

New York City
Domestic Violence
Fatality Review
Committee

ANNUAL
REPORT
2012



YOLANDA B. JIMENEZ
COMMISSIONER

(212) 788-3156

December 2012

Dear Colleagues:

Enclosed please find the seventh annual report of the New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee. This report is being provided to you pursuant to Local Law 61.

This report describes family-related homicides that occurred in New York City between 2002 and 2011. The definition of family-related homicides was expanded in 2009 to include homicides by boyfriends/girlfriends. Last year, family-related homicides decreased by 5% when compared to 2002 (from 76 in 2002 to 72 in 2011), using the pre-2009 definition.

Over the last four years, the Committee conducted a community level assessment to understand factors that contributed to the concentration of family-related homicides in eight high-risk community districts in the Bronx and Brooklyn. The assessment revealed several common observations in all the assessment communities. One of the primary observations is the community's limited understanding about which behaviors constitute domestic violence. To address this issue, my office will educate community based organizations so that they can identify and link more domestic violence victims to appropriate services. Further, we will continue to expand the "Right to a Healthy Relationship" public education campaign by partnering with libraries, supermarkets and other retail stores, and City agencies to display relevant material.

The assessment also reflects challenges in connecting undocumented immigrant victims to services. Many such victims remain unaware that Mayoral Executive Order 41 precludes City employees from asking about an individual's immigration status if they are a victim of or a witness to a crime. In partnership with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, we will continue to reach out to immigrant communities throughout the City about domestic violence and their right to services.

I look forward to our continued collaboration to implement initiatives and training in response to the findings of the community assessments. I am confident that our continued partnership will enhance our efforts to reduce domestic violence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yolanda B. Jimenez". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Yolanda B. Jimenez

The Fatality Review Committee Members

Yolanda B. Jimenez, Chairperson, Commissioner, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

Lilliam Barrios-Paoli, Commissioner, Department for the Aging

Designee: Aurora Salamone, Director, Elderly Crime Victim Resource Center

Salvatore J. Cassano, Chief, New York City Fire Department

Designee: Janice Olszewski, Division Chief

Seth Diamond, Commissioner, Department of Homeless Services

Designee: Dova Marder, MD, Agency Medical Director

Daniel M. Donovan, Jr., Office of the District Attorney, Richmond County

Designee: Yolanda L. Rudich, Bureau Chief, Sex Crimes/Special Victims Bureau

Robert Doar, Administrator/Commissioner, Human Resources Administration

Designee: Marie B. Philip, Executive Director, Office of Domestic Violence

Thomas Farley, MD, MPH, Commissioner, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Designee: Catherine Stayton, DrPH, MPH, Co-Director, Injury Surveillance and Prevention Program, Bureau of Environmental Disease Prevention

Robert T. Johnson, District Attorney, Bronx County

Designee: Penny Santana, Chief, Domestic Violence Bureau

Raymond W. Kelly, Commissioner, New York City Police Department

Designees: Kathleen M. O'Reilly, Deputy Chief, Domestic Violence Unit

Larry Lee, Executive Director, New York Asian Women's Center, Mayoral Appointee representing a social service agency

John B. Rhea, Chairman, New York City Housing Authority

Designee: Nora Reissig, Director, Social Services Department

Ronald E. Richter, Commissioner, Administration for Children's Services

Designee: Denise Walden Greene, Senior Policy Analyst

Grace Yoon, Executive Director, Korean American Family Services Center, Mayoral Appointee representing a social service agency

Andrea Pedraza, Mayoral Appointee representing the voice of victims

Martha Zupanic, Mayoral Appointee representing the voice of victims

Edward Hill, Fatality Review Coordinator, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

Table of Contents

Section	Page
Executive Summary	4
Introduction	6
Data and Methods	7
Family-Related Homicide Findings in New York City	11
Overview of Agency Contact for Family-Related Homicides	23
Socioeconomic Circumstances of Neighborhoods Impacted by Family-Related Homicides	25
Trends in Communities with a High Concentration of Family-Related Homicides: Preliminary Findings from the Bronx and Brooklyn Community Assessments	28
Brooklyn Community Assessment: Preliminary Observations	32
Action Steps	34
Appendices	
Appendix A: Family-Related Homicides Data by Year (2002-2011)	41
Appendix B: Comparing Family-Related Homicides 2009-2010 Under Previous and Expanded Definitions	43
Appendix C: Family-Related Homicides (2004-2011) in New York City By Community District Ranked by SES Index	44
Endnotes	45

Executive Summary

This report describes, in aggregate, the 713 family-related homicides in New York City from 2002 to 2011, by looking at demographic factors (e.g., age, gender, race/ethnicity), victim and perpetrator contact with City agencies, and contract agencies and information collected from two community assessments conducted in Brooklyn and the Bronx.¹ There were 713 victims and 746 perpetrators involved in these homicides.

The definition of family-related homicides was expanded in 2009 to include homicides by boyfriends/girlfriends. Using the pre-2009 definition, the total number of family-related homicides decreased by 5% from 76 in 2002 to 72 in 2011. With the boyfriend/girlfriend cases included, there were 92 family-related homicides recorded in 2011.² (Chart 1)

Family-related homicides involving perpetrators who were categorized as intimate partners of the victims have increased by 15% since 2002 – from 41 in 2002 to 47 in 2011.³ This increase, however, is at least partly due to the 2009 expanded definition of “intimate partner.” According to the pre-2009 definition, there were 41 intimate partner homicides in 2002 and 27 in 2011 – a 52% decline. Since 2002, 49% (365 of 746) of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were the intimate partner of the victim. (Chart 2)

Since 2002, children have accounted for 24% (171 of 713) of family-related homicide victims. In 2011, there were 15 child victims in family-related homicides compared with 25 in 2010. As a result of this decline, the proportion of family-related homicides occurring among child victims in 2011 is lower than the 24% seen for all years (2002 through 2011) combined (Chart 3).

Between 2002 and 2011, 35% (253 of 713) of family-related homicides were committed using a knife or other cutting instrument, the most commonly used weapon. The second most common weapon used was a firearm, which was employed in 23% (167 of 713) of family-related homicides.

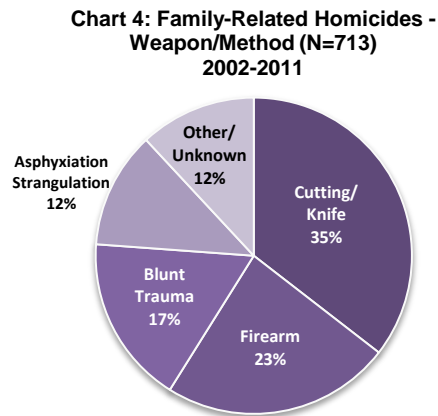
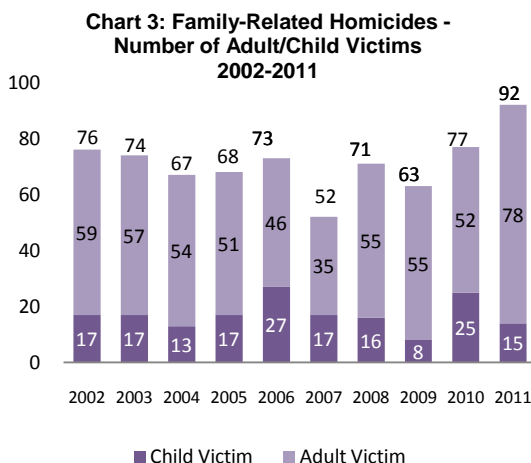
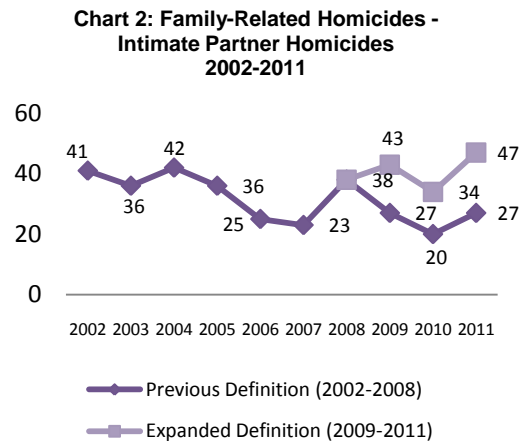
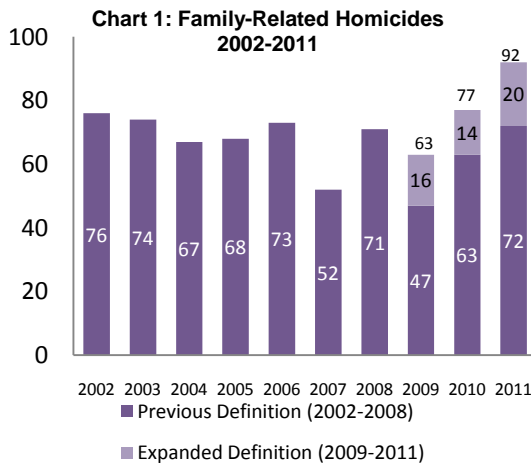
The Fatality Review Committee (FRC) found that between 2005 and 2011 almost 45% of the family-related homicide victims and perpetrators did not have any contact with a City agency within a calendar year of the homicide. Notably, more than 75% of victims did not have any contact with police in the calendar year preceding the homicide.

The FRC mapped family-related homicides from 2004 through 2011. These homicides were concentrated in eight of the City’s 59 community districts—Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 in the Bronx, and 3, 8 and 16 in Brooklyn. Since 2004, 26% (148 of 563) of all family-related homicides that occurred in the City took place in these eight community districts – which account for 14% (8 of 59) of the City’s community districts. While almost half of family-related homicides occurred in neighborhoods with low socioeconomic status, not all communities with low socioeconomic status experienced an elevated number of family-related homicides.⁴

Given the concentration of family-related homicide victims living in these Bronx and Brooklyn communities, the FRC implemented community assessments in both boroughs to understand better the community’s perception of domestic violence and knowledge

about available services. The Bronx community assessment was completed in 2010 and the majority of the Brooklyn assessment was completed this past year. Preliminary review and analysis of the Brooklyn assessment reveal several common observations to both assessments: (1) some community members, including victims, are unclear about which behaviors constitute domestic violence; (2) some victims' perception of a lack of resources, such as access to financial assistance and housing options, affect their ability to leave a relationship; and (3) challenges exist in connecting undocumented immigrant victims to services.

Based on that information, we continue to coordinate public education, outreach, and training among City agencies and community organizations. Over the next year, the FRC will focus on developing initiatives to address the issues that have emerged from the analysis of the Brooklyn and Bronx community assessments – specifically, (1) continuing to educate the community on the full range of abusive and coercive behaviors that constitute domestic violence; (2) identifying and educating key stakeholders in immigrant communities in order to disseminate appropriate and accurate information about services available to all domestic violence victims in New York City regardless of language spoken, immigration status, or ability to pay; and (3) educating community based organizations so that they can identify and link domestic violence victims to appropriate services.



Introduction

The Fatality Review Committee (FRC) was established in 2005 through Local Law 61, which requires the FRC to examine aggregate information pertaining to family-related fatalities and to develop recommendations for the coordination and improvement of services for domestic violence victims in New York City.⁵ This is the seventh Annual Report issued by the Committee. For this report, the FRC reviewed data on family-related homicides from 2002 through 2011.⁶

Effective July 21, 2008, the New York State Criminal Procedure Law and the Family Court Act were amended to allow victims in boyfriend/girlfriend intimate relationships, whether or not they ever resided with the perpetrator, to seek an order of protection in Family Court. In determining if a relationship is of an intimate nature, several factors are now considered, including: (1) the frequency of interaction between the persons; (2) the duration of the relationship; (3) any shared expenses; and (4) the extent of interaction with family members. Based on this amendment to New York State law, the New York City Police Department's (NYPD) definition of family-related offenses has been expanded to include individuals in current or former boyfriend/girlfriend intimate relationships, regardless of whether the victim lived with the abuser or whether the relationship was of a sexual nature. The family-related homicide data for 2009 through 2011 reflect this new definition and the impacts of the definitional change on available statistics are noted throughout this report.

Defining “Family-Related Homicides”

As stipulated by Local Law 61 of 2005 and defined by the New York City Police Department (NYPD), a domestic violence fatality is defined as a death of a family or household member resulting from an act or acts of violence by another family or household member. “Family or household member” refers to the following individuals:

- persons related by marriage;
- persons related by blood;
- persons legally married to one another;
- persons formerly married to one another regardless of whether they still reside in the same household;
- persons who have a child in common regardless of whether such persons have been married or have lived together at any time;
- persons not legally married, but currently living together in a family type relationship;
- persons not legally married, but who have formerly lived together in a family type relationship; and
- persons who are not related by blood or marriage and who are or have been in an intimate relationship regardless of whether such persons have lived together at any time (i.e., boyfriend/girlfriend). (Added in July 2008)

The definition includes same sex partners.

