

NYC® Mayor's Office to
End Domestic and
Gender-Based Violence

2018

Annual Report



MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER



I am excited to publish our first annual report as the Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV). In September of 2018, Mayor Bill de Blasio expanded the responsibilities of the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV) and launched ENDGBV to enhance our City's strategic response to intimate partner and family violence, as well as sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.

Since our mission expanded last fall, we have been hard at work: we have built a citywide outreach team; enhanced our trainings for sister agencies, community-based organizations and stakeholders; explored opportunities for data collection and information sharing amongst new and existing partners; and developed a citywide legislative agenda for domestic and gender-based violence.

In this report, you will learn about the new and exciting ways that we are growing to support survivors in New York City. Our coverage areas have expanded, yet our core goal remains the same: to create bridges and coordination across systems to ensure that survivors in New York City have access to critical resources and services.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl Naeff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a period at the end.

Commissioner
Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence

ENDGBV EXPANSION

On September 7, 2018, Mayor Bill de Blasio signed Executive Order 36, which expanded the scope of the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence and launched the new Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV). The new Office leads a citywide, coordinated effort to address domestic and gender-based violence.

Domestic violence is one part of a larger continuum of issues related to gender-based violence, which includes intimate partner violence (IPV), family violence, sexual violence, stalking, and trafficking. These issues all require comprehensive and coordinated multi-agency responses, policies and programs. The Office's newly expanded mission and authority to oversee such efforts will enhance the coordination of services, creation of policy and interventions, and effectiveness of citywide system responses to domestic and gender-based violence.

Under our new mandate, our Office will prioritize developing and expanding services for survivors of sexual assault, family violence, and trafficking; building a citywide outreach team, and enhancing trainings for City agencies and community stakeholders; exploring new opportunities for data collection and information sharing; and developing a legislative agenda for domestic and gender-based violence. Additionally, the new Executive Order creates an Advisory Committee, chaired by ENDGBV, to review individual case-level data of domestic and gender-based violence fatalities.

FAMILY JUSTICE CENTERS

Our Office operates the New York City Family Justice Centers (FJCs), which provide comprehensive social service, civil legal, and criminal justice assistance to survivors of domestic and gender-based violence in all five boroughs. Key city agencies; community, social, and civil legal service providers; and law enforcement agencies, including the NYPD and District Attorney's Offices are located on-site at the FJCs to make it easier for survivors to access assistance in one location. Services are free and confidential, and all are welcome regardless of language, income, gender identity or immigration status.

In the past year, we have strengthened our services at the Centers by developing new and expanded partnerships with on-site legal service providers, culturally-specific community based organizations and agencies specializing in working on economic empowerment and housing issues in order to be responsive to the needs of survivors of domestic and gender-based violence. In 2018, the five FJCs had 65,855 total client visits from over 25,000 unique clients. These clients represented 170 different countries of origin and all of the neighborhoods of New York City.



Latinx Roundtable at the Staten Island FJC

In 2018, we launched and/or enhanced several new initiatives and programs at the FJCs, including:

Enhancing Intake and Screening Processes

In 2018, we enhanced our intake and screening processes at the FJCs, which ensure effective and compassionate services are provided and play an important role in shaping a client's initial experience. We developed a journey document to provide clients with a road map to receiving services at the FJC. The FJCs also began collecting data on new victimization categories to ensure that resources offered at FJCs appropriately reflect the needs of our clients.



Client screening at Queens FJC

Supporting Technology Abuse Research and Advancing Programming

We continue to advance knowledge of how technology is commonly used in abusive relationships, in order to ensure that we provide relevant programming and services for FJC clients who are experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, technologically abusive behaviors or tactics. Based on research interviews with FJC on-site providers and client focus groups conducted by our partners at Cornell Tech in 2016, new screening questions are used by FJC staff members who engage in safety planning around technology. In 2018, Cornell Tech piloted an innovative diagnostic tool designed to identify and remove spyware from mobile devices, and now provides digital privacy checkups for FJC clients, which includes scanning devices for spyware, performing a privacy check-up, and a one-on-one consultation with clients about their privacy settings. In 2018, we partnered with non-profit organization, Day One, to enhance our training curricula regarding technology abuse, develop materials, and train our trainers.

