



# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

## Interagency Coordinating Council on Youth



Interagency  
Coordinating  
Council on Youth



**Department of  
Youth & Community  
Development**

Bill Chong  
Commissioner

To: **The Honorable Bill de Blasio**  
Mayor of the City of New York

**The Honorable Debi Rose**  
Chair, Youth Services Committee  
Council of the City of New York

Members of the Interagency Coordinating Council on Youth (ICC)

From: **Bill Chong**  
Commissioner, Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD)

I am pleased to present the Interagency Coordinating Council on Youth (ICC) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2019. Throughout the past year, the ICC held dozens of events to mark its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The ICC was honored to testify before the NYC Council Committee on Youth Services about its work in January 2019. The testimony highlighted our commitment to work with members to enhance services for youth. In addition, the ICC pledged to update and re-issue its publication, *Transitioning Back into the Community: A Resource Guide*.

The ICC was delighted to host a 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary breakfast celebration in April. We were joined by the City Council's Committee on Youth Services Chair, Debi Rose, in welcoming all ICC member agencies, workgroup members and guests in acknowledging the ICC's history while looking ahead to its future.

The ICC continued to be part of community events such as Spring Into Health, a joint effort of DYCD, the Department for the Aging (DFTA), the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), Health + Hospitals, Parks Department, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), and the Human Resources Administration (HRA), which brought member agencies together at more than 40 sites throughout the City during the month of May. The fairs engaged, encouraged, empowered, and exposed community residents to an array of holistic services, local community-based organizations and City agencies in various neighborhoods.

ICC members also worked diligently to enhance services for youth, families and communities by examining the specific needs of court-involved and LGBTQ+ youth. We look forward to continuing this progress this year and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Chong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Chong, *Commissioner*  
Department of Youth & Community Development

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# I. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON YOUTH 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

On April 10, the ICC celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary at DYCD. DYCD Commissioner & ICC Director Bill Chong convened the ICC's membership to acknowledge the ICC's stature as one of the City of New York's longest standing working bodies that brings together City-based agencies, providers and advocates for purposes of enhancing services for young people. Over the past three decades, the ICC has been effective in developing collaborations, trainings and events among its members to strengthen services for youth, families and communities. Attendees included NYC Council Member and Committee on Youth Services Chair Debi Rose and the senior leadership of ICC member agencies. A slideshow highlighting the history of the ICC was screened and the ICC recognized several of its members as ambassadors for their outstanding contributions to youth. In addition, attendees heard from DYCD's Information Technology (IT) team which highlighted its creation of an online application and universal intake form where applicants can complete the application online, apply to multiple DYCD-funded services, and view the status of their applications.



Left to Right: DYCD Commissioner and ICC Director Bill Chong and NYC Councilmember Debi Rose welcome attendees. DYCD Assistant Commissioner and ICC Supporting LGBTQ+ Co-Chair Randy Scott joins in to recognize ICC Ambassadors Shaquanna Green of the Administration for Children's Services and Kevin Quiroz of Community Connections for Youth



## II. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

The ICC held its annual public hearing on December 4, 2018 at DYCD. Prior to the formal proceeding, attendees heard from Maureen Curtis, MPH, LMSW, Vice-President Criminal Justice Programs - Safe Horizon; Michele Kirschbaum, Director of Programs and Markie Bledsoe-Grant, Restorative Justice Coordinator – New York Peace Institute; and Yojaira Alvarez, Director of Outreach & Intergovernmental Affairs – Civilian Complaint Review Board. The theme of the presentations focused on restorative justice. Following the presentations, the ICC’s full membership, comprised of the City of New York’s 20 youth serving agencies, heard testimony from 15 individuals, many of whom were junior high school- and high school-aged youth. They offered testimony on areas such as education, transportation and gender equity.



*Top Row: Young people turn out to participate in ICC public hearing*

*Middle Row: The public testifies before the ICC full membership*

*Bottom Row: ICC Members listen to and respond to public testimony at ICC public hearing held on December 4, 2018. “These hearings provide faces and voices to the people that our agencies serve, and I was honored to participate.”- Anthony D. Meyers, Program Officer, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs*

## ICC TESTIFIES

On January 15, 2019, the Committee on Youth Services conducted an oversight hearing on the ICC. Andrew Miller, Senior Director for the Office of Executive Communications & Intergovernmental Affairs, and Eduardo Laboy, Special Advisor to the ICC, testified on the history of the ICC, its membership, activities and goals. At the hearing, Council Member Debi Rose was welcomed as a new appointee to the ICC. The Chair expressed her pleasure in being part of the ICC, whose purpose is to partner with government, agencies and providers to enhance services for youth. Chair Rose encouraged the ICC to revise its publication, *Transitioning Back into the Community: A Resource Guide*, and make it available to as many young people as possible. Based on the great feedback we received, the directory was updated and was distributed to our partners for purposes of ensuring the publication gets into the hands of young people—especially our most vulnerable.



