions” of the NPS: Healthy and Safe Community Environments, Clinical & Community Preventive Services, Empowered People, and Elimination of Health Disparities have components essential to understanding how diversity, inclusion, and health literacy can be operationalized within the context of medical care.

KIWH has aligned its philosophy, principles and activities with NPS to maximally improve the health of the populations that it serves. The key principle of Education and Health Literacy focuses on the need to educate patients, providers and the public to create a partnership to optimize health. This principle aligns with two of the four strategic directions of the NPS, “Empowered People” and “Elimination of Health Disparities,” which are fundamental to improving the nation’s health.

### Overview

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### Objectives

- Empower women by providing education in a health literate manner so that knowledge, ability, resources, and motivation are available for women to make healthy choices.
- Promote women’s health and wellness through focused wellness campaigns.

### Approach

**Empowered People**
- Education - KIWH provides support for women to make healthy choices by incorporating health literacy tenets into the following resources:
  - Fast Sheets & Presentations
  - KIWH Website
  - KIWH Resource Center
  - Support Groups

**Elimination of Health Disparities**
- Access to Quality Healthcare – Focusing on communities at greatest risk, KIWH promotes women’s health among the Health System’s female employees and patients throughout the year by:
  - Increasing access to health services
  - Providing outreach & support

### Key Programs

**Women’s Heart Health Program:**
- Provides personalized care for the prevention, early detection and treatment of cardiovascular disease in women by reaching out to women in their communities and their Ob/Gyn and Primary Care providers.
- As a founding member of the National Hospital Alliance of WomenHeart: The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease, peer-led support groups are available for women who have a cardiac condition or are at risk for heart disease.

**KIWH Wellness Campaigns:**
- Promotes women’s health throughout the year through focused wellness campaigns. System-wide activities are coordinated to educate female employees and community members, including lectures, informational tables, health screenings and outreach.

**KIWH Resource Center:**
- Offers women seamless, coordinated access to all of NSLIJHS clinical programs and services. In 2014, it served over 4,500 callers.

### Target Population

**North Shore - LIJ Health System’s (NSLIJHS) female employees and patients. NSLIJHS serves a geographic area encompassing 8 million+ people of the largest and most diverse organizations in metropolitan NY, with more than 54,000 employees of which more than 2/3 are female.**

### Outcomes

- Enhances patient-provider communication
- Improves the readability of health information
- Addresses health literacy concerns as part of overall patient safety agenda

### Contact Information

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