



New York City Family Justice Centers

One-stop service centers for domestic violence help

What are the Family Justice Centers?

The New York City Family Justice Centers are walk-in centers for victims of domestic violence, elder abuse, and sex trafficking. To make it easier for you to get help, many agencies are located at each Center. Services are free and available to all victims. We can help you no matter what language you speak.

When you visit a Center you can expect a safe and caring environment with one-on-one services and support. On your first visit to a Center you will meet with a client specialist. They will speak with you about what services you need. The client specialist will then set up a meeting for you with a case manager, who will explain and help you access services at the Center.

The Centers are located in secure buildings to ensure your safety. Everyone coming to the Center must go through a metal detector before entering the Center.

"Thank you so much. I didn't know so much help was out there. I feel like I have a chance now."

- FJC client

How Can a Family Justice Center Help Me?

Case Management You can meet with a case manager who can advocate for your needs, discuss how to stay safe and connect you to services.

Counseling Counseling is available for you and your children. Both one-on-one counseling and support groups are available.

Legal Information Lawyers and paralegals are available to speak with you about legal issues such as custody, visitation, and immigration.

Police Domestic Violence Prevention Officers from the New York City Police Department who work at the Center will assist you to report a crime. They can also give you information about how the police can help you stay safe.

Prosecution Domestic violence is a crime. Prosecutors from the District Attorneys' Offices are located in the Centers. Prosecutors can answer any questions you may have about the criminal justice system.

Children's Room Your children, age 3 or older, can play in the Children's Room while you get help.

Self-Sufficiency Services Staff can help you with public benefits, budgeting, child care, and financial safety. Staff can also connect you to job training and educational programs.

Hours, Locations & Directions

Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Telephone: Call 311 to be connected to a Center near you.

NYC Family Justice Center, Bronx

Address: 198 East 161st Street, Bronx, NY 10451

Subway: 4, B or D to 161st Street Yankee Stadium station

Bus: BX1, BX2, BX6, and BX13

NYC Family Justice Center, Brooklyn

Address: 350 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Subway: A, C, F or R to Jay Street or the 2, 3, 4, or 5 to Borough Hall

Bus: B25, B26, B38, B51, B54, B57, B61, B65, B67, and B75

NYC Family Justice Center, Manhattan

Address: 80 Centre Street, New York, NY 10013

Subway: 4, 5 or 6 to Brooklyn Bridge-City Hall Station, J or Z to Chambers Street, N, Q or R to Canal, 1, 2 or 3 to Chambers Street, or A or C to Chambers Street

Bus: M5, M9, M22 and M103

NYC Family Justice Center, Queens

Address: 126-02 82nd Avenue, Kew Gardens, NY 11415

Subway: E or F to Kew Gardens-Union Turnpike

Bus: Q10, Q37, Q46, and Q60

Staten Island Domestic Violence Response Team

For victims who live on Staten Island, call 311 for the Staten Island Domestic Violence Response Team for information and referrals. To learn more, email OCDV_DVRT@cityhall.nyc.gov or visit www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence.

Staying Safe

If you are being abused, these steps may help you stay safe:

- Call 911 if you are in danger or have been hurt by your partner.
 - Teach your children to use the telephone to call the police and go to a safe place during a violent incident.
 - Identify a safe place for you and your children to go in case of an emergency.
 - Lock all windows and doors at night and when you leave your home.
 - Inform your children's school/daycare about who has permission to pick them up.
 - Request to have your telephone number changed to an unlisted number.
 - Keep your home address confidential and, if possible, do not tell the abuser where you live.
 - Avoid going out alone.
 - If possible, have someone screen your calls at work, request that your office telephone number and email address be changed, change your route to and from work often and vary your schedule.
- In case you need to leave quickly, gather important documents for you and your children:
 - Passports/Green cards/work permits
 - Social Security cards/birth certificates
 - Bank statements/credit cards/checkbook
 - Tax returns/pay stubs
 - House deed/lease
 - Order of protection
 - Custody/visitation orders
 - Marriage license
 - Children's immunization/school records
 - Address book and a pre-paid cell phone
 - Picture of the abuser
 - Evidence of abuse that you may have including emails, texts, and journal entries
 - Pack a bag with money, extra keys, clothes, medicine, and these important documents and leave it in a safe place or with someone you trust.

