## Street Harassment Prevention Advisory Board

2023 Annual Report









# Street Harassment Prevention Advisory Board 2023 Annual Report

### **Overview of the Street Harassment Prevention Advisory Board**

The Street Harassment Prevention Advisory Board was established by Local Law 46 of 2022. The Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) and the NYC Commission on Gender Equity (CGE) co-chair this advisory board. The goals of the advisory board are to:

- (1) Study the occurrence of street harassment in New York City;
- (2) Identify people and communities most at risk of and most impacted by street harassment via a citywide survey;
- (3) Develop programming, training, and a resource guide to prevent and respond to street harassment; and
- (4) Promote public awareness of street harassment, including supportive services and resources for those who have experienced harassment.

This is the second annual report submitted to the Mayor and Speaker of the Council pursuant to Local Law 46 of 2022.

### **2023 Advisory Board Meetings**

The Street Harassment Prevention Advisory Board held quarterly meetings in 2023, one of which was open to the public as required by Local Law 46 of 2022.

#### February 16, 2023

At the February 2023 meeting, the Board discussed the draft NYC End Street Harassment Resource Guide and the April 2023 public meeting.

#### April 25, 2023 – Public Meeting

The April 2023 meeting was open to the public. SHPAB members shared the meeting invitation with their communities, and ENDGBV and CGE circulated the meeting invitation to their partners and posted about it on social media. ENDGBV Commissioner Cecile Noel and CGE Executive Director Jacqueline Ebanks provided opening remarks before members of the public were invited to speak. Eleven members of the public shared their experiences with street harassment and recommendations for preventing and responding to street harassment.

Following comments from the public, ENDGBV and CGE presented and facilitated a discussion about the development of the NYC Street Harassment Prevention Survey. Approximately 60 people attended the public meeting.

#### July 27, 2023

At the July 2023 meeting, ENDGBV and CGE presented the final version of the NYC End Street Harassment Resource Guide and a draft of the NYC Street Harassment Prevention Survey. The Board provided feedback on the survey and then discussed how to spread awareness about the resource guide and survey.

#### **November 8, 2023**

At the November 2023 meeting, the Board debriefed the launch of the Street Harassment Prevention Survey and the September Day of Action to spread awareness about the survey and the NYC End Street Harassment Resource Guide. The Board also received an update on preliminary survey results and discussed potential Board activities for 2024.

#### **2023 Advisory Board Activities**

In addition to the quarterly meetings described above, the Advisory Board accomplished the following in 2023:

- Launch of NYC Street Harassment Prevention Webpage: <a href="nyc.gov/endstreetharassment">nyc.gov/endstreetharassment</a>
  The NYC Street Harassment Webpage is a dedicated site to the work of the Street Harassment Prevention Advisory Board. In 2023, the website featured the NYC End Street Harassment Resource Guide in all 10 official city languages, the NYC Street Harassment Prevention Survey in all city languages, the NYC Street Harassment Advisory Board Social Kit for partners to help raise awareness, and information about the Street Harassment Prevention Advisory Board and its members.
- Publication of the NYC End Street Harassment Resource Guide
   In July 2023, the Advisory Board published the city's first NYC End Street Harassment
   Resource Guide. The resource guide is available in all city languages and is available on
   the city's End Street Harassment webpage. The following city agencies have also shared
   the resource guide on their websites or via newsletters: the Commission on Human
   Rights (CCHR), NYC Public Schools (NYCPS), the Department of Health and Mental
   Hygiene, and the Department of Transportation.
- Launch of New York City's First Street Harassment Prevention Survey
   On September 20, 2023, the Advisory Board launched New York City's first citywide
   Street Harassment Prevention Survey. This survey was developed by the Advisory Board
   in partnership with CGE and ENDGBV. Prior to launch, the survey was tested by
   ENDGBV's Research and Evaluation department. The survey was made available online

in all city languages. Paper surveys in multiple languages were provided to the general public during a "Day of Action," and during outreach events in September, October, and November 2023. The Advisory Board collected survey responses from September 20, 2023 through December 10, 2023. Survey responses numbered in the thousands and the Advisory Board expects a full analysis of survey responses to be complete in 2024. The Advisory Board will develop recommendations regarding policies and programs following this analysis.

