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NYC ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES, FDNY & BED STUY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM HOST "NATIONAL COLORING BOOK DAY" EVENT FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Coloring Books and Safety Information Will Be Distributed to Families As Part of the Ongoing Partnership between ACS & FDNY to Help to Protect Children from Fire Dangers at Home

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 [The Bed Stuy Community Partnership](#) Program hosted an event in which coloring books on 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 Environmental Protection (DEP), the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), and the New York Public Library

“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 about the potential fire dangers at home and how to prevent fires in the first place,” **said ACS Commissioner Jess Dannhauser**. “ACS is grateful for FDNY and to our Community Partnerships and Family Enrichment Centers 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.”

“Fire safety and education are critical to preventing fires and fatalities, and that begins at a young age. Teaching children to be FDNY Smart and learn fire safety lessons will benefit them for their entire lives,” **said Fire Commissioner Laura Kavanagh**. “We are grateful to partner with ACS on teaching these critical and important lessons.”

The BedStuy Community Partnership programs recognize the significant role of community engagement and education in fostering a safer and stronger neighborhood. By actively involving both the community members, ACS and the New York City Fire Department (FDNY), these programs emphasize the importance of collaboration and knowledge sharing,” **said Yasmi Orane, Community Organizer for the Bedford Stuyvesant Community Partnership Program**.

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 Bed Stuy 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.