

# Domestic Violence Services in New York City

**Cecile Noel**

Commissioner

The Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic  
Violence

March 18, 2016

# What is Intimate Partner Violence?

- **Intimate partner violence** is a pattern of coercive and abusive behavior intended to gain and maintain power and control over another person.
- Abusive behaviors can include physical violence; economic control (threatening to end financial support, forcing an individual to quit work); emotional abuse; sexual abuse; intimidation or threats; threatening to harm or kill a person, child, or pet; immigration-related threats; or isolation or extreme jealousy/possessiveness such as stalking.
- Intimate Partner Violence can impact anyone regardless of age, race, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or ability status. It involves individuals who are married, divorced, dating or have children in common.

# Intimate Partner Violence In the United States

- **20 people per minute** are victims of physical violence by an intimate partner in the United States.
- **1 in 3 women** and **1 in 4 men** have experienced physical violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime.
- **40% of all domestic violence against women, and 30% of all domestic violence against men** is committed by their current or former intimate partner.
- **50% of female victims, and 32% of male victims** reported being raped by an intimate partner.

# Intimate Partner Violence in New York City

In 2015 there were:

- **279,051** Domestic Incidents
  - 7% of all homicides were intimate partner
- **85,172** calls to the NYC Domestic Violence Hotline
- **6,941** requests for domestic violence shelter

# The NYC Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

Established in 2001, the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence is charged with:

- Coordinating the delivery of citywide domestic violence services;
- Formulating policies and programs relating to domestic violence services;
- Developing mechanisms to improve the response to domestic violence situations; and
- Implementing Citywide public awareness campaigns.

# Domestic Violence Services in NYC

New York City takes a multi-Agency approach to its response to domestic violence.

- The New York City Police Department
- The Courts—Family and Criminal
- Domestic Violence Shelters
- The DV Hotline
- Community-based organizations
- The Family Justice Centers

# The NYC Family Justice Centers

- The NYC Family Justice Centers (FJCs) are walk-in Centers where on-site community-based organizations provide free and confidential services regardless of a client's language, income, immigration status, gender identity or sexual orientation.
- The goal of the FJCs is to increase safety for domestic violence survivors and their children by providing greater access to services and strengthen collaboration between criminal justice, social services, and civil legal service providers.

# Family Justice Center Statistics

Since the first FJC opened ten years ago:

- 338,000 client visits
- 4,600 average client visits a month at the existing four Family Justice Centers

In 2015,

- 59,000 total visits
- 19,473 new client visits
- 8% overall increase in client visits
- 57% of Family Justice Center clients are foreign born, representing 69 different countries.



# Prevention

Prevention is at the heart of DV awareness. When individuals can identify intimate partner violence, and are aware of warning signs, they may seek help earlier.

OCDV's prevention efforts are focused on:

- **Youth/Teens:** The OCDV Healthy Relationship Training Academy provides educational and skills-building training for adolescents, parents and organizations that provide services to young people.
- **Citywide Training:** OCDV's Training Institute provides trainings to community-based organizations, partners, and staff at government agencies to build awareness of DV and to incorporate best practices into safety planning for families.
- **Public Awareness Campaigns:** OCDV will be implementing new public awareness campaigns focusing on the elderly, LGBTQ, youth, immigrant and religious communities.

# Thank you

**Cecile Noel**

Commissioner

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

[cnoel@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:cnoel@cityhall.nyc.gov)

212.788.3156