## ICC MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

On September 18, 2018, the ICC held a membership meeting at DYCD. More than 40 ICC members and DYCD staff were on hand to hear a panel discussion on the topic of civic engagement. Recognizing the positive impact of getting young people involved in their community, the ICC goal was to highlight civic engagement opportunities. The ICC gives voice to young people and allows them to directly engage with City agencies.

Panelists included representatives from the Campaign Finance Board, the Anti-Violence Project and DYCD's Cornerstone Youth Advisory Boards and Neighborhood Advisory Board. Attendees learned about diverse civic engagement opportunities ranging from voting to participating in an advisory board capacity. They appreciated how civics can contribute toward community inclusion and youth development.

## ANNUAL ICC LGBTQ COMPETENCY TRAINING

In June, the ICC, in conjunction with The LGBT Center, offered its members and City employees a comprehensive LGBTQ cultural competency training. The Center is an organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning people and those with HIV through education and public policy work. The training was intended to familiarize City employees with the LGBTQ community. This marks the seventh consecutive year that the Center conducted this training to ICC members and the City workforce.

The training was part of an exciting month of celebration that included many City agencies participating in the annual Pride parade. In addition to the ICC's 30th anniversary celebration, the presenters recognized Stonewall's 50th anniversary as the start of the modern LGBTQ movement.



*Top Row: Glennda Testone - Executive Director, LGBT Center, and Denice Williams - Deputy Commissioner, DYCD welcome attendees*

*Bottom Row: John Cho and Cornelius Wiggins, The Center's staff, administer competency training.*



*DYCD and other City agencies march in annual Pride parade; Stonewall National Monument at Christopher Street.*

## ICC WORKGROUPS

The ICC's working groups on Supporting LGBTQ and Court-Involved Youth meet regularly and include presentations on areas of common interest and best practices. In addition to identifying areas for partnership, members network to support one another for purposes of enhancing services to youth and families.



*ICC Supporting LGBTQ+ Work Group Co-Chairs Randy Scott and Tracey Thorne*

Led by the Supporting LGBTQ+ workgroup Co-Chairs **Randy Scott** and **Tracey Thorne**, and with the support of the LGBT Center and service providers such as the Anti-Violence Project and Lambda Legal, the ICC offers LGBTQ competency training to ICC members and City employees with the goal of creating awareness and further developing LGBTQ-inclusive policies.



*ICC Court – Involved Youth Work Group chair Dr. Luis W. Osorio and Transitioning Back into the Community 3rd Edition updated June 2019*

Under the leadership of Dr. Luis W. Osorio, the ICC Court-Involved Youth Work Group took on the challenge of updating and re-issuing its resource directory, *Transitioning Back into the Community: A Resource Guide*. This marks the third edition of the publication that was designed with the input of young people and includes information about resources that include housing, practical assistance, legal rights, drug and alcohol treatment, and employment. The guide is accessible on DYCD's website at [https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dycd/icc-directory/ICC\\_TB/ICC\\_TB.html](https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dycd/icc-directory/ICC_TB/ICC_TB.html). Hard copies of the publication were provided to ACS for youth in detention, their parents and case managers. The guide was also further circulated to ICC member agencies, in particular the library systems for distribution at their branches, the Law Department, and Probation.

