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MAYOR'S OFFICE TO END DOMESTIC AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE HIGHLIGHTS ITS WORK TO ADVANCE CITY'S RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

ENDGBV expands housing supports for DV/GBV survivors and enhances work to support underserved populations including survivors of human trafficking and newly arrived migrants

NEW YORK, NY – As we approach the new year, the Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) reflects on its work to end gender-based violence (GBV) and support survivors to deliver a safer New York City. In addition to providing quality, traumainformed and client-centered services through fifty-seven thousand visits to the five New York City Family Justice Centers (FJCs) in partnership with a diverse network of community-based organizations, ENDGBV expanded options for survivors to gain and maintain safe, stable housing, deepened efforts to support underserved populations and continued educating and engaging New Yorkers around GBV and its impacts through a series of reports and annual awareness campaigns.

"From day one, our administration has focused on creating a safer, more affordable New York City. In 2024, we continued to deliver on that vision and 'Get Stuff Done' for working-class New Yorkers," said New York City Mayor Eric Adams. "Thanks to our extraordinary public servants, America's safest big city got even safer this year, with overall crime down and thousands of illegal guns, mopeds, and ghost cars taken off city streets. We passed historic legislation to turn New York into a 'City of Yes,' shattered affordable housing records once again, and put billions of dollars back into New Yorkers' pockets. We broke records for the most jobs and small businesses in city history and moved millions of trash bags off our sidewalks and into containers. But we know that there is even more we can do to continue to uplift working-class families. As we look to the future, our administration remains committed to keeping New Yorkers safe and making our city more affordable for the millions of New Yorkers who call our city home."

"Our office continues to expand services and supports for those impacted by domestic and gender-based violence throughout New York City, taking a public health approach that also includes prevention education, training and awareness raising" said **New York City Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence Commissioner Saloni Sethi**. "In 2024, we provided new options for survivors to gain and maintain stable housing, enhanced our efforts to support underserved populations such as newly arrived migrants and survivors of human trafficking, and expanded our awareness efforts to include critical issues like street harassment. None of this work could be done without the incredibly dedicated team of public servants at

ENDGBV, our community-based partners, the New York City advocacy community, and our sister city agencies. We hope they are as proud as we are of all we have been able to accomplish on behalf of survivors."

New Options for Survivors of GBV to Gain and Maintain Safe, Stable Housing

Flexible Funding under Home+:

Home+, which operates through partnerships with local DV/GBV service organizations, provides free and confidential security resources to survivors of domestic and gender-based violence who want to stay safely in their homes instead of entering shelter or going somewhere else. Home+ is a redesign of New York City Human Resources Administration's (HRA) Alternative to Shelter (ATS) program, eliminating requirements for an active order of protection and police response for program participation. The program first launched in 2021 to provide survivors with personal alarms that clients can customize to notify trusted family, friends, service providers or police when activated. In 2022, Home+ expanded to provide eligible survivors with lock, door, and window repair and replacement services. This year, ENDGBV again expanded the program to offer another layer of support in stabilizing housing for survivors through Flexible Funding; low barrier emergency grants to help cover expenses to maintain or secure housing that were funded through the Mayor's Housing Blueprint. ENDGBV's website contains updated information about the program, eligibility criteria, and information on how to connect to providers in each borough with an FAQ and informational flyer.

Domestic Violence Rapid Rehousing Program:

ENDGBV's Coordinated Entry team has been working with survivors with lived experience in homelessness, service providers and other experts to create an equitable, dynamic process for prioritizing survivors most in need of Domestic Violence Rapid Rehousing programs (DV RRH). In preparation to scale this process citywide, and to meet the federal coordinated entry mandate, also known as the "No Wrong Door" policy, ENDGBV is working with external evaluators to ensure the process prioritizes those most in need, is trauma-informed and minimizes the number of times survivors are asked to tell their stories, and can be easily used by any service provider working with survivors to find safe, permanent housing. So far, four DV RRH programs have been integrated into the City's coordinated entry system through this project, expanding the housing options for survivors fleeing GBV. ENDGBV has connected over 230 survivors and their families to DV RRPs since we began this project, including over 150 survivors in 2024 alone.

Efforts to Support Underserved Populations

Work with Newly Arrived Migrants and Asylum Seekers:

ENDGBV worked closely with Office of Asylum Seeker Operations (OASO) and City agencies operating the City's shelters for new arrivals to help them support survivors of domestic and

gender-based violence (DV/GBV) living in emergency shelters and link them with supportive services at the Family Justice Centers (FJCs) and in the community. Specifically, ENDGBV consulted on best practices to respond to incidents of DV/GBV and connect survivors to services and conducted training for over 500+ staff who work at the Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Centers (HERRCs), Department of Homeless Services (DHS) shelters and Housing Recovery Operations (HRO) shelters on best practices for supporting DV/GBV survivors. ENDGBV also directly served migrants by offering connection to resources, guidance, directly onsite at a HERRC, an initiative that will be expanded next year. This project ensures residents are aware of city's resources for DV/GBV survivors, helps them connect to the FJCs, and supports the staff working with DV/GBV survivors at that site.

