

*Mario Drummonds, MS, LCSW, MBA*  
*Executive Director/CEO*  
*Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership, Inc. (NMPP)*  
*Central Harlem Healthy Start, Principle Investigator*  
*Brief Biographical Sketch*

Mr. Mario Drummonds is the Executive Director/CEO of the ***Northern Manhattan Perinatal Partnership, Inc.***, a Harlem-based maternal and child health agency working to improve the health status of pregnant and parenting women in Northern Manhattan. NMPP is the grantee agency for the ***Central Harlem Healthy Start Program***.

His twenty-seven years of professional experience ranges in the areas of program administration and planning. He brings to the table experiences with child welfare theory, practice and policy development, maternal & child health, social marketing, information technology and public policy development. Over the last twelve years, Mr. Drummonds diversified NMPP's funding base and grew the agency from three small MCH programs and a \$800,000 annual budget to an agency with a \$5.2 million dollar budget, four sites, nearly 120 staff members and nineteen funded programs.

Mr. Drummonds has traveled the nation assisting other Healthy Start projects to develop sustainability strategies and plans, worked with them to prepare their competitive Healthy Start applications and lectures on the theory and practice of **building a public health social movement** locally to decrease racial disparities in birth outcomes. He is a member of the faculty of **HRSA's Quality Institute** and a faculty member of the **National Healthy Start Association Leadership Institute**. HRSA has designated the Central Harlem Healthy Start program as a **center of excellence in MCH service delivery** while achieving outstanding birth outcomes.

Mr. Drummonds completed his graduate education at Columbia University within the Schools of Social Work and Business Administration in 1980. Mr. Drummonds graduated from the Johnson & Johnson/UCLA Health Care Executive Program in the summer of 2004 at the John E. Anderson Graduate School of Management at UCLA. He has the ability to blend the best practices within the business, public health and social service fields to transform the lives of his clients and advance the social-economic development of his community.

Mr. Drummonds received an award from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services in 1996 for his work in reducing infant mortality in Central Harlem. Today in Central Harlem the infant mortality rate is 5.1 deaths per one thousand live births. In 1990, this community's infant mortality rate was 27.7 deaths. NMPP now has embarked on a campaign to reduce the low birth weight rate in Central Harlem and address the mental health needs of pregnant and parenting mothers by developing NMPP's **Harlem Maternal Mental Health Training Institute**.