Data and Methods

This report describes, in aggregate, the 713 family-related homicides that occurred between 2002 and 2011.⁷ There were 746 perpetrators involved in these incidents. The FRC has examined these homicide counts over time and assessed patterns across factors such as age, gender, race, and the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator. As previously noted, in 2008 the definition of “family-related” was expanded to include individuals in boyfriend/girlfriend intimate relationships, which is reflected in the family-related homicide data for 2009 through 2011.

The following outlines the report’s multiple data sources.

Family-Related Homicides

NYPD Data: NYPD maintains information on family-related homicides and provides the FRC with basic demographic and incident information including: (1) age of victim and perpetrator; (2) sex of victim and perpetrator; (3) race of victim; (4) weapon utilized; (5) familial relationship of the perpetrator to the victim; and (6) location of the crime. The FRC analyzed information on all family-related homicides that occurred in New York City from 2002 through 2011 for inclusion in this year’s report. Data from prior years’ reports have been updated, and the most recent year of data has been added.⁸ All homicide counts for 2002 through 2011 are presented in the report’s Findings section or in the Appendix.

The 2009 through 2011 NYPD data in this report include cases identified under the new “family-related” definition, that is, homicides where the perpetrator was identified as the boyfriend/girlfriend. Accordingly, the FRC conducted two sets of analyses. First, it examined the total number of family-related homicides using the pre-2009 definition established in prior FRC reports. Second, it examined the total number using the newly expanded definition of family-related homicides. Differences in the results of the two analyses are highlighted in the text. When there are no differences, results including the newly expanded definition of family-related homicides are presented.

Analyses of NYPD data involved computation of percent changes in family-related homicides from 2002 through 2011 and construction of confidence intervals around counts from 2002 through 2011. Overlapping confidence intervals suggest there is no statistical difference in counts. After pooling data from 2002 to 2011, chi square tests were used to compare the distribution of family-related homicides in select subgroup analyses (e.g., gender and age).

Contact with City Agencies and the Representative Contract Agencies (2005 to 2011 family-related homicides): The FRC provided each FRC member agency with identifiers (name, date of birth, and address) for the victims and perpetrators of family-related homicides that occurred in 2010 and 2011, the most recent years for which contact information on these homicides was available.⁹ The agencies independently cross-referenced that list with agency files, and reported whether they had any contact with the victims and/or perpetrators, during the year in which the homicide occurred and the calendar year prior to the homicide. This information was compared with all agency submissions to determine if an individual victim or perpetrator had contact with one or

more agencies. The result of that data match is reported in aggregate for 2005 through 2011 in this report. The agencies also provided information regarding the timeframe during which the contact occurred relative to the homicide.¹⁰

United States Census Population Estimates: The population data used in this report reflect 2010 Census data obtained from the United States Census Bureau and the New York City Department of City Planning (City Planning). Individual level indicators of socioeconomic status (SES) for victims and perpetrators were not available. Instead, City Planning provided United States Census poverty, median income, unemployment and educational attainment data at the neighborhood level (that is, community district) reflecting American Community Survey (ACS) multi-year estimates for 2008-2010, the most current data available for neighborhood-level analyses. According to United States Census Bureau requirement, no ACS survey area can have less than 100,000 people; thus, New York City's 59 community districts were collapsed into 55 community districts for the neighborhood-level SES analysis.

The Committee developed a community SES index by ranking the individual factors and combining these rankings into one score. Specifically, each community district was assigned a rank using quartiles to create the socioeconomic index, based on City Planning's 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economics Characteristics. Each of the following four indicators:

- (1) the percentage of the individuals living below the poverty level;
- (2) the percentage of residents age 25 and older who have not graduated from high school;
- (3) the median household income; and
- (4) the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed

was ranked from 1 to 4, with lower numbers representing lower SES and the higher numbers representing higher SES. These rankings were then added together to create a composite SES index. The distribution of family-related homicides was examined across each quartile of this composite index.

Bronx and Brooklyn Community Assessment

The FRC completed a community assessment in the Bronx, which was a multi-method project to identify community-level factors that may be associated with the high concentration of family-related homicides in Bronx Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9. The results of this assessment were presented in last year's annual report. The current report describes actions taken in the Bronx in response to those results to increase the community's understanding of domestic violence and ways to seek help, as well as the linkages between victims and existing domestic violence services.

This year, the FRC completed a two-year-long community assessment in Brooklyn, a multi-method project to identify community-level factors that may be associated with the high concentration of homicides in Brooklyn Community Districts 3, 8 and 16.

Information was gathered through three methods to capture multiple community perspectives on access to resources and current domestic violence. These methods, described below, included small group meetings with community organizations and key stakeholders, focus groups and in-depth interviews with survivors of domestic violence, and a community-based survey.

Brooklyn Small Group Meetings with Community Organizations and Key Stakeholders:

From October 2011 through July 2012, the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV) staff met with over 40 community organizations in Brooklyn on behalf of the FRC. Fourteen of the organizations focus their services primarily on domestic violence victims and 30 are general community-based organizations. Meetings lasted from 45 minutes to three hours and were conducted using a semi-structured interview guide. Topics covered by the guide included: service providers' experiences in providing services to domestic violence victims; factors that service providers perceived as hindering or helping their clients' access to services; and service providers' opinions of their clients' perceptions of domestic violence. All meetings were recorded and transcribed. In addition, notes were taken during the meetings for later analysis. The research team, consisting of OCDV staff and research interns, began analyzing the transcripts and notes by using several codes and themes developed *a priori*, based on the interview guide and staff knowledge of the topic, and consolidating these into a preliminary codebook. Using this codebook, notes and transcripts were coded for recurring and dissonant themes by three different individuals, ensuring inter-coder reliability. After preliminary coding, the research team met to discuss the addition of several *in vivo* codes that emerged directly from the data. When consensus existed among the research team, new codes were added to the codebook, and transcripts were recorded using the revised codebook.¹¹

Brooklyn Focus Groups and In-Depth Interviews with Survivors of Domestic Violence:

OCDV staff, on behalf of the FRC, conducted five focus groups with survivors of domestic violence. Three groups were conducted in English and two in Spanish. Group size ranged from 5 to 8 participants and focus groups lasted between one and two hours. Participants were identified and recruited with the assistance of community-based service providers. Groups were conducted using a semi-structured topic guide that asked participants about: factors that had enabled them to leave an abusive relationship(s); resources they turned to for assistance after leaving; and factors that hindered or facilitated their efforts to seek services during this period. Focus groups were conducted by a trained moderator as well as a co-moderator who took detailed notes during the focus group.

Data from the focus groups were used to create a highly-structured interview guide for in-depth interviews to obtain more detailed information about survivors' experiences seeking and receiving domestic violence support services in Brooklyn. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish and lasted between one and two hours. The survivors were recruited with the assistance of community-based nonprofit service providers. A highly-structured focus group guide was used to focus conversations about resources that survivors had accessed immediately upon leaving their abuser and factors that either facilitated or hindered their receipt of services. In-depth interviews with 4 survivors were recorded and transcribed. All survivor focus groups and in-depth

interviews were coded in the same manner as the other small group community organization meetings, as explained in the above paragraph.

Brooklyn Community-Based Survey: A 23-question survey was developed for implementation in three Community Districts selected by the FRC for assessment to measure the community's understanding of domestic violence, the level of knowledge of existing domestic violence resources, and how someone might seek help.¹² The surveys were administered in English and Spanish by trained interns using a street intercept approach, and took approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Recruitment for the convenience sample for the survey was conducted at health fairs, subway stations, parks, health centers, and National Night Out Against Crime. Inclusion criteria included any person over the age of 18 who lived in Brooklyn within the targeted zones. In total, 315 surveys were completed with even distribution across the target area. Once the surveys were completed, research interns entered this data into SPSS statistical analysis software to be cleaned and analyzed. Descriptive analyses generated summary measures such as frequency distributions and means.

Confidentiality

All data summarized in this report are protected. The FRC meetings are closed to the public. Only the FRC Coordinator and FRC members review case level information on the homicide victims and perpetrators. Data are reported in aggregate only; identifying information is never presented.

Interpreting Report Findings

Comparisons of NYPD's homicide counts over time and between subgroups must be interpreted with caution. While noteworthy changes from 2002 to 2011 are highlighted in this report, no changes over time were statistically significant. For other sub-group analyses, fluctuations in the intervening years reflect no discernible upward or downward trend. In addition, differences in select subgroup analyses were found not to be statistically significant. Statements about higher frequencies of homicide in certain subgroups must not be interpreted as conclusions about causation.

The data on homicide victims' and perpetrators' utilization of services were not subjected to statistical testing.

Prior research indicates that poor socioeconomic circumstances such as low income, unemployment, and low educational attainment are risk factors for domestic violence homicides.¹³ The Committee did not have access to the socioeconomic circumstances of the family-related homicide victims; therefore, the report's socioeconomic data are presented at the community level only, and the relationship between individual socioeconomic status and risk of family-related homicide cannot be determined. However, community level data available to the Committee suggests that neighborhood-level socioeconomic factors may influence the distribution of family-related homicides within a community.

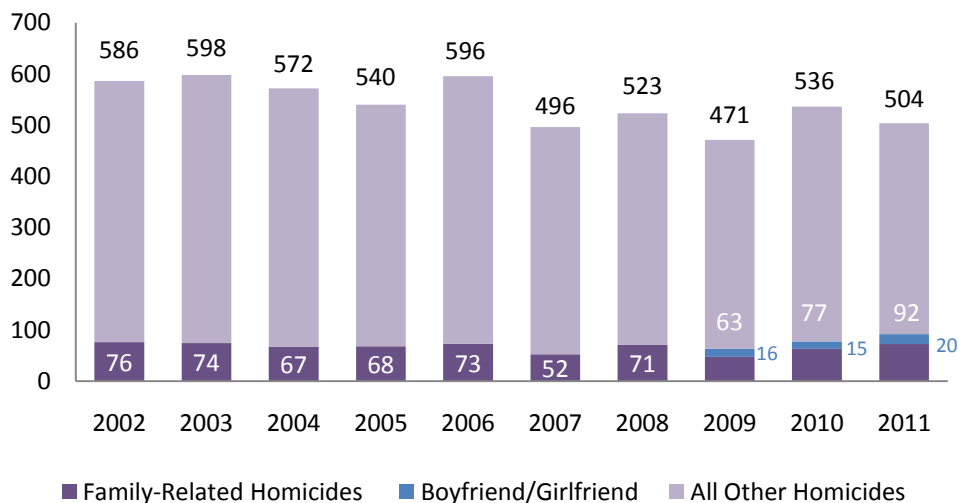
Family-Related Homicide Findings in New York City

Victims

A comparison of family-related homicides in 2002 and in 2010 must take into account the new definition of “family-related.” In 2002, 76 family-related homicides were recorded. In 2011, 92 family-related homicides were recorded, including 20 boyfriend/girlfriend homicides. It is important to note that only 72 of the homicides recorded in 2011 would have been classified as family-related prior to 2009. Assessing change over time according to the pre-2009 definition of family-related homicides, there was a 5% reduction in family-related homicides between 2002 and 2011 (from 76 in 2002 to 72 in 2011). From 2002 to 2011, there were 713 family-related homicides in total.

Fluctuations in the intervening years do not suggest a steady upward or downward trend. Between 2002 and 2011 family-related homicides accounted for 13% of all homicides in New York City.

**Chart 5: Total Homicides in New York City
2002-2011**



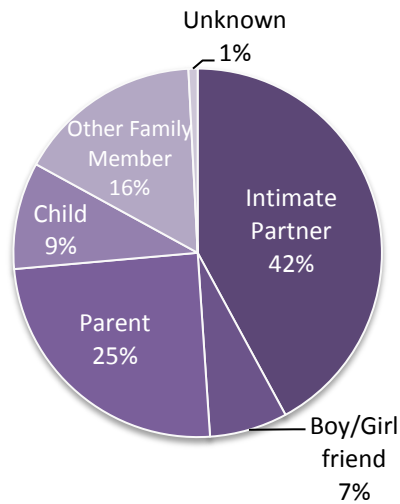
Intimate partner¹⁴ homicides declined between 2002 and 2011. Forty-one intimate partner homicides were recorded in 2002 and 27 in 2011, *excluding* boyfriend/girlfriend cases. In 2009, 2010 and 2011, there were 16, 15 and 20 boyfriend/girlfriend cases. Excluding the new cases, intimate partner homicides fluctuated in the intervening years, suggesting no discernible increase or decrease.