Launching the Voices Committee

In April 2018, we launched the Voices Committee, a survivor-led group that serves as a voice of hope and change for survivors of intimate partner violence in New York City. Voices Committee members share their stories and experiences to raise awareness of intimate partner violence and its impacts, conduct outreach to affected communities, and make recommendations for improved systemic responses. The Committee meets monthly and has provided user feedback on FJC intake procedures and NYC HOPE, the City's Resource Directory for domestic and gender-based violence; worked with other survivor leaders on sharing their individual stories; and developed the Committee's mission statement, values, and community agreements .

Fostering Wellness for Clients and Staff at FJCs

In 2018, we made strides to foster health and wellness programming and resources for clients and staff. Therapy dogs are now available to support clients and staff at all FJCs, as well as regular yoga and meditation sessions. Each FJC implemented individualized wellness plans in collaboration with on-site partners to provide support to partner staff working on the frontlines.



Therapy dog, Stella, at the Manhattan Family Justice Center

Hosting Foreign Delegations

We regularly host foreign delegations interested in tours and learning more about the New York City FJCs. As the only city in the nation with five FJCs, New York City is leading the way in offering accessible and inclusive services to survivors of gender-based violence. In 2018, ENDGBV hosted delegations from around the globe, including Georgia, Guatemala, Mexico, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Ecuador, Honduras, Colombia, and Nigeria.

OUTREACH

Our Outreach team raises awareness about the City's resources and programs for survivors, and conducts public engagement and education efforts and events to build the capacity of communities to prevent, recognize, and respond to domestic and gender-based violence. Our Outreach efforts are performed in communities across the City, with a special focus on immigrant, youth, vulnerable, and underserved communities. In 2018, the Outreach team hosted and/or participated in 764 outreach events.



IPV 101 Training at NYCHA Van Dyke Houses



Salon Outreach in Washington Heights



Gibney and Day One "Hands Are For Holding" Dance Assembly

ARTS PARTNERSHIPS

In addition to our ongoing collaboration with Gibney (formerly the Gibney Dance Company) and Day One on a dance assembly program called “Hands Are For Holding,” ENDGBV expanded our arts-based partnerships in recognition of the value and power of the arts in addressing gender-based violence. Below are highlights from some of our arts partnerships in 2018.

Public Artist in Residence (PAIR)

In 2018, ENDGBV worked with Ebony Hutt, an artist from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs’ Public Artist in Residence (PAIR) Program, to develop art-based workshops exploring gender-based violence with the aim of engaging communities in more artistic ways. Pilot workshops have created new opportunities for conversations around difficult topics outside of the traditional lecture or presentation setting, and have been well-received across diverse audiences.

Theater of War

We have continued to partner with Bryan Doerries, NYC artist and former PAIR, on Theater of War, which stages free community-specific, theater-based projects that address pressing public health and social issues—including intimate partner violence and sexual assault—through the presentation of dramatic readings of plays that spark community conversations. In 2018, ENDGBV partnered with Theater of War on 22 performances, in conjunction with our fellow City agencies, including the Department of Veterans’ Services.



Theater of War performance

Established in 2016, ENDGBV's Policy & Training Institute (the Institute) focuses on building awareness, skills and capacity around issues related to intimate partner violence throughout New York City and identifying ways to enhance city, state, and federal policy affecting survivors and their families.

TRAINING

TRAINING TEAM

The Institute's Training Team collaborates with our fellow City agencies and community-based organizations to enhance knowledge and awareness about domestic and gender-based violence. Our trainers assess training needs and design trainings to support the unique goals of our partner agencies and organizations. The Institute offers ongoing consultation, technical assistance, and refresher trainings, and helps our partners build internal capacity by offering train-the-trainer courses. In 2018, the Training Team provided 321 trainings to over 7,500 participants.

NEW YORK CITY HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP TRAINING ACADEMY

The Institute's Healthy Relationship Training Academy (the Academy) provides workshops on teen dating violence and healthy relationships to young people, parents and caregivers, and professionals working with young people. In 2018, the Academy provided 725 workshops to nearly 14,000 participants.