"This program has helped me through one of the toughest times in my life. It always provided me a safe space to gather my thoughts, use the telephones, and search for jobs on the computers. Whatever I needed, this program has been here with open arms." – FJC client

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, help is available.

Call 311 for the 24-hour NYC Domestic Violence Hotline

Call 911 in emergencies

Assistance available in all languages

www.nyc.gov

Partners

The Arab American Family Support Center, Inc./Tamkeen

Barrier Free Living

Bronx County District Attorney's Office

CAMBA

Center Against Domestic Violence

Day One

FEGS

The Financial Clinic

Garden of Hope

Good Shepherd Services Safe Homes Project

Her Justice

Jewish Association Serving the Aging

Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services

Kings County District Attorney's Office

Korean American Family Service Center

Legal Services NYC - Bronx

Manhattan Legal Services NYC

Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty

Mount Sinai Sexual Assault & Violence
Intervention Program

New York Asian Women's Center

New York City Anti-Violence Project

New York City Department of Information
Technology and Telecommunications

New York City Human Resources Administration

New York City Police Department

New York County District Attorney's Office

New York Legal Assistance Group

Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation

Queens County District Attorney's Office

Queens Legal Services

Safe Horizon

Sanctuary for Families

Sauti Yetu Center for African Women

Shorefront Y

South Brooklyn Legal Services

STEPS to End Family Violence

St. Luke's Roosevelt Crime Victims Treatment Center

Urban Justice Center

Urban Resource Institute

Violence Intervention Program, Inc.

Weinberg Center for Elder Abuse Prevention

W!SE (Working in Support of Education)

LOVE SHOULD NOT HURT

NYCHA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE TEAM

Awareness, Help, Hope

The NYCHA Domestic Violence Response Team (NYCHA DVRT), part of the Mayor's Action Plan (MAP) for Neighborhood Safety, directly links victims of Intimate Partner Violence, Sex Trafficking and Elder Abuse to services at the NYC Family Justice Centers.

For help, call (212) 788-2602 or email DVRTinfo@cityhall.nyc.gov.

Services are **FREE** and **ALL** are welcome regardless of language, income, sexual orientation, gender identity or immigration status.

In an emergency, call 911. For help 24/7, call the NYC DV Hotline at 1-800-621-HOPE (4673).



City of New York
Mayor
Mayor's Office to
Combat Domestic
Violence
President Pierre Louis
Chancellor

To learn more visit: www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence

@NYCAgainstAbuse



AMOR NO DEBE DOLER

NYCHA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE TEAM

Concientización, Ayuda, Esperanza

El Equipo de Respuesta Rápida a la Violencia Doméstica de NYCHA (NYCHA DVRT), parte del Plan de Acción del Alcalde (en inglés, MAP) para la Seguridad Vecinal, conecta directamente a las víctimas de Violencia entre Parejas Íntimas, Tráfico Sexual y Abuso de Ancianos, con servicios en los Centros de Justicia Familiar de NYC.

Para ayuda, llame al (212) 788-2602
o por correo electrónico a DVRTinfo@cityhall.nyc.gov.

Todos los servicios son **GRATUITOS** y **TODAS** las personas son bienvenidas sin importar su idioma, nivel de ingreso, orientación sexual, identidad de género o estatus de inmigración.

En caso de una emergencia llame al 911. Para ayuda 24/7 llame la Línea de Violencia Doméstica de NYC al 1-800-621-HOPE (4673).



City of New York
Mayor
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Para aprender más visite: www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence

@NYCAgainstAbuse



Intimate Partner Violence in NYC

Identification, Facts, Resources

NYC
Mayor's Office to
Combat Domestic
Violence
Family Justice Center

Presentation by:
Sarah Flatto
NYC Family Justice Center,
Manhattan

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

You tell us...

What is Domestic Violence?