**Chart 6: Family-Related Homicides -
Intimate Partner Homicides
2002-2011**



Almost half of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were the intimate partner of the victim. From 2002 through 2011, 49% (365 of 746) of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were the intimate partner of the victims; this figure includes boyfriends/girlfriends, in accordance with the expanded definition beginning in 2009. Additionally: 25% (184 of 746) of the perpetrators were parents; 16% (121 of 746) were other family members (e.g., uncle, aunt, cousin, brother, sister); and 9% of perpetrators (70 of 746) were the child of the victim.

**Chart 7: Family-Related Homicides -
Relationship of Perpetrator to Victim (N=746)
2002-2011**

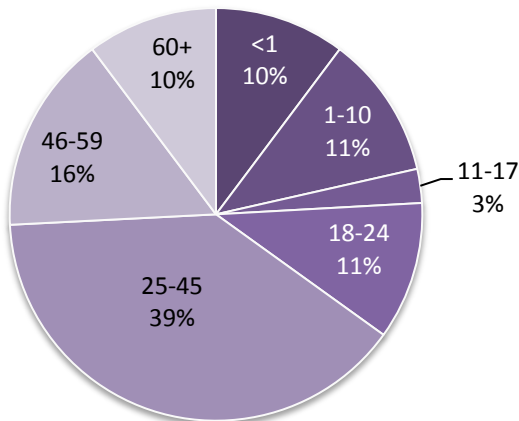


Other Victim Characteristics

Age: The age group with the greatest number of victims is 25 to 45-year-olds. From 2002 through 2011, 39% (280 of 713) of family-related homicide victims were between the ages of 25 and 45. Another 16% (111 of 713) were victims between the ages of 46 and 59, while 10% (73 of 713) were age 60 and over.

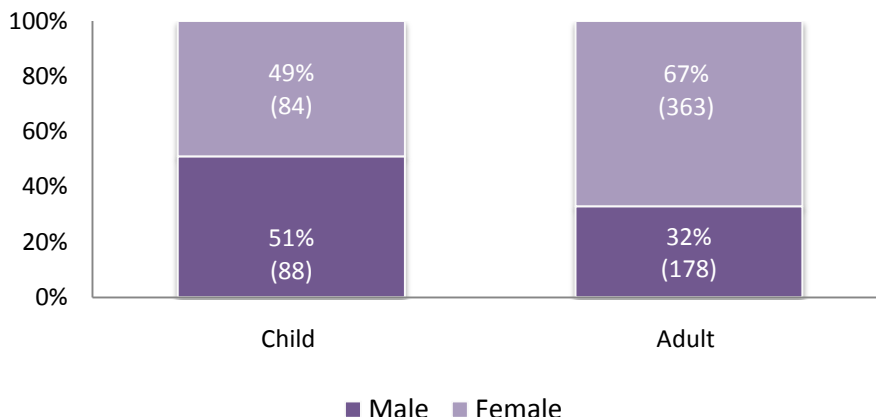
Overall from 2002-2011 children (age 17 and under) accounted for almost 25% (171 of 713) of the family-related homicide victims. In 2011, there were 14 deaths among children under the age of 18, a 44% one-year decline from the 25 family-related homicides among children seen in 2010. As a result, in 2011 the proportion of homicides involving a child victim was 15% (14 of 92), much lower than the proportion of family-related homicides occurring among children for all years combined (2002-2011).

**Chart 8: Family-Related Homicides -
By Age Category (N=713)
2002-2011**



Gender: Over 60% of family-related homicide victims were female. From 2002 through 2011, females accounted for 63% (447 of 713) of the family-related homicide victims. The gender distribution varied slightly by age; with females accounting for 49% (84 of 172) of victims under the age of 18 and 67% (363 of 542) of victims age 18 and older.

**Chart 9: Family-Related Homicides -
By Child/Adult and Gender (N=713)
2002-2011**



Race/Ethnicity: Almost half of the family-related homicide victims from 2002 to 2011 were black. Despite both annual fluctuation and a single year decrease in family-related homicides involving black victims of 14% between 2010 and 2011 (from 49 in 2010 to 42 in 2011), blacks account for 48% of all victims during this period.

Blacks were disproportionately affected by family-related homicides as they comprise 23% of New York City’s population but accounted for 48% (344 of 713) of family-related homicide victims from 2002 through 2011.¹⁵ In comparison, Hispanics comprise 29% of the City’s population and accounted for 30% (216 of 713) of family-related homicide victims. Whites account for 33% of New York City’s population, but accounted for only 14% (101 of 713) of the family-related homicide victims. Asians account for 13% of New York City’s population, but accounted for 7% (50 of 713) of the family-related homicide victims.¹⁶

**Chart 10: Family-Related Homicides -
By Race of Victim (N=713)
2002-2011**

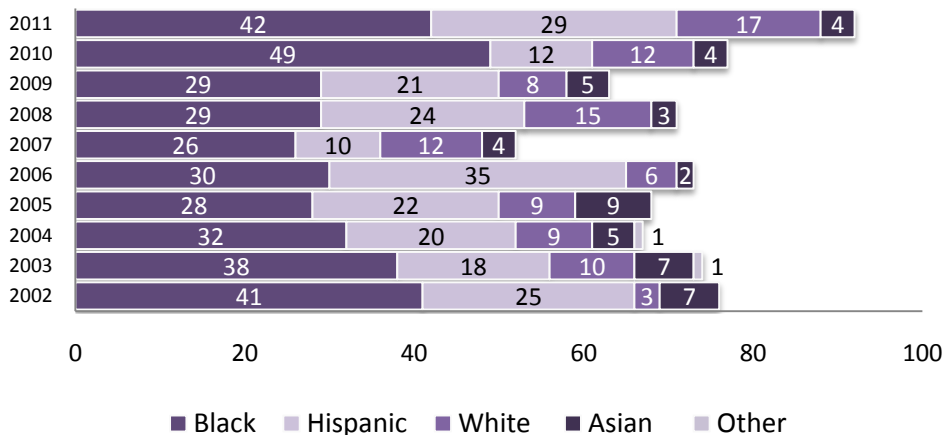


Table 1: Percentage of Family-Related Homicide Victims by Race and Percentage of Citywide Population (N=713) 2002-2011

Race/Ethnicity	Number of Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Population
Black	344	48%	23%
Hispanic	216	30%	29%
White	101	14%	33%
Asian	50	7%	13%
Other	2	<1%	2%

Geographic Location: Compared to New York City’s other boroughs, Brooklyn has had the largest decline in family-related homicides. Two boroughs showed notable decreases in family-related homicides when comparing 2002 to 2011, according to the pre-2009 definition. Specifically, when excluding boyfriend/girlfriend homicides, family-related homicides dropped 68% (from 37 in 2002 to 22 in 2011) in Brooklyn and 20% (from 15 in 2002 to 12 in 2011) in Queens.

Under the new expanded definition of family-related homicides, a 16% decline was still seen in Brooklyn during this period, from 37 deaths in 2002 to 31 in 2011. In Queens, family-related homicides remained largely unchanged, increasing by just one – from 15 in 2002 to 16 in 2011. During the same time period, family-related homicides increased by 67% (from 9 to 15) in Manhattan, 80% in the Bronx (from 15 to 27), and from zero to 3 in Staten Island. In all five boroughs, the number of family-related homicides fluctuated in the intervening years, with no steady upward or downward trend.

It is important to note that Brooklyn and the Bronx saw a disproportionate number of family-related homicides compared to other boroughs. Just less than half of the City’s population resides in these two boroughs, yet 60% of the family-related homicides occurred there. Specifically, 17% of the City’s population resides in the Bronx, while 24% (172 of 713) of the family-related homicides occurred there. Thirty-one percent of the City’s population resides in Brooklyn, while 36% (256 of 713) of the family-related homicides occurred there.¹⁷

**Chart 11: Family-Related Homicides -
By Borough (N=713)
2002-2011**

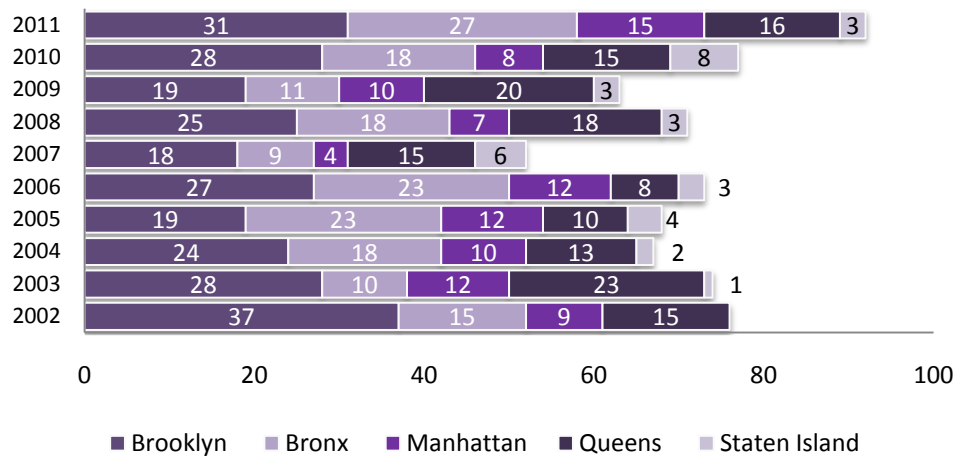


Table 2: Percentage of Family-Related Homicide Victims by Borough and Percentage of Citywide Population (N=713) 2002-2011

Borough	Number of Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides	Borough's Percentage of Citywide Population
Brooklyn	256	36%	31%
Bronx	172	24%	17%
Queens	153	21%	27%
Manhattan	99	14%	19%
Staten Island	33	5%	6%

Specific Location: Most family-related homicides occurred at the victim's residence. From 2002 through 2011, 82% (586 of 713) of the family-related homicides occurred at the victim's home.

Family-Related Homicides Involving Elders and Children

Given previous FRC reports indicating that victims over the age of 60 had limited contact with City agencies prior to the homicide,¹⁸ the FRC continued its targeted examination of family-related homicides among elders.

The annual number of elder family-related homicide victims is relatively constant. From 2002 through 2011, there were 73 family-related homicides involving victims aged 60 and over, comprising 10% of all family-related homicides. The average age of elder victims was 71.

Table 3: Number of Elder (60+) Family-Related Homicide Victims (N=73), by year 2002-2011

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
Elder Victims	9	8	7	3	9	6	7	3	8	13	73

Over half of elder family-related homicide victims are female. Sixty percent (44 of 73) of elder family-related homicide victims were female.

Brooklyn has the largest number of elder family-related homicide victims. From 2002 through 2011, 37% (27 of 73) of the family-related homicides involving an elder victim occurred in Brooklyn, 30% (22 of 73) occurred in Queens, 19% (14 of 73) in Manhattan, 8% (6 of 73) in the Bronx, and 5% (4 of 73) in Staten Island.

Brooklyn’s elderly were disproportionately affected. While 29% of the City’s elder population resides in Brooklyn, 37% of the City’s family-related homicides involving an elder victim occurred in that borough.¹⁹

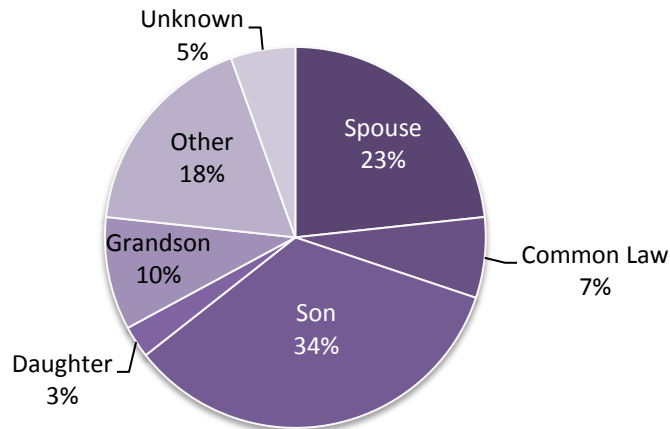
Table 4: Percentage of Elder Family-Related Homicide Victims and Percentage of Citywide Elder Population (N=73) 2002-2011

Borough	Number of Elder Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Elder Family-Related Homicides	Borough’s Percentage of Citywide Elder Population
Brooklyn	27	37%	29%
Queens	22	30%	29%
Manhattan	14	19%	21%
Bronx	6	8%	15%
Staten Island	4	5%	6%

One-third of elder family-related homicide victims die at the hands of their son.

From 2002 through 2011, the perpetrator of the elder family-related homicide was the victim’s adult son in 34% (25 of 73) of the cases. In contrast, only 3% (2 of 73) of elder family-related victims were killed by their daughter. Another 30% (22 of 73) were killed by their spouse or common law partner.