Addressing Human Trafficking:

ENDGBV continued to coordinate and scale human trafficking prevention and awareness efforts across New York City. ENDGBV convened city agencies for in-person events at Gracie Mansion, DOHMH headquarters, and the Kings County District Attorney's Office to hear from service providers and discuss ongoing and new opportunities to prevent, address, and raise awareness about human trafficking. ENDGBV partnered closely with the Office of Asylum Seeker Operations, New York City Police Department, New York City Emergency Management, District Attorneys' Offices, and community-based partners to provide trainings and to develop and distribute awareness materials related to human trafficking and other forms of gender-based violence.

Research and Annual Reports

Street Harassment Prevention Survey Report:

In December 2024, the Street Harassment Prevention Advisory Board (SHPAB) and its co-chairs, the Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) and the NYC Commission on Gender Equity (CGE), released the 2024 Survey Report on Street Harassment in New York City. The report provides an overview of key findings from the survey of members of the public to identify people and communities most at risk of and most impacted by street harassment. The survey, conducted online and in person in the fall of 2023, generated 3,736 responses. The survey found that Seven out of 10 (71.5 percent, 2,672 of 3,736) respondents reported experiencing street harassment at some point in their lifetimes. The majority of respondents also indicated that they would like bystanders to intervene or provide help when they witnessed harassment and that the city should launch a public education campaign to raise awareness around the prevalence of street harassment and provide the community with tools to intervene when street harassment occurs.

Family Justice Center Client Satisfaction Survey Report:

The care we take in our training and providing quality services for our clients will always be our proudest achievement. In 2024, our FJC's collected a record number of client satisfaction surveys with 683 respondents. ENDGBV released the annual Family Justice Center Client Satisfaction Survey Report this October. The report, which covers the period July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, revealed that 99.3 percent (678 of 683) of respondents would

recommend the Family Justice Center to someone else. Check out the report by clicking the link here: Family Justice Center Client Satisfaction Survey Report.

Awareness Campaigns:

The Adams administration's commitment to advancing the city's response to domestic and gender-based violence is supported with multiple, innovative strategies and initiatives including annual awareness campaigns. ENDGBV's 2024 campaign efforts included:

- 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence: ENDGBV and CGE announced New York City's annual 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign which runs from November 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, to December 10, International Human Rights Day, to encourage New Yorkers to learn more about the impacts of gender-based violence, and help spread awareness about the resources available to survivors. New Yorkers were encouraged to show their support for survivors by wearing orange on "NYC Go Orange Day," November 25th. The Adams administration honored this international campaign by lighting City Hall and several municipal buildings and NYC Parks locations in orange. ENDGBV also coordinated with the Office to Prevent Domestic Violence and private partners like Spireworks to make this Go Orange Day bigger than ever by lighting up iconic New York City sites like 4 World Trade, and landmarks across New York State like Niagara Falls. ENDGBV and CGE organized several bystander trainings with longstanding partner Right To Be, and put on a large resource fair in the Central Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library to connect New Yorkers to resources in their communities.
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM): ENDGBV announced October's annual Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) campaign to inform New Yorkers about the resources and services available to survivors throughout New York City. During DVAM, events were held around the city to raise awareness about domestic violence, uplift survivors, and share critical information about resources. On October 19, "NYC Go Purple Day," local landmarks across the city were lit purple, and New Yorkers were encouraged to wear purple to show support for survivors. Throughout the campaign the public was encouraged to host and/or attend DVAM events, workshops, trainings or gatherings as well as to share daily affirmations of healing and support for survivors on social media.
- Sexual Violence Awareness Month (SVAM): ENDGBV commemorated Sexual Violence Awareness Month (SVAM) throughout April in partnership with the Denim Day NYC Coalition (DDNYC). An important part of SVAM is "Denim Day" which takes place annually on the last Wednesday of April when people across the world wear denim to raise awareness of sexual violence, stand up for survivors, and speak out against societal myths and attitudes that normalize and perpetuate sexual violence. ENDGBV and DDNYC's coalition of survivors, advocates, service providers, City Council members, and city agencies marched over the Brooklyn Bridge on April 26 to Manhattan's Foley Square to rally against sexual violence, and to promote this year's Denim Day theme of '25 Years'

of Impact' marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of the movement here in New York City. The DDNYC coalition, of which ENDGBV is a longstanding member, received special recognition from Peace Over Violence, the originators of the campaign in the Unities States.

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

The Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) develops policies and programs, provides training and prevention education, conducts research and evaluations, performs community outreach, and operates the New York City Family Justice Centers. We collaborate with City agencies and community stakeholders to ensure access to inclusive services for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence (GBV). GBV can include intimate partner and family violence, elder abuse, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking. Read more about the term.

The <u>NYC Family Justice Centers</u> are co-located multidisciplinary service centers providing vital social services, civil legal, and criminal justice assistance for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence and their children—all under one roof. For more information, visit nyc.gov/ENDGBV or visit us on visit us on Facebook, Instagram or X (formerly known as Twitter.)