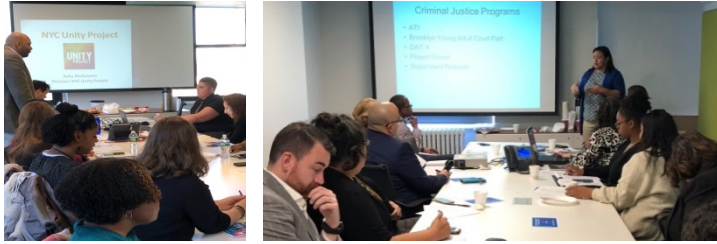


## ICC WORKGROUP MEETINGS

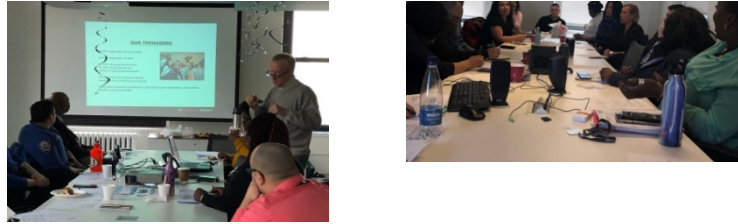
The ICC's workgroups invited City agencies and community-based organizations to highlight their approach to meet the needs of young people throughout the year. They include:

- **The Center for Court Innovation**, who works to create a more effective and humane justice system, and **Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services**, which aims to increase public safety through innovative services, each presented on the topic of alternatives to incarceration.
- **The New York Law Department's Youth Leadership Council** and the **Possibility Project** presented on recommendations they developed to empower vulnerable youth.
- **The Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence** and **Day One**, which works in high schools across the City on teen dating violence prevention and intervention, promoted awareness about services available to victims. The presentations were offered to members as part of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (October) and Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (February).
- **ACS - Office of Child Trafficking Prevention and Policy (OCTPP)** screened *I Am Little Red*, a video aimed at children most at risk for sex trafficking (e.g., foster care, runaway, LBGTQ+, homeless and adopted children), with the goal of promoting prevention and awareness.
- **Lambda Legal**, the oldest and largest national legal organization whose mission is to achieve full recognition of the civil rights of **lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning people** and everyone living with **HIV** through impact litigation, education and public policy work, presented on the topic of family unification on two occasions to each of the working groups.
- **Neighbors in Action's** purpose is to strengthen neighborhoods, making them safer and healthier for all and to demonstrate how places once torn apart by violence and disinvestment can become peaceful, vibrant communities through the collaborative efforts of local residents, nonprofit organizations, businesses, elected officials, and faith-based leaders.
- **V!brant Emotional Health**, which provides people with emotional support and care when, where, and how they need it, promoted their community resources, advocacy and educational work that strive for systemic change.
- **DYCD's Vulnerable & Special Needs Youth, Fatherhood** and **Neighborhood Advisory Board** programs presented on their initiatives for youth, families and communities. Each of these programs utilize community-level engagement to ensure that residents have opportunities to contribute to change in their lives and communities.
- The **Columbia University Justice Ambassadors Youth Council**, youth aged 17–24 who have had experience with the justice system, promoted their program and strongly advocated for justice-involved youth. The Justice Ambassadors also visited with DYCD to learn more about resources and to promote a series of recommendations they have developed.

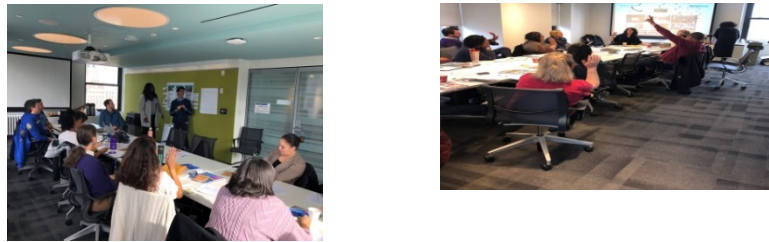
# ICC IN PHOTOS



ICC Supporting LGBTQ+ Youth Workgroup Co-Chair Randy Scott welcomes presenters



Paul Griffin, The Possibility Project and Amanda Reynoso-Palley, Day One



The Mayor's Office to End Gender-Based and Domestic Violence, Neighbors in Action



NYC Council Member Debi Rose and M. Currey Cook, Lambda Legal



Jarrell E. Daniels, Columbia University's Justice Ambassador's program, presents at the Ambassadors site visit to DYCD

## ICC FILM SCREENING

On May 7, the ICC’s workgroups screened the film *Know How* at DYCD. DYCD Commissioner & ICC Director **Bill Chong** welcomed attendees which included New York University MSW graduate students.

*Know How* is a film about finding hope, written and acted by a group of teenagers that were in New York City’s foster care program. The film reveals the dynamic journeys of five teenagers confronting the realities of life in and around the NYC foster care system. *Know How* shines a spotlight on the unseen national crisis that is foster care through the authentic voice and real-life view of those living inside it.