Chart 12: Elder Victim Family-Related Homicides - Relationship to Perpetrator (N=73) 2002-2011



Child Family-Related Homicide Victims (age 17 and under)

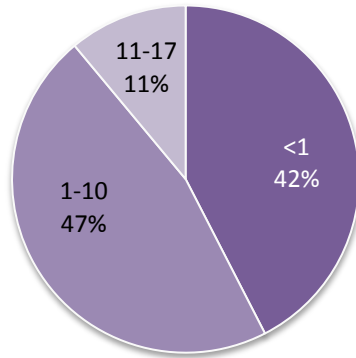
In 2011 there were 15 child victims in family-related homicides compared to 25 in 2010.²⁰ Overall, from 2002 to 2011 children accounted for 24% (172 of 713) of family-related homicide victims. In 2011, the proportion of family-related homicides involving a child victim decreased to 16% (15 of 92), down from 21% (17 of 76) in 2002.

Table 5: Number of Child (age 17 and under) Family-Related Homicide Victims (N=172), by year, 2002-2011

Number	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
Child Victims	17	17	13	17	27	17	16	8	25	15	172

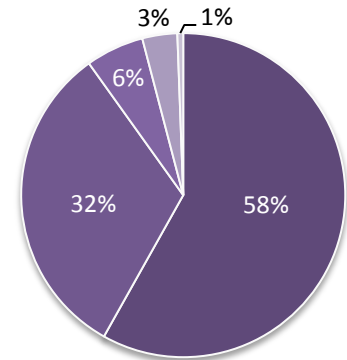
From 2002 through 2011, almost 90% of the 172 child victims were 10 years of age or younger. Forty-seven percent (80 of 172) of those were between the ages of 1 and 10, while 42% (73 of 172) were under age 1. Eleven percent (19 of 172) were between the age of 11 and 17.

Chart 13: Family-Related Homicides Involving Child Victims - By Age Category (N=172) 2002-2011



Blacks accounted for almost 60% (100 of 172) of all family-related homicides involving a child victim from 2002 through 2011. Hispanics accounted for 32% (55 of 172); whites 6% (10 of 172); and Asians 3% (6 of 172) of the child victims during the same time period.

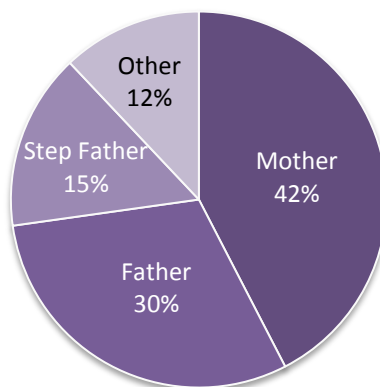
Chart 14: Family-Related Homicides Involving a Child Victim - By Race (N=172) 2002-2011



- Black
- Hispanic
- White
- Asian
- Other Unknown

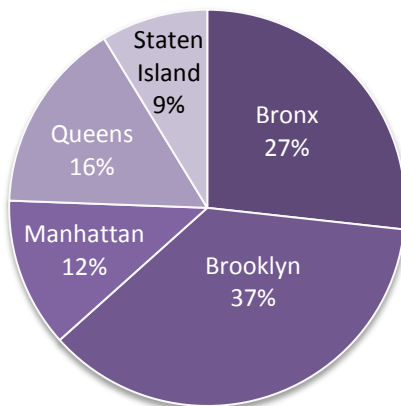
Almost three-quarters (72%, 139 of 191) of the perpetrators of child homicides were the victim’s mother (42%, 81 of 191) or father (30%, 58 of 191). From 2002 through 2011, there were 191 perpetrators of the 172 child family-related homicides. The perpetrator was the child’s step-father in another 15% (29 of 191) of the cases. In 2011, step-fathers accounted for 31% (5 out of 16) of the perpetrators in cases involving a child victim.

**Chart 15: Family-Related Homicides Involving Child Victims -
By Relationship to Perpetrator (N=191)
2002-2011**



Sixty percent of the family-related homicides involving child victims occurred in Brooklyn or the Bronx. From 2002 through 2011, 37% (63 of 172) of the family-related homicides involving child victims occurred in Brooklyn, 27% (46 of 172) occurred in the Bronx, 16% (27 of 172) in Queens, 12% (21 of 172) in Manhattan, and 9% (15 of 172) in Staten Island. In 2011, 53% (8 out of 15) of child victim homicides occurred in the Bronx while only 20% (3 out of 15) occurred in Brooklyn.

**Chart 16: Family-Related Homicides Involving a Child Victim -
By Borough (N=172)
2002-2011**



Children accounted for almost half of all victims of family-related homicides on Staten Island. Forty-five percent (15 of 33) of all victims of family-related homicides on Staten Island between 2002 and 2011 were children.²¹ Children accounted for 25% (63 of 256) of the family-related homicide victims in Brooklyn, 27% (46 of 172) in the Bronx, 21% (21 of 99) in Manhattan, and 18% (27 of 153) in Queens during the same time period.

Characteristics of Perpetrators of Family-Related Homicides

The majority of perpetrators of family-related homicides are males and over half are between the ages of 25 and 45. From 2002 through 2011, there were 746 perpetrators involved in 713 family-related homicides. Seventy-five percent (561 of 746) of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were male. Fifty-nine percent (437 of 746) were between the ages of 25 and 45; 19% (143 of 746) were between the ages of 18 and 24; and 3% (22 of 746) of the perpetrators were under the age of 18. Perpetrators in the age groups 18 to 24 and 25 to 45 were disproportionately represented. They account for 11% and 33% of New York City’s population, respectively, but accounted for 19% and 59% of the perpetrators during 2002 through 2011, respectively.²²

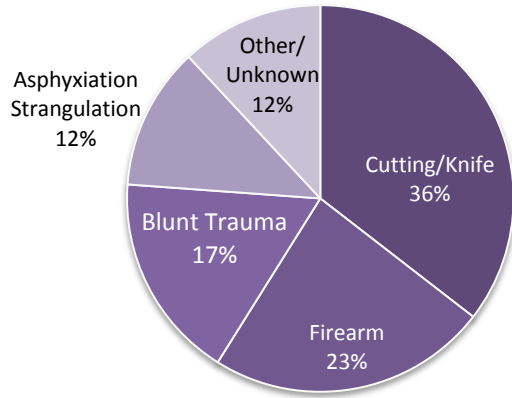
Table 6: Percentage of Family-Related Homicide by Age Category of Perpetrator and Percentage of Citywide Population (N=746) 2002-2011

Age of Perpetrator	Number of Perpetrators	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Population
11-17	22	3%	9%
18-24	143	19%	11%
25-45	437	59%	33%
46-59	104	14%	16%
60+	33	4%	13%
Unknown	7	<1%	-

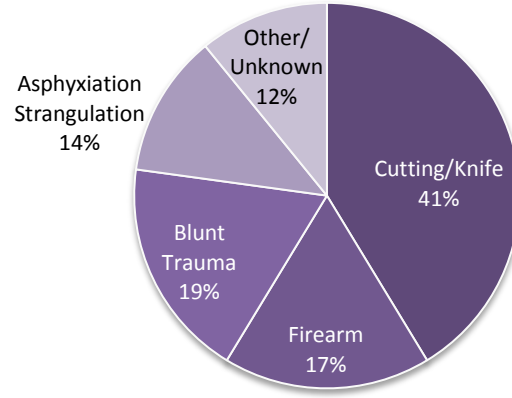
A small proportion of homicides involve multiple victims. From 2002 through 2011, 6% (41 of 713) of family-related homicide cases involved two or more victims. Forty-six percent (19 of 41) of these multiple victim cases involved children with at least one victim under the age of 18; most (15 of 41, or 79%) of these victims were under the age of ten. Forty-nine percent (20 of 41) of the multiple victim family-related homicide cases involved a perpetrator who was the parent or step-parent of one of the victims. Another 29% (12 of 41) of the multiple victim family-related homicide cases involved a perpetrator who was the intimate partner of one of the victims.

A knife or other cutting instrument is commonly used in family-related homicides. From 2002 to 2011, a knife or other cutting instrument was the most commonly used weapon in family-related homicides (253 of 713, or 35%). Perpetrators used firearms in 23% (167 of 713) of the family-related homicides that occurred during this period. In 2011, 17% (16 out of 92) of the number of family-related homicides were committed with a firearm.

**Chart 17: Family-Related Homicides -
Weapon/Method (N=713)
2002-2011**



**Chart 18: Family-Related Homicides -
Weapon/Method (N=92)
2011**



Overview of Prior Agency Contact with Victims and Perpetrators of Family-Related Homicides

This section explores in greater detail the data available regarding the 496 victims and 497 perpetrators of family-related homicides that occurred between 2005²³ and 2011. In particular, it describes any documented contact that either victims or perpetrators had with city agencies between January of the year prior to the homicide and the date of the homicide. For example, if a homicide occurred in December of 2011, agencies would report any contact for the period January 1, 2010 through the date of the homicide.

Information regarding contact is specific to each agency. A victim or perpetrator may have had contact with more than one City agency or non-City agency.

Over half of family-related homicide victims and perpetrators had contact with at least one City agency or a City-contracted organization within the calendar year preceding the homicide. Fifty-seven percent (281 of 496) of the victims had documented contact with at least one City agency or City-contracted organization at some point in the calendar year preceding the homicide. Essentially the same percentage (56%, 278 of 497) of perpetrators had contact with at least one City agency or City-contracted organization during the same time period.²⁴ Forty-three percent (215 of 496) of the victims and 44% (219 of 497) of the perpetrators never had any contact with a City agency or a City-contracted organization during this time period. Data relating to contacts with individual City agencies are discussed below.

Between 2005 and 2011, 46% (226 of 496) of the victims and 54% (267 of 497) of the perpetrators had documented contact with the Human Resources Administration (HRA) for services including cash assistance, food stamps, or Medicaid. Of the victims, 6% (28 of 496) received domestic violence-related services through HRA. Six female perpetrators of homicides that occurred between 2009 and 2011 sought assistance as domestic violence victims previous to the incident and 18 female perpetrators received services as domestic violence victims after the incident.

The Administration for Children's Services (ACS) had contact with 22% (110 of 496) of victims and 19% (95 of 497) of perpetrators. Since 2005, only 20 of the families ever came to the attention of ACS specifically for domestic violence-related allegations. Other cases came to the attention of ACS for a range of other issues including educational neglect, inadequate guardianship, substance abuse, and sexual abuse.

The Department of Homeless Services (DHS) had contact with 10% (51 of 496) of the victims and 12% (62 of 497) of the perpetrators. Thirteen percent (63 of 496) of the victims and 11% (53 of 497) of the perpetrators were residing in New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) housing at the time of the homicide.

The Department for the Aging (DFTA) had contact with only two of the victims of family-related homicides at some point in the calendar year preceding the homicide.

Table 7: Number and Percentage of Family-Related Homicide Cases with Agency Contact (within the previous calendar year of homicide) 2005-2011

Agency	Victims with Agency Contact (N=496)	%	Perpetrators with Agency Contact (N=497)	%
Any Contact with City Agency Prior to the Homicide	281	57%	278	56%
Human Resources Administration (HRA)	226	46%	267	54%
New York City Police Department (NYPD)	120	24%	121	24%
Administration for Children's Services (ACS)	110	22%	95	19%
Department of Homeless Services (DHS)	51	10%	62	12%
New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA)	63	13%	53	11%
Department for the Aging* (for victims 60+, N=73)	2	3%	0	0%

Note: The Department for the Aging assists individuals age 60 and above. From 2005 through 2011 there were 73 victims age 60 and above. The percentage of victims and perpetrators with contact with a particular agency are not mutually exclusive and will not add to 100% since a victim or perpetrator may have had contact with more than one agency.

Socioeconomic Circumstances of Neighborhoods Impacted by Family-Related Homicides

Poor socioeconomic circumstances — such as low income, unemployment, and low educational attainment — are risk factors for domestic violence homicides.²⁵ Since the FRC did not have access to individual-level income, employment status, or educational attainment of the family-related homicide victims, we examined neighborhood-level socioeconomic indicators by community district.²⁶ Community districts were identified according to victims' residences and not the location of the homicide, although these locations were often the same. The socioeconomic status (SES) indicators, which combined to create a composite measure of neighborhood-level socioeconomic status, included: (1) the percentage of the individuals living below the poverty level; (2) the percentage of residents age 25 and older who have not graduated from high school; (3) the median household income; and (4) the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed. The community districts were ranked from high to low on these indicators and then grouped into quartiles according to the four neighborhood characteristics found in the estimate formulated from the 2008-2010 American Community Survey. The distribution of family-related homicides across the quartiles was assessed. Details on community district ranks and the composite SES measure appear in Appendix C.

