If you or someone you know needs assistance, please reach out to any of the resources below:

NYC Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-621-4673 (HOPE)
www.nyc.gov/NYCHOPE

NYC Family Justice Center, Bronx
198 East 161st Street, 2nd Floor, Bronx, NY 10451
(718) 508-1220

NYC Family Justice Center, Brooklyn
350 Jay Street, New York, NY 11201
(718) 250-5111

NYC Family Justice Center, Manhattan
80 Centre Street, 5th floor, New York, NY 10013
(212) 602-2800

NYC Family Justice Center, Queens
126-02 82nd Avenue, Kew Gardens, NY 11415
(718) 575-4545

NYC Family Justice Center, Staten Island
126 Stuyvesant Place, Staten Island, NY 10301
(718) 697-4300
Domestic violence is a social problem that impacts many Americans – 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men1- and affects marginalized individuals and communities disproportionately. And, while New York City has made significant investments in preventing and responding to domestic violence in neighborhoods across the City – such as an extensive New York City Police Department (NYPD) unit dedicated to domestic violence, the country's largest system of Family Justice Centers and domestic violence shelters, and a rich network of community service providers to assist survivors – we still see high rates of domestic violence.2

To enhance the City’s response, in November 2016, Mayor Bill de Blasio launched the NYC Domestic Violence Task Force (Task Force) to develop a comprehensive strategy to reduce domestic violence in New York City. Under the leadership of the Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) and the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice (MOCI), the City brought together representatives from City agencies, domestic violence prevention and intervention organizations, and survivors to identify existing domestic violence programs and interventions that are working well, those that need attention, and promising practices to implement or expand.

Since its inception, the Task Force has announced 32 initiatives and secured $11 million in City funding to reduce violence, enhance the safety and wellbeing of those impacted by domestic violence, and hold abusive partners accountable.

This report provides an overview of the current operations of the Task Force and highlights of the progress we have made in 2018.

A special thank you to Cecile Noel, Commissioner at ENDGBV, and Liz Glazer, Director at MOCI, for their leadership and support of the Task Force.

The Task Force is also grateful for the support of so many domestic violence survivors, City government staff, community partners, and advocates through their involvement in working groups, subcommittees, the Steering Committee, and initiatives that have launched this year. We look forward to continuing to work together to make New York City even safer.

Bea Hanson
Executive Director
Based on the prevalence of domestic violence in the City, and the Task Force’s commitment to re-envisioning how New York City responds to domestic violence, particularly in communities lacking resources and enduring longstanding inequities, the Task Force is seeking to enhance the City’s response to: 1) prevent domestic violence; 2) provide appropriate resources and responses both inside and outside of systems; and 3) build capacity within and coordination between community-based organizations and City agencies to respond to domestic violence in an equitable manner.

Throughout 2018, the Task Force worked on implementing the 32 initiatives involving collaboration with both City agencies and community-based organizations. The following sections are highlighted initiatives from the Task Force’s focus areas.

Effectively addressing domestic violence in our City requires a primary focus on expanding violence prevention and early intervention, as well as creating easy access to safety and service information for survivors of domestic violence. This is being achieved through efforts and initiatives that aim to reach families and youth sooner and more comprehensively, and by providing trainings on healthy relationships at younger ages. Two of the promising initiatives are: 1) the creation of the NYC Hope website and resource directory, which provides easy access to resources for survivors, and information for all City residents about how to help someone experiencing domestic violence; and 2) the Early Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (Early RAPP), which expands healthy relationship education to middle schools across the City.
Early Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (Early RAPP)

A key initiative to increase access to information and services was the creation of New York City’s first-ever resource directory for domestic and gender-based violence services, NYC HOPE, dedicated to providing resources to survivors, and information to all City residents about how to get help for themselves or someone experiencing domestic violence. Launched in February 2018, the portal provides information, education and a resource directory to help survivors locate services in their communities. Within the first month of the launch of NYC HOPE, the site had over 4,000 visitors and 8,600 page views.

