Preparing this book has been an important capstone to the Northern Manhattan Community Voices Collaborative. We did not believe we could just close the door on the initiative and leave unsaid the many challenges and accomplishments of all of the wonderful people who in one way or another worked in the collaborative over a ten-year period. When we started to outline the book and begin the process it seemed overwhelming. In reflecting back over the process of writing the book, we first have to acknowledge the efforts of two key collaborators, Nancy Bruning and Yisel Alonzo. Nancy, an experienced editor and author, came aboard to help us organize the effort and to work with all of the chapter authors in editing their drafts. She kept the process moving along and prevented us from bogging down. Yisel prepared all of the Northern Manhattan Community Voices Collaborative files so that information was retrievable. The enthusiasm of Nancy and Yisel made the job of preparing the book much easier for us!

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