Analysis of 2004 to 2011 family-related homicide data in the context of the above-mentioned SES indicators points to a possible association between poor economic conditions and the frequency of family-related homicides in New York City communities. This information is also presented in Chart 10. Specifically:

Poverty:²⁷ Thirty-nine percent (215 of 550) of the family-related homicide victims resided in communities with a high percentage of the population (more than 23.5%) living below the poverty level. These communities only account for 25% of the City's population.

Median Household Income:²⁸ Forty-one percent (226 of 550) of family-related homicide victims resided in communities with low median household income levels of less than \$38,048 annually. Sixty-seven percent (370 of 550) of family-related homicide victims resided in communities with a median household income less than the median household income for New York City (\$50,038).²⁹

Unemployment Rate:³⁰ More than 4 in 10 victims (40%, 219 of 550) resided in communities with high unemployment, defined as exceeding 7%. These communities account for only 26% of the City's population. Only 24% of all New York City's community districts had unemployment rates higher than 7%.³¹

High School Graduates:³² Thirty-one percent (171 of 550) of the family-related homicide victims from 2004 through 2011 resided in communities where more than 28.4% of the residents age 25 and older have never received a high school diploma. In contrast, only 21% of the City's population age 25 and over never obtained a high school diploma.³³

Table 8: Number and Percentage of Family-Related Homicides by Poverty, Unemployment Rate, and Educational Attainment for Census Tract in which Family-Related Homicides Occurred (N=550)³⁴ 2004-2011

Socioeconomic Neighborhood Characteristics		
Level	Number of Homicides	Percentage of Homicides
Poverty		
0-10.0%	84	15%
10.1-15.4%	115	21%
15.5%-23.4%	136	25%
23.5%-39.2%	215	39%
Median Household Income		
\$0-\$38,048	226	41%
\$38,049-\$47,477	112	20%
\$47,478-\$58,984	124	23%
\$58,985-\$100,788	88	16%
Unemployment		
0%-4.85%	109	20%
4.86%-5.7%	92	17%
5.8%-6.9%	130	24%
7.0%-12.4%	219	40%
No High School Diploma		
0%-14.5%	73	13%
14.6-21.5%	149	27%
21.6%-28.3%	157	29%
28.4%-46.4%	171	31%

Most of the neighborhoods with the highest number of family-related fatalities were among the lowest SES neighborhoods in the City. Forty-eight percent (265 of 550) of the family-related homicides between 2004 and 2011 occurred in the 19 communities that ranked lowest in SES. These communities account for only 31% of the City's population. Taking population density into account, the rate of family-related homicides was highest in neighborhoods with the lowest SES. The rate of family-related homicides was more than two times greater in the City's lowest SES neighborhoods (10.5 per 100,000) as compared with high SES neighborhoods (4.2 per 100,000). Neighborhoods with the high SES index scores accounted for 14% (76 of 550) of the family-related homicides that occurred, while 18% of the City's population resides in high SES neighborhoods.

Table 9: Distribution of Family-Related Homicides in SES Quartiles (N=550)³⁵ 2004-2011

SES Rank	Number of Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Population
Very Low	265	48%	31%
Low	115	21%	22%
Medium	94	17%	22%
High	76	14%	25%

It is important to note that not all neighborhoods with low SES experience a high concentration of family-related homicides and not all neighborhoods with high SES experience a low concentration of family-related homicides. For example, Manhattan Community District (CD) 12, Brooklyn CD 4, and Brooklyn CD 7 are in the lowest SES quartile but have relatively few family-related homicides – 6 each between 2004 and 2011). Conversely, Queens CD 13 and Brooklyn CD 18 are ranked in the highest SES quartile but experienced a relatively high number of family-related homicides – 17 and 13 respectively during the same time period. Because these patterns suggested the need to identify additional factors contributing to higher concentrations of family-related homicides in these neighborhoods, the FRC initiated further community assessments, as discussed below.

Trends in Communities with a High Concentration of Family-Related Homicides: Preliminary Findings from the Bronx and Brooklyn Community Assessments

Family-related homicides from 2004 through 2011 were mapped Citywide within community district boundaries.³⁶ The maps on subsequent pages highlight areas that experienced a “high concentration”- defined as 7 to 10 homicides occurring within a mile of each other. Eight of the City’s 59 community districts showed a high concentration of family-related homicides; five of those community districts are located in the Bronx (Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9) and three are located in Brooklyn (Community Districts 3, 8 and 16). These community districts account for roughly a quarter (26%, 148 of 563) of the family-related homicides that occurred in New York City between 2004 and 2011.

Table 10: Family-Related Homicides in Bronx and Brooklyn Community Assessment Area 2004-2011

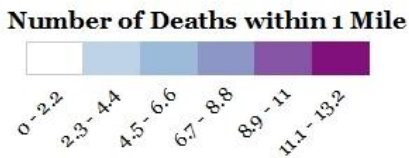
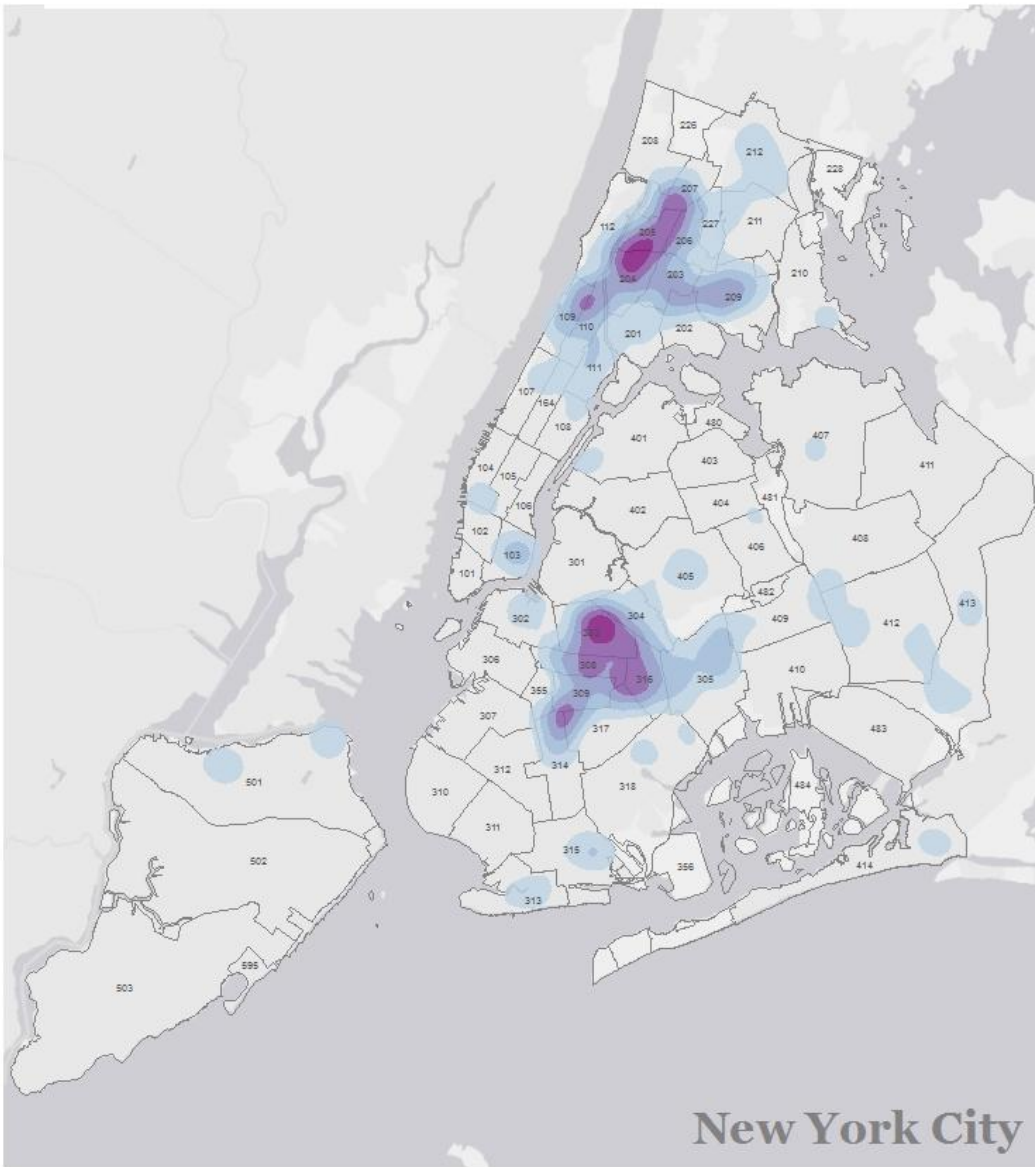
Community Assessment Areas	Number of Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Borough Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides
Brooklyn (CDs 3, 8 and 16)	56	29%	10%
Bronx (CDs 4, 5, 6, 9)	92	63%	16%

The FRC, through its participating City agencies and representative contract agencies, conducted a community assessment between 2008 and 2010 in the targeted Bronx community districts and between 2011 and 2012 in the Brooklyn community districts to gain a better understanding of the factors contributing to the high concentration of family-related homicides in these neighborhoods. The community assessments gathered information through convenience samples, using multiple methods including: (1) small group and individual meetings with Bronx and Brooklyn-based survey providers; (2) focus groups with domestic violence survivors; (3) in-depth interviews with domestic violence survivors; and (4) a street-intercept survey of community members.

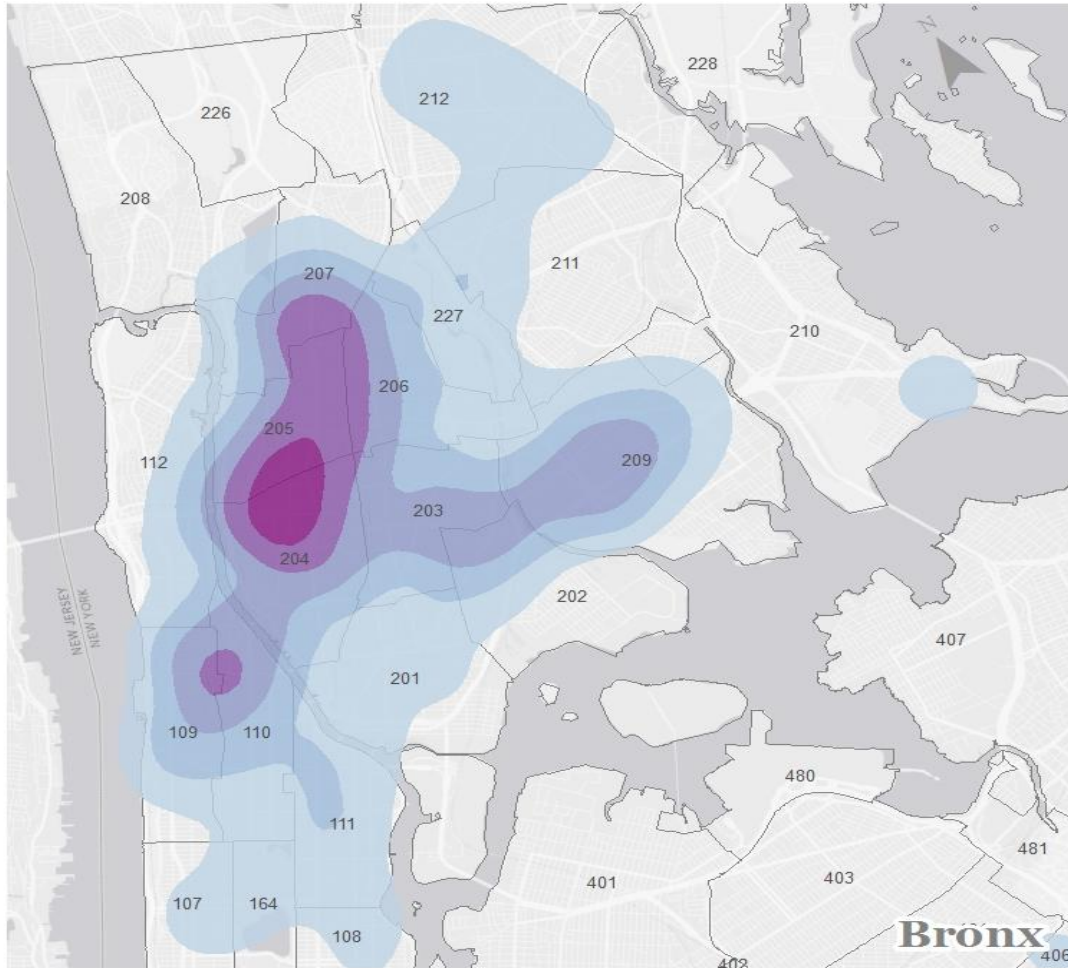
A description of the Bronx assessment, which was completed in 2010, is available in the FRC’s 2010 Annual Report. The Brooklyn assessment was completed in August 2012, and this report provides an overview of themes that have emerged from preliminary data analysis. A comprehensive analysis is currently underway and a more detailed description of findings will be provided in subsequent annual reports.