NYC Hope in 2018

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Total visitors</th>
<th>12,300</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total page views</td>
<td>31,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Early Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (Early RAPP)

A highlight of the Task Force’s work on prevention has been the development of Early RAPP. Early RAPP focuses on bringing healthy relationship education programming to NYC middle schoolers, providing them with the tools to identify unhealthy behaviors and build healthy relationship skills at a critical time in their development, while ensuring that they know how to feel safe reaching out for help for themselves and their peers. Community Educators from community based organizations – Urban Resource Institute, Day One and STEPS to End Family Violence, Rising Ground – with expertise in domestic violence prevention and intervention will implement school-wide education campaigns; facilitate student and parent classroom workshops; conduct professional development
sessions for faculty, school staff and administrators; and provide resources and referrals to students and families in need of support and services. Early RAPP builds upon the success of the Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP), a program funded through the NYC Human Resources Administration that places full-time RAPP Coordinators in high schools and middle schools who provide direct services to young people experiencing or impacted by intimate partner violence and coordinate critical prevention education for the entire school community. By reaching adolescents in schools all across NYC before and as they begin to engage in dating relationships, Early RAPP aims to provide consistent messages to prevent teen dating violence at the earliest possible age.

**INTERVENTION**

The Task Force has several initiatives that seek to assist victims of domestic violence by increasing access to services with the aim of enhancing safety and resiliency. Some of these initiatives work with children and their families to address trauma, or with individual survivors to resolve legal issues that jeopardize their housing; other initiatives work to make the criminal and civil justice systems less daunting and more accessible for survivors, while implementing programs to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for abusive partners. Four initiatives that work toward these goals include: 1) the creation of the Queens Probation Domestic Violence Pilot project; 2) expansion of the Coordinated Approach to Preventing Stalking (CAPS) program to Brooklyn; 3) the expansion of the Early Victim Engagement (EVE) program to the Bronx and Staten Island; and 4) increasing capacity and access to domestic violence related immigration legal services in communities.

**Establishing the Queens Probation Domestic Violence Pilot**

The Department of Probation (DOP) launched the Queens Probation Domestic Violence Pilot in December 2017 to provide specialized domestic violence programming and supervision practices responsive to individual client risks and needs. Studies indicate that referring defendants to probation with enhanced
domestic violence supervision can lower rates of recidivism and reoffending.\textsuperscript{3} The Queens Probation Domestic Violence Pilot enhances offender accountability, focusing on behavior change, through heightened monitoring, increased supervision, individualized assessment and a specialized weekly educational intervention. The program also reaches out to survivors of those involved in the probation case to offer them linkages to appropriate services at the NYC Family Justice Center in Queens and/or community based organizations.

In July 2018, the Urban Institute was contracted to conduct a process evaluation to ensure that the program has been implemented as intended and make any recommendations to improve implementation. The evaluation includes identifying appropriate performance metrics to track program inputs and outputs necessary for program management and a potential outcome evaluation; gauging how risk assessment tools are currently being used as part of program operations; obtaining feedback on program implementation; and reporting on preliminary participant outcomes.

In 2018, 86 individuals that were sentenced to probation, or accepted a plea including a condition of interim probation, were enrolled in the pilot. This represents more than a 500\% increase from the 14 individuals with domestic violence related charges sentenced to a term of probation in Queens in 2017.

\begin{center}
\textbf{Queens Probation}
\end{center}

\textbf{Domestic Violence Pilot Project Participants}

\begin{figure}
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{Queens_Probation_Domestic_Violence_Pilot_Project_Participants.png}
\caption{Queens Probation Domestic Violence Pilot Project Participants}
\end{figure}
Expanding Stalking Identification Program to Brooklyn Precincts

The Coordinated Approach to Preventing Stalking (CAPS) program is an initiative of ENDGBV, in collaboration with the NYPD and local District Attorney’s offices, to increase the identification and reporting of intimate partner stalking cases, both stalking arrests and prosecutions, and to link survivors to critical services. Nationally, 54% of female homicide victims reported stalking to the police before they were killed by their intimate partner. The CAPS model is a homicide prevention program aimed at identifying intimate partner stalking cases and providing appropriate criminal justice and social services interventions before stalking behavior escalates to physical injury, serious physical injury, or fatality. As part of the CAPS program, specialized training is conducted for NYPD police officers, members of District Attorney’s offices, and community partners to identify stalking behavior, better understand the New York State stalking statutes, recognize the use of technology in a stalking context, engage in risk assessment and safety planning, and work with survivors to document and preserve evidence of stalking incidents.