#### • NYC Street Harassment Prevention Day of Action

The Day of Action took place on September 27, 2023 and consisted of events in all five boroughs to raise awareness of the survey and resource guide. Thirty-five volunteers from various partner organizations and government offices participated, including Cat Calls of NYC, Pillars of Peace, Right to Be, A Safer Place, South Queens Women's March, CGE, ENDGBV, ENDGBV VOICES Committee, the Bronx Borough President's Office, the NYC Commission on Human Rights, and NYC Public Schools. The Day of Action and the survey received media attention in a variety of outlets, including Gothamist, WNYC, El Diario, and News 12 Brooklyn, among others. Overall, volunteers distributed 1,780 flyers and 326 resource guides in Bangla, Simplified Chinese, English, and Spanish.

#### **Day of Action Locations:**

o Bronx: 149<sup>th</sup> Street Grand Concourse Station

Brooklyn: Barclay's Center

Manhattan: Washington Square Park

Queens: Rufus King ParkStaten Island: Ferry Terminal



Day of Action Volunteers in Queens Photo credit: CGE



Day of Action Volunteers and NYC Council Member Farah N. Louis Photo credit: ENDGBV



Day of Action Volunteers on Staten Island Photo Credit: CGE



Day of Action Volunteers in Manhattan Photo credit: ENDGBV

#### Community Engagement to Increase Awareness of Survey and Resource Guide

Our agencies participated in a variety of outreach events to raise awareness of the SHPAB and the survey. Through these events, we distributed approximately 1,351 resource guides and flyers about the survey in multiple languages.

- October 11, 2023 National Coming Out Day with Bronx Borough President's Office, 521 E. Tremont (Bronx)
- October 16, 2023 Sara D. Roosevelt Park (Manhattan)
- October 21, 2023 Love Rally with New York Transgender Advocacy Group, Christopher St. Pier (Manhattan)
- October 24, 2023 Bronx Diva Spa Event with Bronx Borough President's Office, Bronx Borough Hall
- October 25, 2023 Latine Women's Fair with VOCES Latina, Manuel de Dios Park (Queens)
- October 30, 2023 Medgar Evers College (Brooklyn)
- November 20, 2023 Main St, Flushing (Queens)
- o November 21, 2023 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Bay Ridge (Brooklyn)
- November 28, 2023 "Women Empowered" Support Group gathering with Not On My Watch (Bronx)
- December 5, 2023 Little Haiti, Flatbush (Brooklyn)
- December 7, 2023 Queeribbean Crossing Conference with Caribbean Equality
   Project and LGBT Center (Manhattan)
- December 8, 2023 Youth Council Presentation with Korean American Family Service Center, Flushing (Queens)

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CGE Outreach Team
Photo credit: CGE



**ENDGBV Outreach Team**Photo credit: ENDGBV

The NYC Street Harassment Prevention <u>webpage</u>, End Street Harassment Resource Guide, Street Harassment Public Survey, and Day of Action were publicized in the following ways:

- Social media postings from ENDGBV, CGE, and the Mayor's Office of Equity and Racial Justice
- NYC Community Affairs Unit newsletters
- o Community outreach events, including September 2023 Day of Action
- Emails to nonprofit partners
- Emails to all City of New York employees
- o Inclusion in press releases
- o Recorded video message from Mayor Eric Adams

#### **2023 Advisory Board Members:**

- Cecile Noel, Co-Chair, Commissioner of the New York City Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence
- **Jacqueline Ebanks,** Co-Chair, Executive Director of the Commission on Gender Equity (stepped down July 2023)
- **Sideya Sherman**, Co-Chair, Commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Equity and Racial Justice (assumed Co-Chair position August 2023)
- Nathalie Arzu, Public Advocate Appointee, Program Manager of the RISE Project at the Center for Court Innovation
- Julie Bero, Chief Strategy Officer at the New York City Department of Transportation
- Quadira Coles, Mayoral Appointee, Director of Policy at Girls for Gender Equity
- Elisa Crespo, Council Speaker Appointment, Executive Director at NEW Pride Agenda (appointed November 2023)
- Jose Rios Lua, Acting Chief of Staff at the New York City Commission on Human Rights
- Emily May, Mayoral Appointee, President and Co-Founder of Right to Be
- Sarah Milner-Barry, Policy & Programs Analyst for Safety at the New York City Commission on Gender Equity (stepped down August 2023)
- Jose Soegaard, Deputy Director at the New York City Office of Night Life
- **Melissa Paquette**, Director of Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs at the New York City Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence
- Nathaly Rubio-Torio, Mayoral Appointee, Executive Director at Voces Latinas
- **Jean Son**, Mayoral Appointee, Community Advocate
- Melanie Weniger, Deputy Executive Director of Policy and Programs at the New York
   City Commission on Gender Equity
- **Melissa Dandin**, Public Advocate Appointee, Deputy Director of Constituent Services at the Office of Public Advocate (appointed September 2023)

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