EARLY EDUCATION, INTERVENTION, AND PREVENTION

Early education, intervention, and prevention of gender-based violence is a critical strategy in the larger aim of ending gender-based violence. The Institute has many new and ongoing partnerships focused on early intervention and prevention, including:

1) Training NYC Department of Education (NYC DOE) Staff

As part of our strong ongoing partnership with NYC DOE, we have provided teen dating abuse response training to their Substance Abuse Intervention Specialists and school staff citywide. We are also committed to training 1,800 Sexual Harassment Liaisons, who are NYC DOE staff designated to receive reports of student-to-student sexual harassment, including dating abuse, and sexual violence, with support from non-profit partners who work in schools to address dating violence (Day One, STEPS to End Family Violence, the Urban Resources Institute).

2) Early Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (Early RAPP)

In November 2018, our Office, in partnership with the Human Resources Administration (HRA), announced the launch of Early RAPP. Building off the success of HRA's Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP), Early RAPP brings Community Educators to New York City middle schools. Early RAPP Community Educators from three community-based organizations (Day One, Rising Ground, and the Urban Resource Institute) facilitate interactive workshops with students, parents, caregivers, and community members, as well as professional development for school staff. Community Educators also connect students, families, and staff experiencing relationship abuse to critical support services in the community.



*Youth Leadership
Council (YLC)
members*

3) Youth Leadership Council

Beginning in summer 2018, with the support of NYC Service, our Office convened our first Youth Leadership Council (YLC). The YLC is comprised of twelve youth leaders from high schools across the City who expressed passion and commitment for working to address dating and gender-based violence at their schools and in their communities. YLC members have helped inform the Academy's social media presence and have provided feedback on the Academy's training materials. The youth leaders have also committed to partnering with their individual schools to stay abreast of Title IX provisions, as well as planning workshops on healthy relationships for their peers throughout the school year.

Conferences and Forums

“Safety, Accountability, Support” Conference

In March 2018, the NYC Domestic Violence Task Force, a collaboration between the Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence and the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice, hosted the City’s first conference bringing together domestic violence and restorative justice communities to explore the use of restorative approaches to support people impacted by IPV. The conference was in partnership with the Center for Court Innovation, Common Justice, Crown Heights Community Mediation Center, The Restorative Justice Initiative, STEPS to End Family Violence and others. [Read our summary report](#)

Center on Media, Crime, and Justice Journalism Fellowship

In May 2018, we hosted a two-day fellowship workshop for New York City-area journalists, called “The Hidden Crime: Covering Domestic Violence,” in partnership with CUNY John Jay College’s Center on Media, Crime, and Justice. Developed as an expansion of a Reporter’s Workshop held October 2016 and a live stream event for reporters in November 2017, journalists in the tri-state area were invited to delve deeper into news coverage of IPV. The workshop consisted of panels and keynote addresses from Lynn Rosenthal, Director of the Violence Against Women Initiative at the Biden Foundation, and Bea Hanson, Executive Director of the NYC Domestic Violence Task Force. [Read our media guide](#)

“Balancing You, Me, and Us” Youth Conference

In October 2018, we hosted over 200 young people and adults working with young people at our first Youth Conference, called “Balancing You, Me, and Us: a convening to explore ourselves, our relationships, and our communities,” in partnership with NYC DOE, the NYC Department of Youth & Community Development, and CUNY John Jay College.



*Breakout group,
“Balancing You,
Me and Us” youth
conference*

Abusive Partner Intervention Programming

In May 2018, First Lady Chirlane McCray announced Interrupting Violence At Home, a groundbreaking citywide effort to address domestic violence through services, training, and intervention for abusive partners who are not mandated through the criminal justice system. Since the vast majority of domestic violence incidents are not reported to law enforcement, the City's \$3.3 million investment leverages national research and evidence-informed intervention models to address abusive behavior and reduce future abuse in IPV relationships. The Interrupting Violence at Home initiative includes:

- **Respect First** and **Respect and Responsibility** are trauma-informed, culturally-responsive, community-based accountability programs. Respect First will be designed for young people who have exhibited abusive behavior toward their intimate partners or family members. Respect and Responsibility will be geared toward adults who have caused harm to their partners.
- **The Restorative Justice Blueprint** will be the first ever NYC-specific blueprint to serve as a set of survivor and restorative justice practitioner-informed guiding principles and best practices to inform restorative justice programming.
- **The Abusive Partner Intervention Training** will assist ENDGBV in adapting curriculum to be utilized in trainings to enhance the identification, engagement, and response to people who have caused harm within the context of intimate partner violence.