The program was initially launched in Staten Island and then in Queens. After its respective launches, the CAPS program led to a 177% increase in stalking arrests in Queens and a 233% increase in Staten Island.

Due to the program’s proven success in Staten Island and Queens, the Task Force recommended expanding the program to additional boroughs. ENDGBV, in collaboration with NYPD and the Kings County District Attorney’s Office, launched the CAPS program in Brooklyn in 2018. During this expansion, 211 New York City Police Officers and Kings County District Attorney staff received training to identify stalking behaviors and properly charge stalking offenses under New York State Law. In pre- and post-CAPS training surveys, participants reported statistically significant increases in their confidence to investigate tech abuse, and in their ability to identify stalking behaviors, address stalking and tech abuse while safety planning with survivors, and identify the correct stalking charge.
Early Victim Engagement (EVE) Expands to Bronx and Staten Island

EVE provides critical information to survivors at the time of a defendant's arraignment, enhancing safety, access to resources, and prosecutions. EVE was first launched in Brooklyn in 2008, funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), and was evaluated in 2013 by the NYC Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice. The evaluation found the implementation of the EVE Program increased the conviction rate in cases of intimate partner violence prosecuted in Brooklyn by nine percentage points (23.6% vs. 32.6%). The study attributed this increase to a higher rate of witness participation in the prosecution among EVE clients. Moreover, the study found that EVE was incredibly successful in immediately connecting survivors to the District Attorney’s Office and the NYC Family Justice Center in Brooklyn (BKFJC) for services, as 71% of the victims who had an appointment scheduled by the EVE Program visited the District Attorney’s Office, compared to 54% of those who were not contacted by EVE staff.4

During the first 12 months that the EVE Program was operational in Brooklyn, new client visits to the BKFJC increased by 56% (2,639 additional new clients), compared to the 12 months prior to EVE (7,361 new clients from June 2008 through May 2009, compared to 4,722 new clients from June 2007 through May 2008). Connecting survivors to services directly after an incident greatly assists them in maintaining safety and rebuilding their lives. Because of the program’s success in Brooklyn, one of the Task Force initiatives was to expand this initiative to the Bronx and Staten Island.

Coordinated Approach to Prevent Stalking: Brooklyn Expansion

- **211 Brooklyn NYPD officers** and District Attorney Staff have completed the CAPS training
- The number of participants who chose the correct stalking charge more than doubled post-CAPS training

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4. Early Victim Engagement (EVE) Expands to Bronx and Staten Island

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7
the launch of the program, EVE has successfully contacted over 3,000 clients in the Bronx and over 300 clients in Staten Island.

**Enhanced Access to Legal Services for Immigrant Survivors of Domestic Violence**

In January 2018, the City expanded immigration legal services for domestic violence survivors to meet the needs of immigrants in their own communities. Collaborating with community based organizations serving immigrant populations, the program focuses on providing holistic culturally-responsive immigration legal assistance. The civil legal immigration services providers, Urban Justice Center and Sanctuary for Families, have each partnered with three local community based organizations—Barrier Free Living, Nuevo Amanecer, the Puerto Rican Family Institute, the Caribbean Women’s Health Association, El Centro del Inmigrante, and Violence Intervention Program. The partnerships help to increase the capacity of these community based organizations, which have deep connections in their local immigrant communities, to screen clients for domestic violence while providing access to immigration legal services for survivors of domestic violence.

**Immigration Legal Services Providers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sanctuary for Families</th>
<th>Urban Justice Center</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barrier Free Living</td>
<td>Caribbean Womens Health Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuevo Amanecer</td>
<td>El Centro del Inmigrante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rican Family Institute</td>
<td>Violence Intervention Program</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

219 individuals assisted from January 2018 through December 2018
Strengthening and creating effective and coordinated systems is critical to raise awareness about domestic violence and implement appropriate responses. Capacity building through the Task Force has focused on ensuring that City agency staff has access to relevant training and information, identifying and implementing evidence-based and best practices, launching new programs, and increasing knowledge on how to identify domestic violence and link survivors to appropriate services.

