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**CONTACT:** 

mediainquiry@acs.nyc.gov

## ON STATEN ISLAND, NYC ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES, FDNY & STATEN ISLAND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP HOST "NATIONAL COLORING BOOK DAY" EVENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

ACS Summer Safety Coloring Book & Other Safety Information Will Be Distributed to Families in addition to Family Friendly Activities

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 Staten Island Community Partnership hosted an event in which coloring books on summer safety, fire safety and other safety-related information will be distributed families. Families 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.

"We want New York City families to know all the ways to keep their children safe and this event is part of our ongoing work to do just that," **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."

"Fire safety starts with education. The earlier, the better. Events like this are a great way for the FDNY to connect with families and give children the tools they need to stay safe. The FDNY is committed to spreading critical safety messages to adults and children, and we are proud to partner with ACS and the Staten Island Community Partnership to make sure these important lessons reach every household," said FDNY Commissioner Robert S. Tucker.

"At The New York Foundling, our mission is to ensure families thrive. That's why we're proud to co-host events like this with the Staten Island Community Partnership—bringing families together and supporting connections to essential resources and educational experiences. Alongside our community partners, ACS and FDNY, we aim to strengthen the safety net for families sharing valuable knowledge and practical tools to help navigate everyday challenges," said Melanie Hartzog, President and CEO at The New York Foundling.

"Education is key to keeping New Yorkers safe in our parks, beaches and playgrounds — especially during the hot summer months" said **NYC Parks Commissioner Iris Rodriguez-**

**Rosa**. "We're proud to host events like Coloring Book Day that equip families with fun, engaging, and practical tools to stay safe and we thank ACS, FDNY, and all our partners for making community-focused events like this possible."

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 Staten Island Community Partnership 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.

To view the ACS Coloring Book, click here.