Policy and Training Spotlight: ENDGBV Partnership with ACS

ENDGBV provides ongoing technical assistance to support the Administration for Children's Services (ACS) Child Welfare Programs to enhance identification of, and response to, IPV experienced by families involved in the child welfare system. In 2018, ENDGBV provided strong partnership for several ACS projects, such as:

- **The Workforce Institute's Project to Identify and Address Intimate Partner Violence**

As the content expert in the training development process, our Office helped develop IPV training for in-service and onboarding frontline ACS staff through two e-Learning modules and curricula for multi-day trainings designed to enable staff to identify and address IPV. We will continue to partner on updates to training components.

- **Providing Trainings and Presentations for ACS**

Our Training team provided 11 trainings that reached 377 staff at ACS' Divisions of Child Protection Services, Prevention Services, and Family Permanency Services. Our trainers facilitated trainings in both English and Spanish for ACS' Division of Child and Family Wellbeing's Trauma Smart Conference, reaching over 800 participants; as well as at a staff training for ACS' Domestic Violence Awareness Month event, reaching over 150 ACS staff.

- **Domestic Violence Project: A Safe Way Forward**

Our Office provided technical assistance in the planning and solicitation process for the "A Safe Way Forward Project," by the ACS' Division of Prevention Services, which serves families experiencing domestic violence who are involved in court-ordered supervision and are referred to/seek ACS preventive services. The program enables family members, including parents who have caused harm to an intimate partner, to receive preventive services and clinical therapeutic intervention for domestic violence. We are also leading an assessment of the program.

Our Research and Evaluation team provides data management and support to all of our programs and initiatives, and conducts multi-disciplinary research projects with interagency research partners to inform future work concerning the prevention and response to gender-based violence. Data from all our research publications are available on [NYC Open Data](#).

Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee (FRC)

Established in 2005 through Local Law 61, the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee (FRC) is tasked with summarizing information pertaining to domestic violence homicides in New York City, and developing recommendations for the coordination and enhancement of services for domestic violence in New York City. Chaired by our Commissioner, the FRC is comprised of staff from ten City agencies, two representatives from social services agencies, and two survivors of domestic violence. The FRC published their 2018 Annual Report, which includes an emphasis on the intimate partner homicides that occurred between 2010 and 2017.

Additional Publications in 2018

[OCDV IN FOCUS: Survey Findings from the New York City Healthy Relationship Training Academy – Differences by Participant Age and Gender](#)

The second in a series of reports on the work of the Academy, presenting differences in pre- and post-workshop survey performance by participant age and gender.

[OCDV IN FOCUS: A Closer Look at Foreign-Born Clients Visiting the New York City Family Justice Centers](#)

A closer look at clients who reported a country of birth other than the United States (including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands) visiting the FJCs, including top services received, demographic differences between foreign-born and U.S.-born clients, an overview of recent trends, and more.

[Data Brief: Intimate Partner Homicide-Suicide in New York City, 2010-2017](#)

A descriptive analysis of intimate partner homicide-suicides in NYC between 2010 and 2017.

[2017 ENDGBV Fact Sheet](#)

Data on domestic violence homicides, calls to the domestic violence hotline, and other City services

[2017 Intimate Partner Violence Snapshots](#) and [2017 Family-Related Violence Snapshots](#)

Statistics on intimate partner- and family-related domestic incidents and offenses for each community board district in the City

[Fact sheet: Intimate Partner Violence Disrupts Child Development and Impacts Non-Offending Parent's Ability to Parent](#)

PUBLIC/ PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Our Office collaborates with City agencies and community partners to receive funding from federal agencies and private foundations.

ENDGBV partners with the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City (the Fund), a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit corporation that serves as the primary vehicle for New York City's business, foundational, and philanthropic communities to engage City government, contribute to public programs, and enhance the City's ability to serve its residents. Critical programs and services at the FJCs are available through generous support of private funding partners secured by the Mayor's Fund, including:

- **Robin Hood Foundation:** supporting the immigration legal services programs at the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens FJCs.
- **Brooke Jackman Foundation:** supporting the Brooke Jackman Family Literacy Program, a multi-lingual literacy program for survivors and their children available at all five FJCs.
- **The Chapman Perelman Foundation:** supporting technical assistance by Columbia University Medical Center (CUMC) to the FJC Mental Health Program, which provides on-site clinical psychiatric services and psychotherapy treatment to FJC clients.

