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**Mayor's Office to
Combat Domestic
Violence**

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Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence and New Destiny Housing Partner to Reduce Homelessness Among Domestic Violence Survivors

(New York, NY) Today, the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV) and New Destiny Housing Corporation announced the first lease signing as a part of the newly launched \$638,000 Project HOME (Housing Opportunities Made Easy) program, an innovative joint initiative recently launched at the New York City Family Justice Centers (FJs).

Project Home, a three-year pilot program, is designed to promote the long-term safety and stability of domestic violence survivors seeking services at the FJs in Brooklyn, Manhattan and the Bronx. Through the program, domestic violence survivors who are homeless or at risk of homelessness are linked with vacant units in safe and affordable permanent housing. By linking families and individuals to existing apartments, Project HOME is a cost effective solution to the cycle of homelessness often experienced by survivors of domestic violence.

The first client who secured an apartment through Project Home is Mrs. S., a Bronx FJ client who had lived in a homeless family shelter for 88 days with her mother and young son. Through the assistance of the FJ Self-Sufficiency Coordinator and Richard Winslow, New Destiny's Project HOME Director, Mrs. S. will now reside in an affordable apartment in a safe community. With housing stability, Mrs. S. hopes to attain a better paying job and enroll in college: "I would really like to better myself so that I can have more financial stability as well as happiness in what I do. I would like to show myself and my son that it is never too late to achieve your goals."

"All too often, victims of intimate partner domestic violence must choose between living with their abuser and becoming homeless," said **Commissioner Rosemonde Pierre-Louis, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence**. "Project HOME strongly enhances the ability of the NYC Family Justice Centers to connect survivors and their families with safe, stable housing so that they can live a life free from violence in their home."

“Families and individuals who are displaced by abuse are critically underserved. Project HOME is a cost-effective program that can enable New Destiny to meet the needs of more domestic violence victims,” said **Carol Corden, Executive Director of New Destiny Housing**.

Funding for Project HOME

Funding is provided by the U.S. Dept. of Justice’s Office of Violence Against Women, Oak Foundation, New York Community Trust and Mizuho USA Foundation.

About the NYC Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence

The Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV), established in 2001, oversees the citywide delivery of domestic violence services, creates innovative policies, develops crisis intervention and prevention based programs, and works to increase awareness through broad and diverse outreach efforts throughout New York City. OCDV operates four Family Justice Centers (FJCs) in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens, with a fifth Center opening in Staten Island in 2015. The FJCs offer comprehensive wraparound services for victims of intimate partner violence, sex trafficking and elder abuse, including case management, civil legal and supportive services, as well as access to the District Attorney’s Offices and the NYPD. The FJCs are walk-in Centers that provide free and confidential services regardless of the client’s language, immigration status, income, gender identity or sexual orientation.

About New Destiny Housing

New Destiny is a 21 year-old non-profit dedicated to ending the cycle of violence for low-income families and individuals at risk of homelessness and domestic violence by connecting them to safe, permanent housing and services. To achieve its mission, New Destiny builds and manages housing with on-site services; offers innovative programs that empower victims of abuse to find and retain affordable housing; and expands access to permanent housing resources for low-income families. New Destiny is one of the few affordable housing developers in New York State providing housing with services specifically tailored to domestic violence survivors. Over 21 years, New Destiny has developed 15 residential projects with over 400 households. For additional information visit New Destiny’s website at www.newdestinyhousing.org and follow the organization on [facebook](#) or [twitter](#).

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