- A **pattern & range** of coercive and abusive behaviors used to gain **power and control** over an intimate partner
 - **Form may change, but goal remains the CONTROL**
 - Different than an unhealthy relationship where:
 - Equal power and mutually combative
 - Neither party is afraid of the other
 - Situational violence

Forms of Abuse

- Physical
- Emotional
- Verbal
- Emotional
- Sexual
- Immigration Status
- Spiritual
- Intimidation/Threats
- Isolation
- Extreme Jealousy
- Social Media
- Technological
- Pet Abuse
- **ANY** tactic used to exert control

DV is not an isolated incident!

- Individual incidents are part of a larger pattern
- Pattern fluctuates and usually escalates
- Creates an emotional roller-coaster
- May be developed over long time frame
- There is a distinction between "unhealthy" relationships and "abusive" relationships

Who are DV "victims" and "survivors"?

ANYONE

- All ages, races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientation, socioeconomic and education levels
- Intimate partners can be married, dating, living together, child in common, sexual partners, etc.
- Children are often witnesses

Who Are Abusive Partners?

ANYONE

- Difficult to create a “profile” or stereotype
- Come from all socioeconomic backgrounds and levels of education.
- Frequently perform better in psychological testing, often better than their victims do
- Not always perceived as abusive person, or even as an especially angry one

Why don't victims leave?

What is wrong with this question?

- Blames the victim for the abusive partner's behavior
- Implies DV is not a societal problem but a “family issue”

It assumes that leaving is a safe option

What questions need to be asked?

- Why does he/she do it?
- Why does society normalize this behavior?

Barriers to Leaving

- Love/Hope/Loyalty
- Denial/Minimizing
- Physical safety
- Children in common
- Financial dependence
- Disabilities
- Immigration status
- Language barriers
- Sexual orientation
- Fear of the police
- Emotional connection
- Cultural /religious beliefs
- Shame
- Hopelessness
- PTSD/Depression
- Trafficking

HOW COMMON IS IPV?

How Common is IPV?

- IPV happens at alarming rates:
 - 1 in 4 women (24.3%) and 1 in 7 men (13.8%) aged 18 and older in the United States have experienced **severe physical violence** by an intimate partner
 - On average, **24 people per minute** are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner - more than **12 million a year**
 - Cis-gender women ages 18 to 34 generally experience the highest rates of IPV. Over 50% of transwomen experience IPV.
 - Lesbian, gay, and bisexual people experience DV and sexual violence at the same or higher rates as heterosexual people

How Common is IPV?

- New York City's DV Hotline – **1 (800) 621-HOPE (4673)**
 - 87,374 calls in 2014 (almost 240 calls per day)
- In 2014, there were:
 - **63** domestic violence homicides in NYC.
 - **282,648** domestic violence incidents – over 770 a day.
 - **40%** of all **felony assaults** were domestic related.
 - **36%** of all **rapes** were domestic related.

How Common is IPV?

- We may never know! It is highly unreported:
 - Only **27%** of women report abuse to law enforcement
 - **40%** of all domestic violence victimization is unreported
 - Only **3%** of youth said they would report to an authority figure like police, parents or school administrators

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2014: New York City Family-Related and Intimate Partner Homicides

Family-Related Homicides	Intimate Partner	Family-Related
Bronx	9	14
Brooklyn	6	19
Manhattan	1	3
Queens	10	25
Staten Island	1	2
Citywide	27	63

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New York City Family-Related Homicides – 2005 to 2013: Agency Contact

Agency	Intimate Partner	All Domestic Violence
Administration for Children's Services	25%	19%
Department of Homeless Services	9%	11%
New York City Housing Authority	12%	10%
Human Resources Administration	56%	45%
New York City Police Department	46%	25%

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Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Homicide

(Campbell, 1985)

- Escalation of abuse
- Stalking
- Strangulation
- Rape or other sexual assault
- Access to Guns
- Unemployment
- Separation
- Threats to Kill/Hurt
- Victim has Children Who Are Not the Batterer's Children

Children and Domestic Violence

- Last year domestic violence was present in **86%** of the households where a child fatality occurred and the family was know to ACS
- Last year there were over **8,700 child abuse investigations** – *1 every hour* – in which domestic violence was indicated through reports to the NYS Registry.

How does DV Affect Youth?