In 2018, ENDGBV received funding from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) through the following grant programs:

- ENDGBV received funding via the Office on Violence Against Women's Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Grant for the Early Victim Engagement (EVE) program in Brooklyn in collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice . The EVE Program, which has been conducted in collaboration with the Kings County District Attorney's Office, Safe Horizon, and Good Shepherd Services, provided survivors with critical information at the time of their abusive partner's arraignment; including information about bail, orders of protection, subsequent court dates and how to get connected to resources and services. In 2018, a total of 3,783 survivors were served by the program.

· In collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, ENDGBV received funding via the Office on Violence Against Women's Justice for Families Grant Program for a Queens Supervised Visitation Program, which was implemented by Safe Horizon and provided free supervised visitation and safe exchange to families engaged in the Queens Family Court. The program served 47 families through a total of 186 visits in 2018.

· In collaboration with the Mayor's Fund to Advance NYC, ENDGBV received funding via the Office on Victims of Crime's A Pathway to Justice, Healing and Hope: Addressing Polyvictimization in a Family Justice Center Setting Grant Program. The program was implemented at the Queens Family Justice Center in partnership with Safe Horizon, the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault, Voces Latinas, the Mount Sinai Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Program, and the Urban Institute. These funds support a three-year demonstration project to develop and test a polyvictimization screening tool for use in FJC model settings. The program allows for the provision of ongoing trainings for partner agencies on how to deliver trauma-informed services, and the incorporation of trauma-informed design into physical spaces. In 2018, findings from an analysis performed on the use of the pilot screening tool informed recommendations for its enhancement. Nine trainings on trauma-informed services were provided to partner agencies and 16 individual consultations were conducted with direct service providers.

COMMUNICATIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

As part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in 2018, First Lady Chirlane McCray and our Commissioner honored advocates working on behalf of survivors of domestic and gender-based violence at a luncheon on October 25, 2018. Larry Lee, former Executive Director of Womankind, and Marie Philip, former Deputy Commissioner of Emergency Intervention Services at the NYC Human Resources Administration, were honored with Lifetime Achievement Awards.



*Domestic
Violence
Awareness
Month
Luncheon*

Observance of 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence

ENDGBV produced an art exhibition called “Response and Resiliency” during the global campaign, showcasing the impact of gender-based violence on individuals, families, and their communities. The exhibition was curated by Jasmine Castillo of Escape Artists and features the work of local artists. It raised awareness and aimed to inspire action at the community level to end violence against girls, women, transgender, and gender non-conforming persons. Opening night—conducted in partnership with the Commission on Gender Equity, Escape Artists, Hi-ARTS, El Barrio’s Artspace PS109, and the Violence Intervention Program— included live performances and interactive experiences for over 200 attendees.



Artist Brandice Taylor-Davis next to Erica Puckett's paintings at "Response and Resiliency" opening at PS109

Public Awareness Campaign: “We Understand”

In February 2018, we launched New York City’s first domestic violence awareness campaign in more than a decade. The “We Understand” ad campaign ran for 12 weeks on citywide bus shelters, subways, the Staten Island Ferry, and our social media channels. Radio spots played on 103.5 KTU FM and Power 105.1 FM, voiced by popular radio DJs Charlamagne Tha God, and Lulu and Lala. “We Understand” campaign videos were also broadcast on LinkNYC kiosks citywide and on Taxi TV. [Watch campaign videos](#)

NYC HOPE Resource Directory

In February 2018, First Lady Chirlaine McCray announced the launch of NYC HOPE, New York City’s first web-based Resource Directory for domestic and gender-based violence services. The site features information for survivors and allies, such as recognizing signs and getting help, and an easy-to-search database for locating community resources, which also offers filters for special populations. Developed by NYC’s Department of Information Technology and Telecommunication with feedback from over 100 NYC FJC clients, the NYC HOPE website uses UI/UX best practices to ensure that it is intuitive and easy to navigate. The site also includes tech safety tips and a quick-escape feature for users to ensure their safety while accessing the platform, and connects users to other City agency sites to access information. From January 1st to December 31st, 2018 NYC HOPE had 12,300 unique visitors to NYC Hope and over 30,500 visits.