DYCD Commissioner & ICC Director Bill Chong introduces “Know How” at the May 7<sup>th</sup> ICC Co-workgroup meeting. After the screening, attendees heard from the film’s executive producer, Paul Griffin, and two of the film’s participants, Niquana Clark, artistic director, and Claribelle Pagan, alumnus of The Possibility Project. The film is relevant to the work of DYCD’s Runaway and Homeless Youth program, ACS Foster Care programs and any youth serving agency.

### III. ICC COLLABORATIONS & EVENTS

- The Spring into Health events engage, encourage, empower, and expose community residents to an array of holistic services. At each location local community-based organizations and other community partners engaged residents in a day of activities that included medical screenings, lifestyle information, physical activities, and health-related demonstrations. Sites included DYCD-funded Cornerstone and Beacon sites. Cornerstone programs provide year-round programs for adults and young people at NYCHA Community Centers; Beacon programs are school-based centers serving children age six and older, and adults. The five days of holistic health events attracted 5,400 attendees and 600 exhibitors to 45 locations in all five boroughs.
- The ACS Interagency Foster Care Task Force partners with DYCD, DOHMH, DOE and the Department of Social Services (DSS) to implement the task force recommendations, which will help to strengthen all aspects of the foster care system and improve outcomes for children and families. The one-year progress report from March 2019 is available at: <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/acs/pdf/testimony/2019/TaskForceReport.pdf>.
- ACS partnered with NYC Health + Hospitals to distribute the Safe Sleep Toolkit to maternity patients at the City's 11 H+H facilities. The kits contain educational materials that are designed to be taken home by parents to share with family members and others who will help take care of a new baby and will reinforce the Safe Sleep information hospital staff are required by law to provide to maternity patients at the time of discharge.
- ACS partners with DYCD to provide summer youth employment opportunities and out-of-school-time programming for young people in detention, Close to Home and aftercare. DYCD Vulnerable Youth slots are also available to youth in foster care. In summer 2018, ACS and provider agencies referred more than 900 youth to Vulnerable Youth SYEP.
- The Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Education Office collaborated with the DOE's Office of Sustainability and Office of Family Engagement to provide training and other education resources to help staff learn and teach about the New York City water supply system, wastewater treatment, harbor water quality, climate change, stormwater management, environmental stewardship and water conservation.
- DEP's Hydrant Education Action Team (HEAT) continued its annual fire hydrant abuse prevention campaign that deploys teams of young adults hired through DYCD's Summer Youth Employment Program to inform New Yorkers about the dangers of illegally opening fire hydrants.
- DOE's New York City School Library System and the MY Library NYC program connect the City's public libraries with school libraries to coordinate and support one another to enhance the experience of participants.
- HRA's The Teen RAPP program is located in 80 high schools and middle schools across NYC. NYC's Human Resources Administration (HRA) partners with DOE and local community-based domestic violence service providers to place social workers (RAPP coordinators) who deliver a comprehensive array of teen dating violence services in each school. In addition, for seven weeks in the summer, the RAPP Coordinators choose up to 10 students per school to participate in a Peer Leadership Program.
- NYC Parks works with Mayor's Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety (MAP) to collaborate on Kids in Motion (KIM), an initiative designed to reduce violence and make neighborhoods safer in and around 15 NYCHA locations that have experienced some of the highest crime rates in the City.
- Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender- Based Violence (ENDGBV) partnered with DOE to develop a training curriculum specific for school staff designated to receive reports of student-to-student sexual harassment in order to enhance the identification and prevention of sexual harassment. In partnership with DOE, ENDGBV provided the training for 1,561 designated staff across public schools Citywide.



