



Message from Commissioner

Cecile Noel

Celebrating PRIDE

June is Pride Month, when we celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and gender-non conforming (LGBTQ+) communities as a way of honoring the 1969 Stonewall riots in New York City. In June of 1969, patrons and supporters of the Stonewall Inn held a protest to resist the police harassment and persecution to which LGBTQ+ Americans were commonly subjected at the time. This event marked the beginning of the movement to outlaw discriminatory laws and practices against LGBTQ+ Americans. Today, Pride Month celebrations include parades, workshops, and concerts, around the country and across the world.

Throughout June, OCDV will be participating in a number of Pride events to raise awareness about its services and support LGBTQ+ New Yorkers who may be experiencing intimate partner violence. According to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey, nearly half of lesbian women and 4 out of 10 gay men have experienced sexual violence other than rape in their lifetime. The same survey suggested that bisexual women experience stalking at nearly twice the rates of heterosexual women. In New York City, the Department of Health and Mental Health issued a report in 2016 on dating violence in NYC public schools and found that youth who identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or who weren't sure of their sexual orientation were over twice as likely to report experiencing dating violence compared with those who identified as straight--18% v. 8%.

Support is available to survivors of domestic violence at New York City's Family Justice Centers (FJCs) regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation. Services at the FJCs are free, confidential and affirming and there is a FJC in each borough. Additional information can be found online at the city's new domestic violence services portal, NYC Hope, at www.nyc.gov/nychope.

June is Elder Abuse Awareness Month

June is Elder Abuse Awareness Month. Elder abuse includes harm by people an older person knows, or has a relationship with, such as a spouse, partner or family member, a friend, neighbor, or a person that the older person relies on for services. We know that elderly people

can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and face many barriers in getting assistance. The events around New York City during this month to raise awareness about this issue are critical to making sure that victims know that help is available.

Recently, OCDV released a report on Elder Abuse in New York City. Some key findings include:

- In 2016, the NYPD filed 2,857 Domestic Violence Incident Reports for intimate partner elder abuse
- In 2016, there were 146 reported felony assaults between intimate partners in which the victim was 60 years or older
- Between 2010- and 2016, there were 23 intimate partner homicides in which the victim was 60 years or older
- Between 2010 and 2016, the FJCs served at least 1,063 clients who were experiencing intimate partner elder abuse.

The report can be found [here](#).

News/Events

OCDV's Coordinated Approach to Stalking Program (CAPS) expands to Brooklyn
OCDV and the Brooklyn DA's office have partnered to bring the Coordinated Approach to Stalking program (CAPS) to Brooklyn. CAPS is a collaborative initiative between the District Attorney's Office, OCDV and the NYPD to increase the identification and reporting of intimate partner stalking cases, enhance stalking arrests and prosecutions, and link victims to services. CAPS is a homicide prevention program that link stalking victims to critical services before the pattern of behavior escalates to physical assault or homicide. National statistics find that 54% of female homicide victims reported stalking to the police before they were killed by their intimate partner.

See the press release [here](#).

Upcoming Trainings

Family Justice Center (FJC) Trainings and Workshops

Brooklyn FJC

- **Immigrant Eligibility for Public Benefits**
Tuesday, June 19
10:00 – 12:00 PM
Facilitated by: Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

- **Understanding Technology Abuse**
Thursday, June 21
10:00 – 1:00 PM
Facilitated by: Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence
- **FHEPS B training**
Friday, June 29
Facilitated by: HRA and The Legal Aid Society
Time: 1:00 PM – 4 PM

Email: JoscelynT@fjcnyc.org for information and to register.

Staten Island FJC

- **Overdose Prevention**
Date: Friday, June 22
Time: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Location: 126 Stuyvesant Place, Training Room
Facilitated by: Planned Parenthood
[Overdose Prevention Training 6.22.2018](#)
- **Housing Discrimination Training**
Date: Thursday July 19
Time: 1:00 - 2:00 PM
Facilitated by: NYC Commission on Human Rights
Location: 126 Stuyvesant Place, Training Room
[Click Here for: Housing Discrimination Training](#)
- **Mental Health First Aid Training**
Date: Tuesday July 24
Time: 9:00 - 5:00 PM
Location: 126 Stuyvesant Place, Training Room
Facilitated by: Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence
[Click Here for: Mental Health First Aid Training](#)

Articles

Recent decision to exclude survivors of DV from asylum alarms advocates

An article examines how Attorney General Jeff Sessions’ recent decision the *Matter of A-B-* will have particularly dire consequences for thousands of asylum seekers.
Read [more](#).

A New Yorker Article Examines the Trump Administration’s Position on Domestic Violence

Read [more](#).

Bill To Aid Trafficking Prosecutions in NY State Heads to Governor

Legislation designed to help prosecutors go after sex traffickers has cleared the New York Legislature and awaits action by Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

Read [more](#).

The Connection between Domestic Violence and Homelessness

An article examines the intersection.

Read [more](#).

Asian Survivors of Domestic Violence Face Unique Barriers to Help

An article examines the challenges these survivors face.

Read [more](#).

California Removes Judge Who Gave Light Sentence in Domestic Violence Case

Aaron Persky, the state's first judge to be recalled since 1932, became a target of national fury two years ago when he sentenced Brock Turner, a Stanford University student convicted of sexually assaulting a young woman.

Read [more](#).

Former member of the NFL's Commission on Domestic Violence Pens Op-Ed

Deborah Epstein is a professor of law and co-director of the Georgetown University Law Center's Domestic Violence Clinic, explains why she resigned in an opinion piece.

Read [more](#).

Fewer Immigrants Filing Domestic Abuse

A NY Times article examines why Houston saw a 16 percent drop in domestic abuse reports.

Read [more](#).

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