**Map 1: Family-Related Homicides:
Victim Residence per Mile - By Community District
2004-2011**

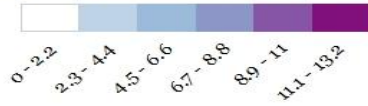
Contours Indicate Percentage of Citywide Homicides within Area



**Map 2: Family-Related Homicides:
Victim Residence per Mile - Bronx Community Districts
2004-2011**
Contours Indicate Percentage of Citywide Homicides within Area

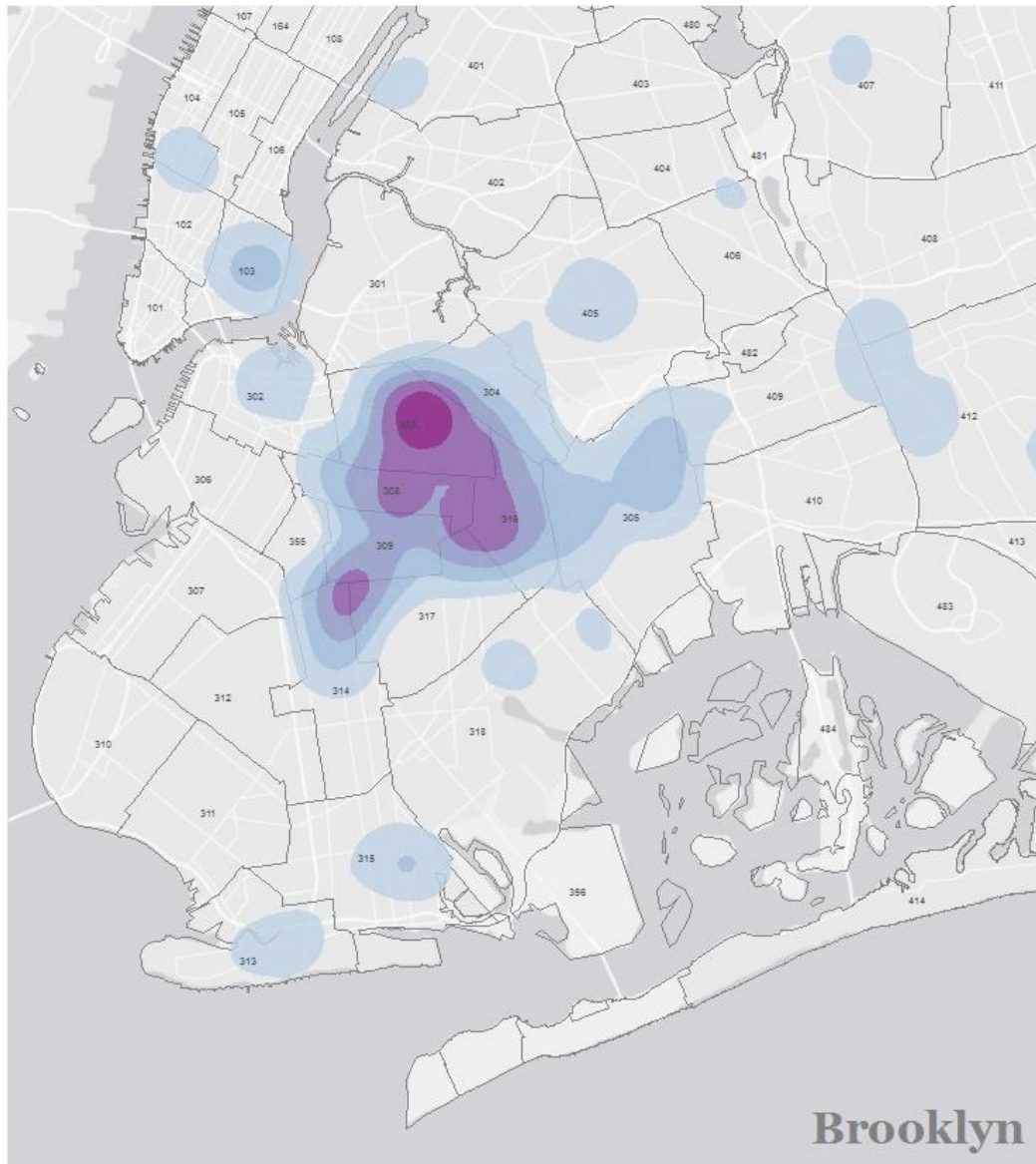


Number of Deaths within 1 Mile



**Map 3: Family-Related Homicides:
Victim Residence per Mile - Brooklyn Community Districts
2004-2011**

Contours Indicate Percentage of Citywide Homicides within Area



Number of Deaths within 1 Mile



0-2.2
2.3-4.4
4.5-6.6
6.7-8.8
8.9-11
11.1-13.2



Brooklyn Community Assessment: Preliminary Observations

Preliminary observations from the Brooklyn assessment are consistent with the findings from the Bronx assessment. This is important as it may suggest that similar community or service level issues in both areas affect the frequency of family-related homicides. The most salient themes identified as factors contributing to high concentrations of family-related homicide in the target community include that: (1) community members, including victims, are unclear about which behaviors constitute domestic violence; (2) victims face complex challenges in leaving an abusive relationship; and (3) undocumented immigrant victims face barriers in connecting to services. The following narrative is based upon the completed Bronx assessment and an initial review of transcripts and notes from the Brooklyn assessment, including meetings with community service organizations, domestic violence service providers, and focus groups with victims. A full analysis of all components of the Brooklyn assessment has not been completed.

Community Perceptions on Domestic Violence

In meetings, which occurred during the Bronx and Brooklyn assessments, with over 150 service providers from approximately 80 community-based organizations and focus groups with 80 domestic violence survivors, one clear message was repeated: domestic violence is a prevalent, yet relatively silent, issue in the assessments' target communities. Service providers and survivors noted that many residents in the target areas were raised in households where domestic violence was normalized thereby fostering an environment in which domestic violence is often unmentioned outside the household. It was reported that, as a result, the issue is not widely discussed in the community. Some victims reported that this lack of dialogue and awareness reinforces community-level acceptance of domestic violence, and makes it much more difficult for a survivor to seek assistance. Within immigrant communities, in particular, many are simply unaware that domestic violence is a crime and an issue of concern for the entire community.

As in the Bronx assessment, the Brooklyn assessment revealed that many community members understand “domestic violence” exclusively as physical violence. Specifically, influential community members, family, and friends of victims only view domestic violence as physical acts against a person and so do not offer support to victims who experience non-physical abuse. While the assessment found many in the target communities continue to define domestic violence narrowly, service providers report seeing a shift towards a broader understanding of domestic violence since victims who experienced other forms of domestic abuse are reaching out for services. They noted that public education campaigns and increased community awareness of domestic violence are most likely responsible for this shift. Nonetheless, the knowledge gap highlights the importance of continuing to educate members of the community, as well as service providers, to understand the full range of abusive and coercive behaviors that constitute domestic violence. Community members need to be better equipped to identify abuse in order to refer friends and neighbors toward appropriate services, and access services for themselves if a victim.

Challenges in Leaving an Abusive Relationship

During victim focus groups in the Bronx and Brooklyn, a primary point of discussion was a domestic violence victim's need to balance a complex set of considerations when considering leaving an abusive relationship. Some victims who participated in the focus groups expressed frustration over what they perceived to be a lack of resources that affected their ability to leave. Victims reported being financially dependent on, and/or having children with, an abusive partner, which makes it difficult to abruptly end a relationship. Undocumented victims reported an inability to apply for most public assistance programs. Furthermore, some victims said they were concerned about the challenges they would encounter in finding temporary shelter and housing options, especially for victims without children, which could leave them with little choice but to eventually return to the abuser even if they did make the decision to leave.

During their discussions, service providers acknowledged the difficult situation their clients face when trying to leave an abusive relationship. They talked about clients who wanted their assistance even though they were not ready to leave their partners, in addition to clients who actively expressed a desire to stay in their relationships if they could connect the abusers to appropriate services that may mitigate the potential for violence. Service providers stated they were working to improve their employees' ability to handle these challenging scenarios, most importantly working to protect their clients' safety. Some providers reported introducing additional risk assessment and safety planning tools, and implementing staff training on how to use the tools most effectively. Service providers also noted that a victim's goal of linking their abuser to appropriate services may not be realistic because few such programs exist and most research has shown that accountability programs are ineffective.³⁷

Challenges Faced by Undocumented Victims Seeking Services

Service providers and victims reported that undocumented domestic violence victims may face additional barriers to accessing services. The primary barrier faced is the fear that police, or other service providers, will report them to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Findings from this assessment suggest that many undocumented victims are unaware that City employees cannot ask about an individual's immigration status if they are a victim of or witness to a crime. Mayoral Executive Order 4, which includes the New York City Police Department, prohibits such inquiry. The providers suggested that it would be ineffective to only address this fear and lack of knowledge around immigrant rights through public service campaigns, but rather they recommended educating respected key stakeholders in immigrant-dense communities to pass on the appropriate information to those who could benefit most from it. These community representatives are important to domestic violence providers as well. Many domestic violence organizations recognize the special cultural and language needs of the communities they serve, but often do not have the resources or capacity to provide translation or culturally relevant services. Engaging community members appears essential to addressing violence in these communities.

The FRC will continue to analyze the data from the Brooklyn assessment and compare and contrast these findings with those from the Bronx assessment. With feedback from FRC members on the data analysis and findings, the assessments will continue to inform service coordination, program planning, and outreach in our targeted areas.

Action Steps

Over the last five years, the Committee has worked to increase knowledge of domestic violence services across the City, encourage victims to get help, and reduce barriers that face victims who seek existing domestic violence services. While we continue this work, the Committee is also taking several action steps to address the themes that have emerged from the Brooklyn and the Bronx assessments – specifically, increasing the community’s knowledge of the behaviors that constitute domestic violence; ensuring that undocumented immigrant victims of domestic violence know they can reach out for services without fear of deportation; and assisting victims to understand their risk and manage their safety in domestic violence relationships.

Partnering with the Community

As mentioned above, the FRC met with over 150 community organizations during the course of the community assessment. During the meetings and in subsequent conversations with these groups, many community agencies described their roles as: 1) an information pathway to the community; 2) a key link between domestic violence victims and services; and 3) a trusted source of information for immigrant communities. Many organizations and community groups, such as the Administration for Children’s Services Bedford Stuyvesant, Bushwick and East New York Community Partnerships, expressed interest in partnering with the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence in its efforts to: improve public education about domestic violence; create and sustain links between domestic violence service providers and non-domestic violence community groups in order to close gaps in referrals and service delivery; and ensure that undocumented immigrants feel safe in obtaining services.

Upon completing the analysis of the assessment, the FRC will present the findings of the community assessment to the organizations that participated in the assessment and other established community based associations, such as precinct councils and community boards. Through these meetings, we can actively engage these community groups in a partnership that will determine community priorities. Specifically, we will strategize methods to engage members of the community and other organizations to work on the following areas.

Community Perception of Domestic Violence

The community partnership will assist OCDV and the FRC in developing an outreach plan for the target districts in Brooklyn, with the goal of increasing awareness and dialogue in the community regarding domestic violence. Such a campaign would aim to reinforce the full spectrum of abusive behaviors, such as emotional, sexual and verbal, that constitute domestic violence, and to foster an environment that encourages disclosure of domestic violence and enhances access to services.

This work will build upon existing public education and outreach efforts already undertaken by OCDV, City agency members of the FRC, and other City agencies. These activities include:

Domestic Violence Awareness Everyday Campaign

The *Domestic Violence Awareness Everyday Campaign*, which was launched in June 2010 to increase communities' knowledge about domestic violence, and how and where to get help, continues to be implemented across the City. The campaign was undertaken by OCDV based on information obtained from the Bronx assessment. Domestic violence victims in the Bronx further assisted in the development of the campaign message and materials. The campaign prominently notes the full range of abusive behaviors that can constitute domestic violence. This past year, the materials were displayed at C-Town Supermarkets and Petland Discount locations. All participating businesses have done so at no cost to the City. To date, the campaign has been displayed at over 1,200 business locations citywide.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which each year prompts many outreach and public education events to be scheduled throughout the city. Since 2002, OCDV has collated information regarding citywide domestic violence-related activities and published a resource calendar, which is widely distributed and posted on the OCDV website. During this month, the New York City Police Department and various domestic violence service providers conduct tabling events throughout the City to disseminate information regarding domestic violence and appropriate services. Every October, the New York City Housing Authority also holds conferences on domestic violence, primarily for NYCHA residents, to increase sensitivity on the issues surrounding domestic violence. On average, 700 persons have attended these NYCHA conferences annually, and resources are provided through workshops, presentations and informational sessions.³⁸

For the last three years, OCDV has partnered with Alpha 1 Marketing, the parent company of C-Town, Bravo and AIM Supermarkets, to place a public education message about Domestic Violence Awareness Month on the back page of a weekly circular during a two-week period in October. The circular was then distributed in 123 C-Town, Bravo and AIM supermarkets. In addition, during the spring of 2012, a domestic violence prevention bag stuffer was placed in each customer's order in the Bronx and Brooklyn assessment areas.

