



**Mayor's Office to
End Domestic and
Gender-Based Violence**

ENDGBV COVID Response Work Group

Meeting #5 Notes

Friday, July 10, 2020 10:00am-11:00am

Work Group Member and City Agency Attendees	
<i>Administration for Children's Services, Shanelle Bolton & Rachael Jensen</i> <i>Anti-Violence Project, Darlene Torres</i> <i>Arab American Family Support Center, Nancy Albilal</i> <i>Barrier Free Living, Paul Feuerstein</i> <i>Columbia University Medical Center, Betsy Fitelson</i> <i>Crime Victim Treatment Center, Christopher Bromson</i> <i>CUNY Law, Julie Goldscheid</i> <i>Department of Health of Mental Hygiene, Catherine Stayton</i> <i>Her Justice, Anna Maria Diamanti</i> <i>Human Resources Administration, Annette Holm</i> <i>Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence staff</i>	<i>Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, Shekera Algarin</i> <i>New York City Council, Helen Rosenthal & Brenda McKinney</i> <i>New Destiny Housing, Carol Corden</i> <i>New York Legal Assistance Group, Amanda Beltz</i> <i>Office of Deputy Mayor Perea-Henze, Megan Tackney</i> <i>Office of First Lady Chirlane McCray, Grace Choi</i> <i>Safe Horizon, Lisa O'Connor</i> <i>Shalom Task Force, Shoshannah Frydman</i> <i>Sunshine in my Living Room, Doreen Lesane</i> <i>Voices of Women, Raquel Singh</i> <i>VOICES, Doreen Jones</i> <i>Violence Intervention Program, Carmen Beltre</i> <i>Weinberg Center for Elder Justice, Deirdre Lok</i>

1. Welcome and check-in
 1. Members shared their individual takeaways from the Work Group meetings and process.

2. Proposed Response Follow Up – ENDGBV shared some immediate next steps on some of the Work Group proposed responses, which we have categorized by the group's main takeaways.
 1. **Takeaway #1** - *Public messaging and resource information needs to be multilingual and culturally specific and target populations we may not be reaching, including undocumented immigrants, youth, LGBTQ people, older New Yorkers and criminalized survivors.*
 1. ENDGBV is convening focus groups in July 2020 with service providers to discuss enhancements to the NYC Hope resources directory. Service providers are still welcome and encouraged to sign up for the sessions.
 2. ENDGBV discussed a commitment to explore an additional phase of paid advertising in the months to come.
 2. **Takeaway #2** - *Delivering services remotely, including mental health services, will continue beyond the crisis, providing an opportunity for long-term enhancements to services, and a critical need to address a digital divide and barrier to engagement that disproportionately impacts poor New Yorkers.*
 1. ENDGBV referenced the Mayor's Task Force on Racial Inclusion and Equity's recent announcement around broadband deployment across New York City to



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address the digital divide, as well as plans to connect with the NYC Chief Technology Officer's office to explore ways that it can support DV/GBV survivors.

2. ENDGBV identified a commitment to enhance text/chat functions to engage with survivors at multiple access points, including the NYC DV Hotline.
 3. ENDGBV reported plans to provide additional training opportunities and technical assistance for providers and survivors, including through collaborating with tech partners.
 4. ENDGBV reported ongoing efforts to explore public/private partnerships, in collaboration with the Mayor's Fund to Advance NYC, to address technology related needs.
3. **Takeaway #3** - *COVID-19 has shone a light on domestic and gender-based violence and exposed and exacerbated barriers and challenges survivors have always faced*
1. ENDGBV referenced plans for borough-based survivor town halls to be held starting in summer 2020 in collaboration with Voices of Women (VOW) and ENDGBV's VOICES Committee.
 2. ENDGBV reported current efforts to partner with the Administration for Children's Services (ACS) and other city agencies to explore the use of community space for survivors and advocates.
 3. ENDGBV reported on the success of the City's recently launched micro-grant program for DV/GBV survivors and ongoing efforts to explore additional public/private partnerships to meet the demand for the program.
4. **Takeaway #4** - *It is critical that we address how current systems and reliance on law enforcement are not safe or accessible to communities of color, particularly Black, brown, immigrant and LGBTQ communities.*
1. ENDGBV referenced plans to convene providers for a dialogue around law enforcement responses to DV/GBV.

3. Moving Forward

1. ENDGBV reported that they will continue to connect with their stakeholders during the response to COVID-19 and thanked the member organizations for their contributions and assistance in both identifying how to move forward and how to be prepared as we face new phases of the crisis. ENDGBV will continue to host regular provider calls, discuss FJC and other City reopening plans with the provider community and look to create more formal feedback loops with stakeholders in the coming months.
2. Other follow-up items:
 1. Betsy Fitelson, from Columbia University Medical Center, suggested convening an ongoing working group to look at the mental health needs of survivors during the crisis and offered for others to reach out if they were interested in joining that effort.
 2. Paul Feuerstein, from Barrier Free Living, raised the issue of a City protocol to address the needs of parents in shelter who need to be hospitalized for COVID-19. Raquel Singh, from VOW, also referenced the need for additional training



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for survivors around this issue of standby guardianship and mentioned recent trainings hosted by VOW, Bronx Defenders, Barrier Free Living and NYLAG for clients on the topic.