## IV. CITYWIDE YOUTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- The Department of City Planning conducts needs assessments by summarizing district demographic and land use characteristics, together with census tract maps and detailed data from the census. The information is presented in the *Community District Needs* which is published annually. The City's Office of Management and Budget convenes borough meetings during which Community Boards invite City agencies/ICC members to discuss their programs and budget. After these consultations, Community Boards submit budget recommendations in which they outline their funding priorities, and the relevant agencies respond to each request. City agencies also submit annual District Resource Statements for each district that show the distribution of agency resources.
- The Mayor's Management Report (MMR), which is mandated by the City Charter, serves as a public account of the performance of City agencies, measuring whether they are delivering services efficiently, effectively, and expeditiously. The Preliminary MMR provides an early update of how the City is performing four months into the fiscal year. The full fiscal MMR, published each September, looks retrospectively at the City's performance during the prior fiscal year and is available on the City of New York's website [www.nyc.gov](http://www.nyc.gov). In addition, the City's social service agencies conduct specific needs assessments by gathering data and analyzing trends among their client populations, and receive service provider input through surveys, advisory bodies and direct neighborhood outreach.
- ACS conducts an annual Foster Youth Experience Survey to better understand the experiences of youth while in foster care, pertaining to their safety, permanency, and well-being. The survey is administered to all youth in foster care, age 13 and older. <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/acs/about/FosterCareYouthExperienceSurvey.page>
- In Spring 2019, ACS' Divisions of Family Permanency Services and Youth and Family Justice relaunched the agency's Youth Council as a youth-adult partnership designed to regularly receive input and feedback from those young people most affected by ACS' systems of care.
- ACS' Office of Equity Strategies commenced planning and completed a procurement in FY 2019 to conduct the first-ever Population Study for LGBTQ youth in foster care. ACS will be completing the study and reviewing findings in FY 2020.
- DYCD utilizes the Community Needs Assessment (CNA) to hear directly from New Yorkers and document their views on what is needed to improve the well-being of their own communities. The findings demonstrate that programs and services in the categories of education, employment/career advancement, and basic needs are the top priorities, and these just happen to be the resources that would especially benefit low-income New Yorkers. We anticipate the results to be released this year.
- The Department of Environmental Protection has an online program assessment tool for educators to evaluate programs and their impact on youth. The results of the assessments also provide valuable information for improving programs and other education resources.
- To determine specific needs on which to base project choices, H+H's One City Health completed four borough-based community needs assessments (CNAs), structured according to New York State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's guidelines. Each borough/hub includes hospitals and other hospital partners, and data collection was done in partnership with numerous community organizations representing a range of targeted neighborhoods and populations with specific needs.
- The Queens Library utilizes tools that include surveying youth/guardians and focus groups to determine needs. In addition, evaluation forms are used to evaluate program efficiency and youth leadership councils are engaged to better understand youth needs and concerns.

## V. ALLOCATIONS FOR SERVICES TO YOUTH

Agency Name	Number of Youth Served FY 19	Agency Budget for Youth FY 19
Administration for Children's Services	202,473	\$2,970,000,000
Department for the Aging	100	\$8000
Department of Citywide Administrative Services	Data Not available at time of publication	Data Not available at time of publication
Department of Correction	73	\$12,296,000
Department of Cultural Affairs	Not applicable <sup>1</sup>	
Department of Education	1,135,334	\$36,000,000,000
Department of Environmental Protection	40,000	\$391,717
New York City Fire Department	700,000	900,000
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	Data Not available at time of publication	Data Not available at time of publication
NYC Health + Hospitals	Data Not available at time of publication	Data Not available at time of publication
Department of Homeless Services	DHS Data is reflected in HRA's submission as the agencies comprise the Department of Social Services	
New York City Housing Authority	Not applicable <sup>2</sup>	
Human Resources Administration	44,498	\$22,450,657
Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender- Based Violence	9,698	\$429,425
New York City Parks Department	659,811 <sup>3</sup>	Not applicable <sup>1</sup>
New York City Police Department	44,768 <sup>4</sup>	\$434,167
Department of Probation	12,769	\$35,100,000
Department of Youth and Community Development	337,599	\$764,535,323
Brooklyn Public Library	762, 179	\$37,617,822
New York Public Library	180,000	\$400,000
Queens Library	909,008	\$29,719, 000

1. The Department of Cultural Affairs and Parks and Recreation do not distinguish activities by population.

2. NYCHA afterschool youth programs have been merged with DYCD

3. Figure is comprised from 81,174 youth at recreation centers and 578,637 youth at non-recreation centers

4. Estimated based on annual projections concluding on June 30, 2019



New York City  
Law Department



**Acknowledgements**

**Luis W. Osorio**, Ph.D., Director for Resident and Community Engagement Cornerstone Unit, DYCD and Chair of ICC  
Court-Involved Youth Work Group

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Supporting LGBTQ Youth Work Group

**Tracey Thorne**, Director, RHY Programs, Vulnerable and Special Needs Youth Unit, DYCD and Co-Chair of ICC  
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