**Enhance Fire Department of New York (FDNY) Engagement with Domestic Violence Survivors**

ENDGBV collaborates with City agencies to enhance knowledge and awareness about domestic violence and related topics. The ENDGBV Training Team assesses training needs and designs trainings to support each agency and organization’s unique goals and, following the trainings, continues to offer ongoing consultations, technical assistance and refresher trainings.

A highlight of the Task Force’s work to build system capacity has been to train emergency first responders on how to respond to domestic violence. Firefighters, paramedics, and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) are often the first point of contact for survivors in an emergency, and it is critical that they have the skills and education necessary to recognize domestic violence and respond appropriately.

To enhance the tools of first responders to address domestic violence, ENDGBV created, and FDNY provided, continuing education materials for FDNY Emergency Medical Services (EMS) employees focused on domestic violence, including modules on engaging intimate partner violence survivors and understanding trauma in the context of intimate partner violence. ENDGBV also provided advanced trainings modules in identifying and responding to strangulation for Continuing Medical Education courses. In 2018, over 1,000 EMTs and medics have participated in the trainings.
When Mayor de Blasio announced the creation of the Task Force, its expressed focus was to reduce domestic violence in NYC. In 2018, the Task Force worked collaboratively with City agencies, community based organizations and survivors to identify and define critical goals to focus our ongoing work to reduce domestic violence in communities across New York City, including:

1) Prevent domestic violence by both reducing first time occurrences and interrupting cycles of recidivism —
   a. Expanding prevention efforts by further engaging youth and schools
   b. Increasing involvement of community-based stakeholders, especially in historically under-resourced communities

2) Improve and expand domestic violence intervention efforts both inside and outside of systems —
   a. Developing and implementing new and trauma-informed programs and procedures that focus on understandable, fair, and transparent processes within the criminal justice system
   b. Supporting capacity of community-based services outside of systems for survivors who may require services and support but do not report or disclose domestic violence in system settings

3) Build capacity and increase coordination between City agencies and non-governmental service providers —
   a. Coordinating and building capacity to better track and integrate the responses to domestic violence across City agencies
   b. Building seamless pathways to services between City agencies and non-governmental organizations that center survivors’ right to safety and dignity

To address these goals, the role of the Task Force Steering Committee is to ensure that the work of the Task Force remains focused on and models the coordination that is required in order to meet these goals. The Subcommittees have been
focusing on creating systematic ways to identify resources and gaps in services and improving coordination; identifying targeted areas for focused improvement; and recommending new initiatives and innovative, promising practices.

The Task Force will continue to monitor progress on the initiatives that have been implemented, as well as explore these and other strategies to monitor New York City’s systematic progress in reducing domestic violence and closing disparities, including reaching more people through community-driven approaches and initiatives that will continue to identify and address opportunities to reach underserved or historically-overlooked New Yorkers. Several of the newly funded initiatives through the Task Force have built in evaluations. The results of these evaluations will be used to review programs to effectively address domestic violence.

2. Citywide, domestic violence now accounts for almost one in every five homicides, and two in every five reported felony assaults. New York City Police Department, 2018 Year End Index Report, received from NYPD on 1/17/19.


