



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**JOHN WEIS**  
Chair

**ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.**  
District Manager

June 7, 2011

Speaker Christine Quinn  
City Council  
City Hall  
New York, NY 1007

**Re: Letter of Support - RAPP**

Dear Speaker Quinn:

Manhattan Community Board 4 is writing to you to show our support for the Teen Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP). Teen RAPP is a school-based domestic violence prevention and anti-bullying program that reached over 50,000 ethnically and culturally diverse students in 65 New York City middle and high schools. It is the largest violence prevention program in the US and was honored by the Manhattan Borough President, Scott M. Stringer, in October in recognition of its preventive work through youth education.

Each RAPP school has a dedicated, full-time social worker who provides educational and counseling services. For the past year, High School for Fashion Industries at 225 West 24<sup>th</sup> Street has offered this program to its students. Since beginning the program in October 2010, the RAPP coordinator at High School for Fashion Industries has provided in-class educational workshops to 703 students, presented 26 development trainings to school staff and parents, and counseled 210 students in a myriad of issues ranging from family or peer conflicts, self esteem issues, relationship abuse, bullying, cyber stalking and trauma.

In a City where one in seven high school students are physically or sexually assaulted by a dating partner and two out of three teens are bullied, a program such as Teen RAPP is an essential and valuable program to stopping teenage violence.

Manhattan Community Board 4 supports the commendable work being done by the RAPP counselors, especially at High School for Fashion Industries and urges continued funding of this program.

Sincerely,



John Weis, Chair

[Signed 6/7/11]

Corey Johnson, Co-Chair  
Quality of Life Committee

[Signed 6/3/11]

Gretchen Minneman, Co-Chair  
Quality of Life Committee

cc: NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn  
Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer  
NYS Senator Thomas Duane  
Assembly Member Richard Gottfried  
Congressman Jerrold Nadler