Reaching Undocumented Immigrants

Through the new community partnerships, as well as through existing City initiatives, we will identify domestic violence survivors from these immigrant communities and other leaders in these immigrant communities who are willing to speak out and educate their neighbors about abuse and rights to services. These partnerships will place special emphasis on reaching faith institutions, which providers and victims mentioned as "natural resources" for immigrant communities. The FRC will work with domestic violence agencies and community leaders to engage faith institutions and leaders in

education around domestic violence and how the faith-based community can provide appropriate support to victims.

Again, this work will utilize and/or build upon already existing public education and outreach efforts that are, or have been, undertaken by OCDV and other City agencies. The following provides an overview of some of those activities:

“Know Your Rights” Community Forums

The Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) conducts community forums across the City to ensure that immigrants in New York City know what services are available to them and help them utilize their resources. OCDV and staff members of the Family Justice Centers have attended many of these meetings to address any domestic violence related questions that may arise.

OCDV is currently working with MOIA to establish a domestic violence outreach effort through the Queens Public Library. Through this initiative, we will train library branch managers on existing services and provide brochures and other material that will be displayed in the Queens libraries.

“We Are New York” Adult Education Program

OCDV partnered with the Mayor's Office of Adult Education and the City University of New York to create an episode that addresses domestic violence for the "We Are New York" series. The "We Are New York" show is designed to help immigrants learn to speak English and simultaneously learn about vital city services that they can access. The program focuses on some of the barriers and challenges immigrants may face in reaching out for help and highlights the availability of domestic violence services to everyone regardless of immigration status. This program continues to be aired on New York City Television.

New York City Police Department Community Affairs Bureau: New Immigrant Outreach Unit

The New Immigrant Outreach Unit serves as a link between the New York City Police Department and new immigrant communities not traditionally engaged with the police department. Specifically, New Immigrant Outreach Liaisons make presentations on police department policies, programs, and services affecting new immigrant communities; there are currently liaisons for the Arab, Caribbean/African, Eastern European, Hispanic, Immigrant Women, and Muslim communities. The objectives of the program are: (1) reduce fear by establishing open lines of communication and encourage dialogue; (2) encourage participation in community programs; and, (3) initiate programs that address the needs and concerns of the immigrant communities.

Increased number of Immigration Attorneys at Family Justice Centers

In order to better serve the undocumented clients who come into the Family Justice Centers in Brooklyn, the Bronx, and Queens, OCDV has overseen efforts to nearly double the number of immigration attorneys available at each site. These attorneys can provide services to clients in their own language, and make sure that they understand their particular legal options and feel empowered against abusers who may threaten them with deportation.

Assisting Victims in Assessing risk and managing their safety

Navigating Services: Training for Advocates

As noted in the previous section of this report discussing the preliminary observations from the Brooklyn assessment, service providers acknowledged the frustration of victims who want to stay in a relationship and described some steps that they have taken to determine the safest way to handle these cases – including the utilization of risk assessment and safety planning tools, and proper staff training on how to use these tools effectively. However, many of the non-domestic violence community-based service providers reported that they themselves are in need of some basic domestic violence education in order to serve victims of domestic violence that they encounter in their programs. Some suggestions of what information would be most useful for non-domestic violence service providers include: how to identify signs of domestic violence, making appropriate referrals, and adequately explaining the services available and potential challenges the client might encounter in accessing those services.

In addition, many organizations requested more training for their advocates/caseworkers on how to navigate the complex court and legal system. These service providers are responsible for educating and empowering victims to utilize such services, but navigation can be a time-consuming, lengthy process. For example, caseworkers are often unsure what to tell victims to expect when going to court. Training is needed on the legal process, possible outcomes, and how to communicate options to victims. To increase the level of knowledge in the target communities, the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence will invite representatives from community organizations to participate in domestic violence trainings provided at the Brooklyn and Bronx Family Justice Centers. These trainings include: Domestic Violence 101; Risk Assessment; Family and Criminal Court; Housing Options; Self Sufficiency and Cultural Competency.

Agency Police, Procedure and Training Initiatives

Training with City Agencies

The FRC has continued its commitment to developing an environment that facilitates disclosure by domestic violence victims to City agencies and nonprofit organizations. Over the last three years, OCDV partnered with New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) to develop a domestic violence awareness and referral training program for their respective employees based in the Bronx and Brooklyn. The training covered the following topics: (1) prevalence of domestic violence in New York City; (2) power and control dynamics of domestic

violence; (3) potential barriers to leaving a domestic violence situation; (4) intersection of mental health, physical disabilities, substance abuse and immigration issues that arise in domestic violence cases; (5) identification of potential signs of domestic violence; and (6) domestic violence resources in New York City. To date, more than 1,300 NYCHA and DHS central and shelter staff and DHS police have been trained through this program.

Department of Homeless Services: Enhanced Screening, Referrals and Training

Since 2008 the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) has implemented several new policies and procedures, aimed at improving the agency's response to domestic violence. These initiatives include: detailed protocols for responding to DV among DHS clients, enhanced screening for domestic violence during shelter intake, stronger linkages and referrals to domestic violence services, and training for shelter and DHS police staff. The following highlights DHS' recent achievements in this area:

2008:

- FJC staff began training Family Shelter Case Managers and HomeBase (DHS' contracted homelessness prevention programs) in the identification, screening, and referral of victims of domestic violence, with curriculum developed by DHS, OCDV, Sanctuary (a community-based provider), and HRA Domestic Violence Office. During 2008-2009, 638 providers were trained.

2009:

- DHS Family with Children, Adult Family, and Single Adult Shelter staff availed themselves of training, offered by the NYS Office to Prevent Domestic Violence. From 2009 through 2012, 307 shelter staff received training.

2010:

- DHS, with input from OCDV and HRA Domestic Violence Office, crafted two protocols, codifying and improving upon prior practices, covering referral and screening of DV victims at DHS Intake Centers, and response to incidents of DV, occurring in shelter. Incident reporting, contact with NYPD and ACS, as indicated, in addition to offers, after every reported incident, of non-residential DV services, removal of the abuser from the family, and safety transfers are described in the protocols, with responsibilities clearly delineated.
- For incidents of particular concern, DHS clients are offered priority placement in HRA DV shelters, through the HRA Domestic Violence Office.

2011:

- DHS implemented an electronic case management system, used, for all homeless populations, from intake through placement in permanent housing. (The Client Assistance and Rehousing Enterprise System (CARES), ensures that a domestic violence screening question is asked of every adult client entering the system. If answered in the affirmative, additional questions are asked, allowing for more details to be shared. This information, along with any findings from HRA's No Violence Again (NoVA) program, is used to facilitate proper shelter placement and ensure the safety of the client. Additionally, the CARES system is set up to automatically suspend prior residence investigations and preclude shelter placements that may place families at risk due to domestic violence histories,

which further enhances client safety. Last, all incidents of domestic violence, among DHS clients, are documented in CARES, thus affording an electronic history of incidents, safety transfers accepted by the client, and relevant progress notes, as well as a means of tracking incidents by site and system-wide.

- Family Justice Center (FJCs) staff trained DHS Police Supervisors and DHS Division of Administration and Diversity, Equal Opportunity Affairs staff.

2012:

- DHS incorporated domestic violence training, provided by FJC staff into the standard orientation classes for new DHS Police Officers.
- DHS and Human Resource Administration Domestic Violence Office agreed to exclusively refer DHS domestic violence victims to the FJCs and the Staten Island Domestic Violence Response Team. In addition, new protocols were established whereby the FJCs would notify DHS when one of their clients has chosen to follow up on the referral.
- DHS Family Intake Center staff trained Bronx FJC staff on how homeless families access temporary housing.
- DHS senior staff met with Deputy Chief Kathleen O'Reilly, Commanding Officer of the Domestic Violence Unit at the New York City Police Department, to discuss NYPD procedures for responding to domestic violence, among DHS clients, and to increase DHS staff's knowledge of these procedures.

Acknowledgements

The Committee members would like to express their appreciation to:

Susan Resnick, Acting Director, Geographic Information Systems Center, Bureau of Epidemiology Services, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, for assisting the Committee in analyzing and mapping the data in the report.

All the OCDV interns who worked on this project in the last year, in particular, Leanne Fornelli, Stefany Rojas and Sara Wee.

Appendix A: Family-Related Homicides Data by Year (2002-2011)

Years/Characteristics	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
Total Family-Related Homicides	76	74	67	68	73	52	71	63	77	92	713
Victims by Gender											
Child Female	8	11	5	4	18	9	6	1	16	6	84
Adult Female	43	40	37	38	32	25	30	34	36	48	363
Child Male	9	6	8	13	9	8	10	7	9	9	88
Adult Male	16	17	17	13	14	10	25	21	16	29	178
Victims by Age											
<1	8	9	7	6	5	11	8	4	8	7	73
1-10	8	8	5	9	17	5	5	3	13	7	80
11-17	1	0	1	2	5	1	3	1	4	1	19
18-24	8	11	8	11	3	2	7	6	4	17	77
25-45	37	28	31	25	27	20	31	25	25	31	280
46-59	5	10	8	12	7	7	10	21	15	16	111
60+	9	8	7	3	9	6	7	3	8	13	73
Victims by Race											
Black	41	38	32	28	30	26	29	29	49	42	344
Hispanic	25	18	20	22	35	10	24	21	12	29	216
White	3	10	9	9	6	12	15	8	12	17	101
Asian/Indian	7	7	5	9	2	4	3	5	4	4	50
Other/Unknown	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Perpetrators by Age											
<1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11-17	2	2	1	1	7	3	2	0	2	2	22
18-24	14	17	13	12	12	13	14	11	14	23	143
25-45	52	43	44	43	49	31	48	37	43	47	437
46-59	5	10	4	11	10	8	13	11	14	18	104
60+	3	4	4	3	1	2	3	6	2	5	33
Unknown	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	7
Perpetrator to Victim Relationship											
<i>Intimate Partner</i>											
Spouse/Live-In	17	14	19	16	9	13	16	11	9	9	132
Common Law	17	14	15	14	11	8	10	6	4	11	111
Child in Common	7	7	7	6	4	2	9	9	6	3	60
Boyfriends/Girlfriend	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	16	15	20	51
Same Sex	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	1	0	4	11
<i>Other</i>											
Parent	17	20	15	17	27	21	15	8	21	23	184
Child	8	4	6	3	11	7	7	3	9	12	70
Other Family	10	15	5	14	16	6	20	11	11	13	121
Other/Unknown	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	6

**Appendix A: Family-Related Homicides Data by Year (2002-2011)
(Continued)**

Years/Characteristics	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
Total Family-Related Homicides	76	74	67	68	73	52	71	63	77	92	713
Total Family-Related by Borough											
Brooklyn	37	28	24	19	27	18	25	19	28	31	256
Bronx	15	10	18	23	23	9	18	11	18	27	172
Manhattan	9	12	10	12	12	4	7	10	8	15	99
Queens	15	23	13	10	8	15	18	20	15	16	153
Staten Island	0	1	2	4	3	6	3	3	8	3	33
Homicide Method/Weapon											
Cutting/Knife	26	19	23	19	31	6	32	29	30	38	253
Firearm	22	16	20	21	13	19	13	18	9	16	167
Blunt Trauma	11	9	9	10	11	16	13	9	18	17	123
Asphyxiation/Strangulation	9	13	9	10	6	5	6	5	11	11	85
Other/Known	8	17	6	8	12	6	7	2	9	10	85

Appendix B: Comparing Family-Related Homicides under Previous and Expanded Definitions (2009-2011)

	Previous Family-Related Definition	Expanded Family-Related Definition
Total Family-Related Homicides	181	232
Victims by Gender		
Child Female	23	23
Child Male	23	23
Adult Female	81	118
Adult Male	54	67
Total:	181	232
Victim by Age		
<1	19	19
1-10	23	23
11-17	6	6
18-24	17	27
25-45	52	81
46-59	41	52
60+	23	24
Total:	181	232
Victim by Race		
Black	98	120
Hispanic	46	62
White	28	37
Asian/Indian	9	13
Unknown	0	0
Total:	181	232
Borough of Occurrence		
Brooklyn	51	74
Bronx	51	60
Queens	40	51
Manhattan	25	33
Staten Island	14	14
Total:	181	232
Weapon/Method		
Cutting/Knife	72	97
Firearm	34	43
Blunt Trauma	33	44
Asphyxiation/Strangulation	22	27
Other/Unknown	20	21
Total:	181	232
By Relationship		
<i>Intimate Partner</i>		
Spouse/Live-In/Common Law	50	50
Child in Common	18	18
Same Sex	5	5
Boyfriends/Girlfriend	0	51
Total:	73	124
<i>Other Family Relations</i>		
Parent	52	52
Child	24	24
Other Family Members	35	35
Unknown	3	3
Total:	114	114

