

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 29, 2025

**NYC DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CUTS
RIBBON ON NEW “ONE STOP SHOP” COMMUNITY SPACE IN QUEENS**

NEW YORK — New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) Commissioner Keith Howard today cut the ribbon on a new, 21,000-square-foot community space behind Queens Borough Hall in Kew Gardens. The space will serve as a one-stop shop to provide or connect visitors to services, with additional opportunities for programming and community events—a symbol of the administration’s investment in community development, accessibility, and support for residents of Kew Gardens and Queens. DYCD has selected Commonpoint to manage the space and oversee programming.

“The new one-stop community space in Kew Gardens will ensure that every resident—regardless of their background or circumstance—can access resources, programs, and support all in one welcoming place,” said **Deputy Mayor for Strategic Initiatives Ana J. Almanzar**. “By bringing services directly to where New Yorkers live, we are breaking down barriers and strengthening community connections across Queens. Thank you to Commissioner Howard and the entire DYCD team for launching the first phase of a space that will bring city services closer to the heart of our neighborhoods.”

“The ribbon-cutting at the Kew Gardens Community Space marks an incredible accomplishment for Mayor Adams and DYCD: providing a welcoming ‘one-stop shop’ of resources, programming, and community events for our city’s largest borough,” said **Commissioner Keith Howard**. “I am proud to say this community space is the first in the city owned by DYCD, and we selected Queens because of the leadership of Deputy Mayor Ana J. Almanzar, and the vision of our biggest champion, Borough President Donovan Richards. DYCD would also like to thank Council Member Lynn Schulman, as well as every New Yorker who partnered with our administration to make this community space a lasting legacy for the residents of Queens.”

“There are no better investments in public safety and stronger futures for our families than the investments we make in the well-being of our young people today,” said **Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr.** “I couldn’t be more excited to have this one-stop shop for community resources, events and programming right next door to Queens Borough Hall here in Kew Gardens. Thank you to NYC Department of Youth and Community Development for its partnership, and I look forward to seeing the bonds that will be built between our neighbors and service providers in the years to come.”

The Kew Gardens Community Space will provide community programming and referrals to Queens residents. Through community outreach, DYCD has determined the facility should be a versatile, adaptable, flexible community space to be used for a variety of programming from nonprofit organizations, community groups, and governmental agencies.

Additionally, there will be opportunities for providers to host local meetings and potentially relocate their services to the new space in conjunction with other DYCD programming. Community events and gatherings such as public meetings can also be held.

“We are incredibly excited for this opportunity to partner with fellow community-based organizations and leaders to represent all of the vital resources and programs that our borough has to offer,” said **Danielle Ellman, president and CEO, Commonpoint**. “We want to thank DYCD for their continued efforts to keep our neighbors safe, engaged and thriving, and we look forward to opening this new center and warmly welcoming our community to join us!”

During this fiscal year, DYCD will be activating the space in phases to establish connections between community members and city services. Phase one was the ribbon cutting today. The second phase will implement basic programs by December 1.

###