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DSS ANNOUNCES RELOCATION OF REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT JOB CENTER

New location offers an improved client experience

Department of Social Services Commissioner Steven Banks announced today that the HRA Refugee and Immigrant Job Center has been relocated to 32-20 Northern Boulevard in Long Island City.

The Center was previously located at 88 Third Avenue in Brooklyn. This new location offers clients several public transportation options and a number of in-center tools to facilitate access to benefits including self-service check-in kiosks to help clients check in quickly and easily, and self-service document scanners so clients can scan eligibility documents for their applications.

“At a time when the message from the federal government is that immigrants are not welcome, we reiterate our commitment to serving all New Yorkers who qualify for assistance and to making that service as easy and convenient as possible,” said Commissioner Banks. “Relocating the Refugee and Immigrant Job Center gives clients access to many of our recent self-service improvements at a location that is easy to reach.”

“We are working to make this transition as seamless as possible to make sure our clients have access to the help they need. People who come to this country fleeing dangerous conditions and looking for a better life need to be able to get the help they need, and we’re ready to provide it,” said HRA Administrator Grace Bonilla.

In addition, staff at the Center will be available to assist clients interested in opening an account for the ACCESS HRA online portal, which allows them to apply for SNAP and submit a recertification for Cash Assistance without having to visit an HRA office. Clients can manage their cases, review their SNAP or Cash Assistance account balance, opt in to receive text messages or email alerts, request documents and track documents that have been submitted, view eligibility notices, and update their contact information as needed.

“With this new location we are making clear as a City and Borough that immigrants and refugees are welcome here,” said New York City Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer. “This new center is located in the heart of our diverse City - Queens. As we fight to protect every immigrant and refugee from a hostile administration in Washington D.C., we need to make sure that we have the ground work and

infrastructure that is ready to provide services necessary to aide in the success of all. This center will provide everyone who enters with the resources they need to be successful. I am thrilled to open this center which will welcome all through its doors."

The new location is within walking distance of the Q101 and Q102 bus lines, and the M and R line stop at 36th Street. HRA clients' case status and benefits will not be affected by this relocation. The Center's regular hours of operation remain 8:30AM to 5:00PM, Monday through Friday, and the telephone number will remain the same, 718-250-4443.

The Refugee and Immigrant Job Center was established to provide support and services to refugees with the intent of assisting them in becoming employed and self-sufficient. The Center serves the refugee and other immigrant populations citywide, and will continue to do so at its new location.

For more information on HRA services, please visit www.nyc.gov and follow us on Twitter at @NYCHRA.

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