**Appendix C: Family-Related Homicides in New York City by Community District
Ranked by SES Index (2004-2011)**

Community District			SES Index Rankings				
Borough	District #	# Homicides	Education Attainment	Poverty	Median Income	Unemployment	SES Composite
Bronx	1&2	12	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Bronx	3&6	28	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Bronx	4	19	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Bronx	5	26	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Bronx	7	13	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Manhattan	11	11	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Brooklyn	16	24	L	VL	VL	VL	VL
Manhattan	12	6	VL	VL	L	L	VL
Brooklyn	3	22	L	VL	VL	L	VL
Manhattan	10	9	M	VL	VL	VL	VL
Brooklyn	4	6	VL	VL	VL	M	VL
Brooklyn	5	24	L	VL	VL	L	VL
Bronx	9	21	VL	L	L	L	VL
Brooklyn	9	14	M	L	VL	VL	VL
Bronx	12	15	L	L	L	VL	VL
Brooklyn	7	6	VL	L	L	L	VL
Manhattan	3	9	VL	VL	L	M	VL
Queens	4	4	VL	L	L	M	L
Brooklyn	13	8	L	L	VL	M	L
Queens	3	3	VL	L	M	L	L
Bronx	11	8	L	L	L	M	L
Brooklyn	8	10	M	L	L	VL	L
Brooklyn	12	4	L	VL	L	H	L
Brooklyn	1	2	L	VL	L	H	L
Manhattan	9	10	L	L	VL	H	L
Brooklyn	17	9	M	M	L	VL	L
Queens	12	22	L	M	M	VL	L
Queens	9	7	L	M	M	VL	L
Brooklyn	11	7	VL	M	L	H	L
Queens	14	10	M	L	M	L	L
Brooklyn	14	11	M	L	L	M	L
Queens	1	6	M	M	M	L	M
Queens	7	8	M	M	M	L	M
Bronx	8	5	M	M	M	L	M
Queens	10	5	L	M	H	L	M
Bronx	10	9	M	M	M	M	M
Brooklyn	10	2	M	M	M	M	M
Staten Isl.	1	16	M	L	M	H	M
Brooklyn	2	7	H	M	H	L	M
Brooklyn	15	13	M	M	M	H	M
Queens	2	6	L	H	M	H	M
Queens	8	7	H	H	M	L	M
Queens	5	10	M	M	M	H	M
Queens	13	17	M	H	H	M	H
Brooklyn	6	5	H	M	H	M	H
Manhattan	4&5	7	H	H	H	M	H
Queens	6	3	H	H	H	M	H
Queens	11	1	H	H	H	M	H
Manhattan	6	2	H	H	H	M	H
Brooklyn	18	13	H	H	H	H	H
Manhattan	1&2	3	H	H	H	H	H
Manhattan	7	6	H	H	H	H	H
Manhattan	8	5	H	H	H	H	H
Staten Isl.	2	8	H	H	H	H	H
Staten Isl.	3	6	H	H	H	H	H

Endnotes

¹ For the purposes of this report, “family-related homicide” is defined as a homicide involving persons related by marriage; persons related by blood; persons legally married to one another; persons formerly married to one another regardless of whether or not they still reside in the same household; persons who have a child in common regardless of whether or not such persons have been married or have lived together at any time; persons not legally married, but living together in a family-type relationship; persons not legally married, but who have formerly lived together in a family-style relationship; and persons who are not related by blood or marriage and who are or have been in an intimate relationship regardless of whether such persons have lived together at any time. This definition includes same sex partners.

² As noted in Chart 1 of this report the number of family-related homicides fluctuates from year to year. While we had 92 family-related homicides last year, though November 11, 2012, family-related homicides have declined by 29% in 2012 compared to the same time last year - 56 homicides in 2012 compared to 79 last year.

³ “Intimate partner homicides” is defined as all relationships in endnote 1 *supra* except other family members, such as parents, brothers, sisters, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, children and grandparents.

⁴ Each community district, based on the New York City Department of City Planning, 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economic Characteristics, was assigned a rank using quartiles to create the socioeconomic index. Each set of the four indicators ((1) the percentage of individuals living below the poverty level; (2) the percentage of residents age 25 and older who has not graduated from high school; (3) the median household income; and (4) the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed) was ranked from one to four based on the quartiles (from high to low). The lower numbers represent lower SES and the higher numbers represent higher SES. These rankings add together to create a SES index for the four indicators. The New York City Department of City Planning reports American Community Survey results by Community District. However, the Census Bureau requires that no American Community Survey area have less than 100,000 people; to meet this requirement, several of the City’s 59 Community Districts are combined for reporting purposes into 55 Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA). Bronx Community District 1 and 2 are combined into one PUMA, as are Bronx Community Districts 3 and 6, Manhattan Community Districts 1 and 2, and Manhattan Community Districts 4 and 5.

⁵ Local Law Number 61 of 2005, Section 2.

⁶ The New York City Fatality Review Committee Annual Reports for 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 can be obtained through the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence website at

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/ocdv/html/publications/publications.shtml>.

⁷ Local Law Number 61 of 2005, Section 5. For a definition of “family-related” homicides see endnote 1.

⁸ Both the number of total citywide homicides and homicides designated as family-related homicides were obtained from the NYPD. In compiling annual figures for family-related homicides, the NYPD counts the actual family-related homicides that occurred during that year and any other homicides that have been reclassified as “family-related” homicides from previous years. The NYPD reclassifies homicides as family-related because, on occasion, it is not immediately known to the NYPD that the perpetrator was a person who falls within the definition of “family-related.” Since the FRC is charged with reviewing access by victims to services, the FRC chose to review data on homicides that actually occurred during calendar years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

⁹ Nonprofit agencies contracting with the Human Resources Administration (HRA) to provide domestic violence services include: (1) Anti Violence Project, (2) Barrier Free Living, (3) Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families, (4) FECS Health and Human Services System, (5) HELP Social Services, (6) Jewish Board of Family and Children’s Services, (7) New York Asian Women’s Center, (8) Queens Legal Services Corporation, (9) Safe Horizon, (10) Sanctuary for Families, (11) Seamen’s Society for Children and Families, (12) Urban Justice Center, Legal Services, and (13) Violence Intervention Program.

¹⁰ ACS did not provide the time frame during which the contact occurred relative to the homicide for 2004 through 2008 cases. This information was provided for the 2009 and later cases.

¹¹ Creswell, John W. *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design: Choosing Among Five Approaches*. Sage Productions: London, 2007. Pg. 152-153.

¹² The community survey received the Department of Homeless Services Institutional Review Board approval in April 2009.

¹³ Burke, J. O’Campo, P. and Peak, G., *Neighborhood Influence and Intimate Partner Violence: Does Geographic Setting Matter*, Journal of Urban Health: Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine, Vol. 83 (2): 182-194 (March 2006); O’Campo P., Gielen A.C., Faden R.R., Xue X., Kass N., Wang M.C., *Violence by Male Partners Against Women During the Childbearing Years: A Contextual Analysis*, American Journal of Public Health, Vol. 85(8): 1092-1097 (August 1995); O’Campo, P. Burke, J., Peak, G., McDonnell, K. and Gielen, A., *Uncovering Neighborhood Influence on Intimate Partner Violence Using Concept Mapping*, Journal of Epidemiol Community Health, Vol. 59: 603-608 (2005) and Miles-Doan, R., *Violence Between Spouses and Intimates: Does Neighborhood Context Matter?*, Social Forces, December 1, 1998.

¹⁴ “Intimate partner homicides” is defined as all relationships in endnote, 1 *supra*, except other family members, such as parents, brothers, sisters, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, children and grandparents.

-
- ¹⁵ New York City Planning, 2010 Census, Table PL-P2A NYC: Total Population by Mutually Exclusive Race and Hispanic Origin New York City and Boroughs, 1990 to 2010. *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/census2010/t_pl_p2a_nyc.pdf
- ¹⁶ Ibid.
- ¹⁷ New York City Planning, 2010 Census, Table PL-P1 NYC: Total Population New York City and Boroughs, 2000 and 2010.
- ¹⁸ *New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee: Annual Report 2007*, New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee (December 2007). In regards to the family-related homicides that occurred between 2005 and 2011, the Department for the Aging had contact with only 2 victims (out of 73) at some point in the calendar year preceding the homicide.
- ¹⁹ New York City Planning, 2010 Census, Table SF1-P3 NYC: Total Population 60 Years of Age and Over by Selected Age Groups, New York City and Boroughs 2010.
- ²⁰ Six of the 25 child victims of family-related homicides in 2010 were killed in two multiple homicides. Four children were murdered by their mother in Staten Island, while two children were murdered by their step-father in Brooklyn.
- ²¹ Ibid.
- ²² New York City Planning, 2010 Census, Table SF1-P6 NYC: Total Population by Single Years of Age and Sex New York City and Boroughs, 2010.
- ²³ 2005 is the first year for which agency contact data is available.
- ²⁴ For family-related homicides between 2005 and 2008, ACS could not be included because it did not provide information regarding contact that occurred within one year of the homicide and was therefore excluded from the time analysis. ACS provided case specific information for the 2009 and later family-related homicides.
- ²⁵ *See*, endnote 13, *supra*.
- ²⁶ The Department of City Planning reports American Community Survey results by Community Districts. However, the Census Bureau requires that no American Community Survey area have less than 100,000 people; to meet this requirement, several of the City's 59 Community Districts are combined for reporting purposes into 55 Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA). Bronx Community District 1 and 2 are combined into one PUMA, as are Bronx Community Districts 3 and 6, Manhattan Community Districts 1 and 2, and Manhattan Community Districts 4 and 5.
- ²⁷ New York City Planning, 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economics Characteristics: Poverty (All People). *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_08to10_acs.pdf.
- ²⁸ Household income includes the income of the householder and all other people 15 years and older in the household, whether or not they are related to the householder. The median household income is the point that divides the household income distribution into halves, one half with income above the median and the other with income below the median. The median is based on the income distribution of all households, including those with no income. For further information, see, *Income, Earnings, and Poverty Data from the 2007 American Community Survey*, United States Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. (August 2008).
- ²⁹ New York City Planning, 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economics Characteristics: Median Household Income. *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_08to10_acs.pdf
- ³⁰ According to the United States Census, "unemployed" includes all civilians 16 years old and over if they were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work." Information was obtained from the New York City Department of City Planning.
- ³¹ New York City Planning, 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Citywide, Selected Economics Characteristics: Employment Status. *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_08to10_acs.pdf.
- ³² New York City Planning, 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economics Characteristics: Education Attainment. *See*, http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_08to10_acs.pdf
- ³³ New York City Planning, 2008-2010 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Citywide, Selected Economics Characteristics: Education Attainment. *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_08to10_acs.pdf
- ³⁴ This analysis excluded thirteen family-related homicides recorded by the New York City Police Department from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2011. Two cases were excluded because the victims' address was not known; seven other cases were excluded because the victims' residences were not within New York City; and four cases were excluded because they occurred in previous years but were reclassified this year by the NYPD as family-related homicides.
- ³⁵ Ibid.
- ³⁶ Locations of the family-related fatalities were geocoded using the NYC Department of City Planning's Geosupport software. Point locations were assigned based on the victim's home address. The point locations for each fatality were then aggregated up into a raster density surface using ArcGIS 9.2 and the Spatial Analyst extension. The Spatial Analyst extension calculates a magnitude per unit area based on the concentration of the point locations. Hawth's Analysis Tools 3.17 was then used to create the contours from the density surface. In order to simplify the display of the density surface, family-related homicides occurring in the 0 - 1 break are not symbolized on the maps.
- ³⁷ Jackson, S., Feder, L., Forde, D., Davis, R. Maxwell, C. and Taylor, B., *Batterer Intervention Programs: Where Do We Go From Here*, Washington, DC: National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, June 2003: NCJ 195079

and Davis, R., Taylor, B. and Maxwell, C., *Does Batterer Treatment Reduce Violence? A Randomized Experiment in Brooklyn*, Washington, DC, United States Department of Justice, February 2000.

³⁸ The 2012 NYCHA Domestic Violence Awareness Month Conference was scheduled for November 3, 2012. The conference was cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy.

**Mayor's Office to Combat
Domestic Violence**
100 Gold Street - 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10038



Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor

Mayor's Office to
**Combat Domestic
Violence**

Yolanda B. Jimenez
Commissioner

