



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**NYC ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES, FDNY & MOTT HAVEN
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM HOST "NATIONAL COLORING BOOK DAY"
EVENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

*New ACS Summer Safety Coloring Book, FDNY Fire Safety Coloring Book & Other Safety
Information Will Be Distributed to Families*

NEW YORK, NY – Today, in recognition of “National Coloring Book Day,” the NYC Administration for Children’s Services (ACS), the Fire Department of the City of New York (FDNY) and Mott Haven Community Partnership Program hosted an event in which [coloring books on summer safety](#), fire safety and other safety-related information were distributed to families. Families also had the opportunity to speak with the FDNY Fire Safety Education Unit (FSEU), request a smoke alarm installation in their home, learn about other resources available to them in New York City, and participate in other activities including the FDNY’s “Smoke House” that teaches participants how to safely escape a house filled with smoke. Other agencies that helped make the event possible include: NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM), NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), and the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD).

“We want New York City children to have a fun and safe summer! As part of our ongoing work to prevent accidental injuries, we are reminding families how to stay safe during the summer and about the potential fire dangers at home,” **said ACS Commissioner Jess Dannhauser**. “ACS is grateful for FDNY and to our Community Partnerships and sister agencies who have made this event possible, highlighting just how important teamwork is in empowering families, keeping children safe and making sure they have the resources, and educational, cultural and social opportunities that support their capacity to thrive.”

“It is never too early to start talking about fire safety and education. They are critical to preventing fires and fatalities, and we know that begins when we are young. These are lessons that will stay with them their whole lives,” **said Fire Commissioner Laura Kavanagh**. “Being FDNY Smart saves lives, and we are grateful to partner with ACS on teaching these critical and important lessons.”

"Fire prevention is crucial for families because no one should experience the devastating loss and trauma caused by accidental fires. We had too many fires in recent years in Mott Haven. Proactively preventing fires can keep our loved ones safe and protect our communities from unnecessary harm. Fire prevention is not just about protecting our homes but also our children's future. Our team at Mott Haven Community Partnership has high hopes for the Bronx, and with this event, we hope that children can better understand fire safety," **said Dan J. Montas Tran, Director of the Mott Haven Partnership**.

“Members of local government and the New Yorkers we serve recognize that sometimes we all need to unplug and temporarily escape from the rigors of daily city life,” said **NYPD Commissioner Edward A. Caban**. “On this National Coloring Book Day, I urge young people and adults alike to take out their pencils or crayons and enjoy this relaxing, fun, and creative activity. Everyone can do it, even if they do not consider themselves artists. We live in a highly stressful world, and this clever distraction can have wonderful effects on our moods, which is another step toward making New York City even safer tomorrow than it is today.”

“Keeping communities safe goes beyond protecting them from violence—fire safety education helps prevent tragedies before they occur,” said **DYCD Commissioner Keith Howard**. “National Coloring Book Day is a perfect example of the kinds of cross-agency collaborations that Mayor Adams prioritizes to ‘get stuff done.’ DYCD is proud to join our partners at ACS, FDNY, NYCEM, DOHMH, and Mott Haven Community Partnership in spreading the message that safety begins at home.”

“Our comic book hero ‘Ready Girl’ teaches children how to be prepared for various emergencies,” said **NYC Emergency Management Commissioner Zach Iscol**. “New York City children deserve a fun and safe summer. We are proud to support this fantastic event with ACS by ensuring that children and their families have the resources they need to protect themselves and be prepared for potential emergencies.”

ACS works closely with agencies, like the FDNY, and other organizations and community members across the city to help keep children safe and families supported. For instance, in 2018, FDNY began training Child Protective Specialists (CPS) on how to examine homes for potential fire hazards and better educate children and families about the importance of fire safety. Additionally, the Mott Haven Community Partnership Program is one of eleven Community Partnerships that ACS works with; they serve as ambassadors to the community, advocates for families, and advisors to ACS. Community Partnerships are neighborhood coalitions that serve as local hubs for social service providers, community leaders, and residents to share local resources and information, address community needs, design and promote strategies to reduce the potential need for child welfare involvement and support communities to thrive. The partnerships host open, monthly meetings in all five boroughs.