5. Non-government members of the Steering Committee were nominated by themselves or peers and selected to serve a two-year term with membership to represent the diversity of communities across New York City. Agency representatives were appointed by their Commissioners.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amy Barasch</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Her Justice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Litwin</td>
<td>Counsel, Special Victims Division</td>
<td>Bronx District Attorney's Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ana Bermudez</td>
<td>Commissioner</td>
<td>Department of Probation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anette Holm</td>
<td>Deputy Chief Officer, Special Services</td>
<td>Human Resources Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Patterson</td>
<td>Senior Vice President for STEPS to End Family Violence</td>
<td>Rising Ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audrey Moore</td>
<td>Executive Assistant District Attorney &amp; Chief of the Special Victims Bureau</td>
<td>Manhattan District Attorney's Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beverly James</td>
<td>Associate Commissioner</td>
<td>Administration for Children's Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Stayton</td>
<td>Co-Director, Injury Services &amp; Prevention Program</td>
<td>Department of Health and Mental Hygiene</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Dank</td>
<td>Deputy Commissioner/General Counsel</td>
<td>Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erica Smith</td>
<td>Acting Assistant Commissioner, Division of Child Protection, Child Welfare Support Services</td>
<td>Administration for Children's Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ilana Turko</td>
<td>Senior Counsel</td>
<td>Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isa Martinez-McDonald</td>
<td>Housing Services Director</td>
<td>New Destiny Housing</td>
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<td>Justine Luongo</td>
<td>Chief Defender</td>
<td>Legal Aid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madeline Garcia Bigelow</td>
<td>Director, Domestic Violence Project</td>
<td>Urban Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Morales</td>
<td>Deputy Chief, Domestic Violence Unit</td>
<td>Police Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maureen Curtis</td>
<td>Vice-President, Criminal Justice Programs</td>
<td>Safe Horizon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Kaminsky</td>
<td>Chief, Domestic Violence Bureau</td>
<td>Kings County District Attorney's Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAME</td>
<td>TITLE</td>
<td>ORGANIZATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathanial Fields</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer</td>
<td>Urban Resource Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quentin Walcott</td>
<td>Co-Executive Director</td>
<td>CONNECT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Kessler</td>
<td>Chief, Domestic Violence Bureau</td>
<td>Queens District Attorney's Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shekera Shahid</td>
<td>Staff Attorney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Nilva</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Day One</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Clee</td>
<td>Director, Domestic Violence Policy and Planning Program</td>
<td>Administration for Children's Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Herman</td>
<td>Deputy Commissioner, Collaborative Policing</td>
<td>Police Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theresa Yuan</td>
<td>Host/Producer, Survivor/Advocate</td>
<td>en(gender)ed podcast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tobi Erner</td>
<td>Social Worker, Domestic Violence &amp; Family Law Advocacy Project</td>
<td>Queens Legal Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tracey Little</td>
<td>Board Chair</td>
<td>Voices of Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday Muller-Mondi</td>
<td>Chief, Domestic Violence Bureau</td>
<td>Richmond County District Attorney's Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yumi Nielsen</td>
<td>Assistant Commissioner, Strategic Planning</td>
<td>Department of Homeless Services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## APPENDIX B: 2018 SUBCOMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBCOMMITTEE</th>
<th>CO-CHAIRS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Housing/Economic Justice                          | Isa Martinez-McDonald, New Destiny Housing  
Catherine Trapani, Homeless Services United                                                                                       |
| Youth Intervention, Prevention and Education      | Beverly James, Administration for Children's Services  
Michele Paolella, Day One  
Erin Lester, Department of Education  
Erica Smith, Administration for Children's Services  
Susan Clee, Administration for Children's Services  
Kimberly Shannon, Department of Education                                                                 |
| Criminal Justice                                  | Audrey Moore, Manhattan District Attorney’s Office  
Maureen Curtis, Safe Horizon                                                                                                          |
| Data/Reporting                                    | Catherine Stayton, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Josy Hahn, Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice  
Ed Hill, Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence                                                                     |
| Civil Legal                                       | Amy Barasch, Her Justice  
Anna Maria Diamanti, Brooklyn Legal Services                                                                                       |
| Community-Driven Solutions                        | Anne Patterson, STEPS to End Family Violence  
Quentin Walcott, CONNECT  
Tracey Little, Voices of Women  
Kenton Kirby, Crown Heights Community Mediation Center  
James Meagher, Safe Horizon                                                                        |
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If you or someone you know needs assistance, please reach out to any of the resources below:

NYC Domestic Violence Hotline **1-800-621-4673 (HOPE)**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NYC Family Justice Center, Bronx</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>198 East 161st Street, 2nd Floor, Bronx, NY 10451 (718)508-1220</td>
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