- Feeling responsible for the abuse
- Constant anxiety
- Grief
- Ambivalence
- Fear of abandonment
- Fear of physical harm
- Need for excessive adult attention
- Higher risk of substance abuse
- Frequent Absences from school
- Worry about the future
- Stress/anxiety related physical problems
- Eating disorders
- Violent behavior
- Higher risk of being either a victim or abusive to others

The Role of Mental Health

For survivors:

- Abuse can contribute to mental illness or exacerbate current symptoms
 - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) – significant number of victims have symptoms of PTSD (re-experiencing, avoidance, hyper arousal)
 - Depression - Severe anxiety
 - Questioning credibility of survivors with mental health issues

For abusers:

- Battering is not mental illness
- Batterers are no more likely to be mentally ill than the general population
- Counseling can be effective, but only if abuser is accountable for his/her behavior and wants to change

The Role of Drugs and Alcohol

For Survivors:

- Can be form of self-medication to deal with their abuse trauma

For abusers:

- There is a high correlation between substance abuse and DV for abusers
- Under the influence = lowered inhibition = "excuse" for behavior
- **IT DOES NOT CAUSE PEOPLE TO BE ABUSIVE**

Tips for Working with Domestic Violence Clients

- Express your concern for their safety
- Always interview victim alone
- Avoid asking “why” questions
- Assume victim will not identify as a “victim of domestic violence”

Supportive Statements

- I'm worried about your safety. What can I do for you today?
- It's not your fault. What can I do to support you today?
- This must be very hard for you. Anyone could find themselves in this situation.
- I'm sure when you met your partner neither you nor anyone else could have thought this would happen.
- It must be very painful when someone you have loved is frightening to you now.
- I am here to help you. What will help you feel safer?

When in doubt – reach out!

Working with Victims Who Choose to Stay

- Our role is to provide information and options, not to make decisions for victim
- Manage expectations and prepare them for delays, lack of response, etc.
- Remember DV survivors have every type of personality and come from a variety of backgrounds -- there is no "right way" to be a victim
- Know your resources! →

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New York City
Domestic Violence Resources

Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

GOALS

- Oversee the delivery of domestic violence services in the City
- Develop policies and programs related to domestic violence
- Work to increase awareness of domestic violence through outreach in the communities

PROGRAMS

- New York City Family Justice Centers
- Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT)
- Healthy Relationship Training Academy
- Fatality Review Committee

OCDV Programs

Healthy Relationship Training Academy

The NYC Healthy Relationship Training Academy offers interactive workshops on dating violence for adolescents, young adults, parents and service providers. Free workshops are facilitated by trained youth Peer Educators and offered in English and Spanish year-round throughout New York City. To set up a workshop, fill out the form at www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence/academy

NYC Fatality Review Committee (FRC)

OCDV, along with ten City agencies, two representatives from social service organizations, and two survivors of domestic violence examine data pertaining to family-related fatalities and develop recommendations for the coordination and improvement of services for victims in New York City.

NEW! NYCHA Domestic Violence Response Team (NYCHA DVRT)

Outreach team focusing on domestic violence issues at NYCHA developments and directly linking resident survivors to appropriate services. NYCHA DVRT staff will conduct extensive grassroots outreach throughout the 15 targeted developments and surrounding communities, provide information about how to obtain domestic violence services, and directly connect residents to the dedicated NYCHA DVRT specialists in OCDV's Family Justice Centers.

What are the NYC Family Justice Centers?

The FJCs provide **FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL** comprehensive, coordinated social, civil legal, and criminal justice services to clients experiencing domestic violence, sex trafficking, and elder abuse who are seeking help: *regardless of immigration status, language spoken, age, income, gender, and sexual orientation.*

Services are provided all in one place, no appointment necessary.

- A helpful, non-judgmental, and welcoming environment

Serving Multiple Forms of Abuse

Sex Trafficking:

- An individual is made to perform a commercial sex act by force, fraud, or coercion
- Victims are not always foreign born, but if they are, special immigration remedies are available
- Often comes labeled as "DV" because of the complex relationship
- Very hard to assess - specialized training will be provided
- DA's Human Trafficking Unit is onsite at MFJC

Elder Abuse:

- Often adult child perpetrator – does not have to be intimate partner violence.
- Often includes financial abuse and neglect
- DA's Elder Abuse Unit is on site at MFJC

Sexual Assault, Human Trafficking, and Child Abuse:

- We also help these cases with support from our clinical staff, off-site partners, and District Attorney's Office. We don't turn these victims away!

Case Management

- They are the “anchor”: the client’s point person for all service referrals
- Risk assessment and safety planning
- Coordinate on-site and off-site services
- Civil legal screening referrals (immigration, housing, Family Court)
- Criminal justice advocacy
- Liaise with NYPD – file new report, get copies, etc.
- Shelter and affordable housing assistance, NYCHA applications
- Secure interpretation services
- Emotional support
- Referrals to voluntary spiritual support
- Referrals to child and adult counseling, support groups
- Referrals to self-sufficiency and wellness programming

Counseling

- **Adult counseling**
 - Risk assessment, Safety planning
 - Immediate crisis counseling
 - Short and long-term counseling for adult victims
- **Children’s counseling**
 - Individual, family and group counseling for children and teen witnesses/victims of DV
- **Support Groups**
 - Free support groups at the MFJC including parenting and teen groups

Self-Sufficiency & Economic Empowerment

- **Self-Sufficiency Coordinator:** free consultations
- **NYC STEPS** - Computer skills and professional development program
- **Working in Support of Education (WISE)** - Personal finance education certification course
- **Human Resources Administration** – Administers city public benefits – on site every Thursday
- **Met Council/SNAP** – Assist clients with SNAP applications every Thursday
- **Financial Clinic** – free financial counseling – on site every Tuesday
- **New Destiny Housing / Project Home** – rapid rehousing opportunities for clients who meet income requirements

Civil Legal

- **Daily civil legal screening**
 - Every day, a different attorney is “on-call” providing free legal advice for appointments and walk-ins
- **Immigration**
 - Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
 - Anti-Trafficking
 - T and U non-Immigrant status
 - Asylum, Green Cards, Citizenship, Deferred Action
- **Family & Matrimonial Law**
 - Child Support
 - Custody/Visitation
 - Civil Orders of Protection
 - Divorce
- **Housing**
 - Housing court advice
 - Eviction, landlord/tenant issues
- **Elder Legal Services**
 - Guardianship
 - Financial Maintenance
- **Criminal Justice Advocacy**

Criminal Justice

New York County District Attorney's Office (DANY)

- Co-lead partner with OCDV at the MFJC, Special Victims Bureau is co-located on same floor
- Prosecutes felony and misdemeanor crimes including domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual crimes, elder abuse, and child abuse
- Includes reception, paralegals, Detective Investigators, security
- Witness Aid Services Unit (WASU) provides a wide range of services to victims, witnesses, and their families

New York City Police Department

- 2 full time DVPO's on-site

Wellness Programs

Family Literacy Program

- Weekly bilingual read-alouds
- Free dinner

Chaplaincy Services

- Facilitated by our off-site partner, CONNECT
- Nondenominational spiritual and emotional support

Exhale to Inhale: Yoga

- Facilitated by Exhale to Inhale
- Trauma-sensitive yoga for both clients and staff

Transcendental Meditation

- Free training to reduce stress, anxiety, increase inner peace for both clients and staff
- Facilitated by the David Lynch Foundation

Events & Workshops:

- DV and Sexual Assault Awareness month, International Women's Day, Mother's Day, Holiday events with inspirational guest speakers and art therapy
- Self-Defense workshops

Practical Assistance

- Childcare provided 9 am – 5 pm
- Metrocards and/or cab fare if necessary
- Food pantry
- Clothes closet
- Diapers, baby formula, baby supplies

Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence: Family Justice Centers

General questions or to make an appointment:

NYC Family Justice Center, Manhattan

9 am – 5 pm, M-F

80 Centre Street, 5th Floor

(212) 602-2801

NYC Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence

You can always call 311

(212) 788-3156

Other Resources:

Domestic Violence Hotlines:

- **New York City: 311 or (800) 621-HOPE (4673)**
- **New York State: (800) 942-6906**
- **National: (800) 799-7233**

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My contact Info:

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New York City Family Justice Center, Manhattan

Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

(212) 602-2857

www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence