

REMARKS OF

FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SALONI SETHI
MAYOR'S OFFICE TO END DOMESTIC AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

BEFORE THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUITY

on

"Oversight - Microgrants for Survivors of Domestic and Gender-Based Violence"

October 25, 2023

Good afternoon, Chair Cabán and Members of the Committee on Women and Gender Equity. I am Saloni Sethi, First Deputy Commissioner of the Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV). I am joined by Jamal Alsarraj, ENDGBV's Executive Director of Community Initiatives. ENDGBV operates the city's five family justice centers and directly manages a contract portfolio of prevention and intervention programming. Our office builds capacity for agency staff and community members to identify and respond to domestic and gender-based violence (DV/GBV) through outreach and training, and we develop policies and best practices to strengthen the City's approaches to these issues. We collaborate with City agencies, over 100 nonprofit providers, community stakeholders, and people with lived experience to reduce barriers and ensure access to inclusive services for survivors of DV/GBV.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you about the implementation of Local Law 112 of 2022 related to microgrants for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence.

Our implementation of Local Law 112 is informed by our 2020 emergency financial relief microgrant program. This program provided microgrants to survivors in response to their acute and unique needs during a period of crisis and

uncertainty. Within two months, this program successfully allocated **\$468,750** to **377** unique survivors, with an average grant amount of **\$1,243**.

ENDGBV has made substantial progress on our new microgrant initiative – what ENDGBV is calling “flexible funding”. Over the past year, ENDGBV has been working with OMB, the Law Department, and other agencies to minimize potential barriers to accessing funding. We are pleased to share that eligibility for flexible funding will not be tied to immigration status, and we plan to offer survivors diverse disbursement methods, including checks, payments directly to vendors, and physical or electronic gift cards and debit cards.

We are pleased to have \$1.2 million in baseline funding for this initiative, which we anticipate will serve at least 900 survivors based on our previous program. In addition to providing grant relief, our services encompass safety-planning, housing-focused case management, and direct connection to additional DV/GBV services. As we move forward with implementation, we have two goals in mind: maximizing the amount of funding that can be disbursed directly to survivors and ensuring that we work as expeditiously as possible to begin programming. We are working closely with DSS’ ACCO to identify the best procurement methods to meet these goals given City processes and timelines.

We also continue to be in conversation with our community-based providers, especially those focused on housing stability, to ensure their input is incorporated into the program's design.

This includes finalizing implementation details like data collection, community outreach, and best practices for low-barrier disbursement. Our goal is to begin disbursing flexible funding to survivors in the next few months.

We look forward to continued collaboration with the Council, our sister City agencies, and our community-based partners to support safe and stable housing for survivors. Thank you for the opportunity to appear here today. I welcome any questions you may have.



JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS

**STATEMENT OF PUBLIC ADVOCATE JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS
TO THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON
WOMEN AND GENDER EQUITY
OCTOBER 25, 2023**

Good morning,

My name is Jumaane D. Williams and I am the Public Advocate for the City of New York. Thank you very much Chair Cabán and members of the Committee on Women and Gender Equity for holding this hearing and allowing me the opportunity to provide a statement.

During the past three years, the pandemic has caused a rippling effect across a range of intersecting issues which unfortunately includes instances of domestic violence. From 2020 to 2022, NYC Hope received almost 273,000 calls that were made to the city's domestic violence hotline. This is an extremely alarming increase of almost 15% each year compared to the total number of calls received in 2019. Additionally, between 2021 and 2022, almost 15,000 of the calls were requests for shelter.

The City of New York has been in an ongoing housing and homelessness crisis, with rent increases far outpacing salaries every year, with communities of more color facing eviction, and many tenants experiencing the consequences of renting from predatory landlords. For far too long, domestic violence has been the main factor of family homelessness in New York City. About 41% of families enter shelters because of abuse¹ and the lack of safe and affordable housing is an immense barrier for survivors of domestic violence hoping to leave abusive households. We must uplift the voices of survivors and ensure they are accessing resources that provide them with security.

In June 2020, the Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) launched an emergency financial relief program for domestic and gender-based violence survivors. These microgrants covered things such as rent, clothing, and utility bills. By the end of the program, the city provided 377 clients with an average grant of \$1,243.37.² The program's evaluation revealed that these microgrants improved different aspects of the clients' lives, such as their financial stability, housing security, mental health, and their children's feeling safer.³

During today's hearing, I hope to hear more about any updates by the administration for the microgrant program. As well as learning more about any improvements and/or recommendations survivors and advocates might have. We must continue to support and affirm survivors of domestic, gender-based, and intimate partner violence. While we have seen great progress, survivors are still facing barriers across the board and closing the gap will be crucial. Thank you.

¹ <https://newdestinyhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/PolicyPlatform2021.pdf>

² <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/ocdv/downloads/pdf/Emergency-Financial-Relief-Microgrants-Program-Evaluation-Summary-Report.pdf>

³ Ibid.



New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault

Testimony of: Kristen Houlton Shaw, Director of Strategic Initiatives
New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault
Before the Committee on Women and Gender Equity
October 25, 2023

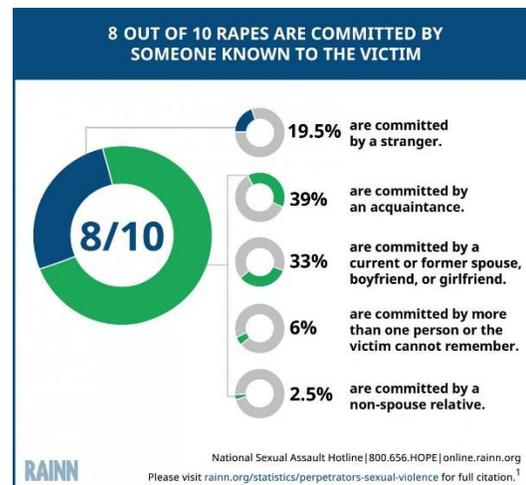
Good morning, Chair Cabán, and members of the Committee on Women and Gender Equity. My name is Kristen Shaw (she/her), and I am the director of strategic initiatives for the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault. I would like to add my voice to the call for increased funding for microgrants to support survivors of gender-based violence. I want to thank you for shining a light on this issue and for allowing me to testify before you today.

The mission of the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault is to prevent sexual violence and reduce the harm it causes through prevention programming, training for professionals who work with survivors, and the pursuit of policy and systems changes. With City Council support, we train Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners working in hospitals, we prepare professionals from nonprofits and city agencies to offer trauma-informed support to survivors, and we run our Project DOT sexual violence prevention program with youth.

The Alliance works closely with survivor-serving agencies across the city. It is our job to identify and address system-wide barriers that prevent or complicate their ability to meet survivor needs. I am here today as a member of the Alliance team who collaborates with our city's rape crisis programs. I am also here informed by my experiences as a volunteer advocate. In this capacity I support survivors who have come to New York City emergency departments in acute crisis.

I want to affirm the critical need for flexible funding to support survivors of sexual violence. In particular, I would like to highlight the need for access to this funding for survivors of sexual violence outside of the intimate partner context. This is a population of survivors who are, unfortunately, all too often shut out of resources and relief available to survivors of intimate partner or domestic violence. This makes them especially in need of new support options like the microgrants through ENDGBV.

While 80% of survivors of sexual violence do know their perpetrators, most sexual violence is perpetrated outside of the intimate partner



context. Focusing explicitly on rape, an estimated 64% - the majority – of survivors each year are experiencing sexual violence by someone with whom there is or has been no intimate or familial relationship.¹

And I am here today to confirm for you: many sexual violence survivors are in urgent need of housing support. Advocates work with a diversity of survivors across this city who now find themselves unsafe at home. This is in addition to the people who have suffered sexual violence who were already homeless – a significant number. In fact, in our conversations with rape crisis programs, we have found housing to be the #1 unmet need faced by the survivors they work with. When sexual violence is perpetrated by a survivor's neighbor, classmate, coworker with access to their personnel file, or when the survivor suffered violence perpetrated within their home: the assailant knows where they live. When sexual violence is perpetrated by a survivor's landlord or building superintendent, not only does the assailant know where they live, they also have access to come inside. Survivors are terrified by that knowledge. As an advocate, I am often safety planning with people in exactly this situation: trying to help them figure out where else they might go. Too often, they have no choice but to stay put because they simply cannot afford to leave.

In a city with housing prices among the highest in the nation, housing instability creates an immediate crisis for survivors. This only compounds the trauma they are already experiencing. Funding, such as the type provided through survivor microgrants, is especially important given that New York State continues to require that a survivor make a report to law enforcement in order to apply for Crime Victim Compensation funds. That requirement presents an insurmountable barrier to accessing funds for most survivors of sexual violence crimes. Indeed, sexual assault is the most under-reported crime in the United States.² And, by the NYPD's own estimate, they receive reports of 5% or fewer sexual assaults perpetrated in our city.³ What this means, practically speaking, is that any emergency funding locked behind an eligibility requirement for a police report does not represent true support for this population. This makes the microgrant program through ENDGBV a special lifeline for many sexual violence survivors.

No one deserves to have sexual violence happen to them. And in the aftermath, they deserve our support to find safety and healing. This microgrant funding stream is so critically important to putting survivors on the pathway to both. I hope that this program will be more fully-funded at a level that will better meet the true needs of the survivors of gender-based violence in New York City. Thank you for your attention.

¹ Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2010-2016 (2017).

² Rennison, C. A. (2002). Rape and sexual assault: Reporting to police and medical attention, 1992-2000 [NCJ 194530]. Retrieved from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics: <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/rsarp00.pdf>

³ NYC Department of Investigations, An Investigation of NYPD's Special Victims Division-Adult Sex Crimes, March 27, 2018, pg. 5.



**Girls for Gender Equity Testimony to the New York City Council
Committee on Women and Gender Equity - Microgrants for Survivors of Gender
Based Violence
Delivered by: Ella Grace Downs
October 25th, 2023**

Good morning, Council Member Cabán and the members and staff of the Committee on Women and Gender Equity. My name is Ella Grace Downs and I am the Policy and Government Affairs Manager at Girls for Gender Equity.

GGE is an intergenerational organization based in Brooklyn, committed to the all-around development of girls and young women. GGE challenges structural forces, including racism, sexism, gender-based violence, transphobia, homophobia, and economic inequity, which constrict the freedom, full expression, and rights of Black girls and young people of color. GGE has been a leader in the conversation around gender-based violence, including sexual harassment and sexual abuse for close to two decades. We are offering testimony today in support of microgrants for survivors and because we have seen first hand just how impactful and critical these funds can be.

At GGE, we center healing and practice restorative justice through our direct service youth programs. As you know, reporting or seeking justice for violence, abuse, or assault can be an uphill battle for survivors, and can be especially challenging for Black youth. Whether they are not believed, triggered or re-traumatized during the process, or unable to identify their perpetrator for fear of retaliation, they also often face age, race, and gender discrimination throughout the process. In order to combat this, at GGE we prioritize wellness and healing, and work to make sure survivors have the tools they need to move forward, which includes providing cash assistance.

Earlier this year, with a fund from the Abolishing Patriarchal Violence table from the national Movement for Black Lives organization, we were able to distribute microgrants of around \$2000 to 40 young survivors. These funds helped them leave abusive situations and environments, support their children and dependents,

financially support them as they detached themselves from unsafe situations, and provided them with tangible resources to reroot their lives in safety.

The tangible impact these small funds have is critical, but furthermore were the deep, emotional, and psychological impacts. By receiving this money, no questions asked and no strings attached, many of the survivors said they felt like they were finally believed. By receiving this money through a community organization and not through law enforcement or the legal system, many of the survivors felt they finally had the ability to process and to move on. One note we received after disbursing the funds said "When I got this money, I finally felt relieved of my burdens." Another said "I feel like I can finally start to heal, I can actually afford to seek mental health care, and nourish myself on that journey."

This was the impact of one time grants of only \$2000. We know the need for assistance has grown and we know that \$2000 is not nearly enough for the average person to find practical support, housing, and mental health care. We have to do much better.

People of color made up 90% of the recipients of the city microgrants. In order to end the epidemic and legacy of patriarchal violence within Black communities we must start by believing and supporting survivors- and the best way to do this is through providing funding. I urge the council to expand the reach and expand the depth of these grants. Thank you.



**New York City Council
Committee on Women & Gender Equity**

The Korean American Family Service Center

My name is Joann Kim, Assistant Director of Community Engagement at the Korean American Family Service Center. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to testify today and for your steadfast support of the Korean American Family Service Center (KAFSC). Since its inception in 1989, KAFSC has been unwavering in its commitment to preventing and ending domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse, all while providing culturally competent and linguistically appropriate services.

As a direct service organization dedicated to serving our vulnerable immigrant community, we understand the critical importance of our work. KAFSC has continuously been at the forefront of providing assistance to those affected by domestic and gender-based violence, anti-Asian hate crimes, and addressing the mental health needs of our AAPI community members.

However, we must acknowledge that the current landscape presents significant challenges, particularly when it comes to accessing resources for our immigrant community. The ENDGBV microgrants program, which offers broad-use, low-barrier funding for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence through Sanctuary For Families, has regrettably failed to adequately reach the immigrant community that needs it most.

In 2022 alone, KAFSC received 4,958 hotline calls, with a staggering 92% of them related to domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and trafficking. These callers were predominantly Asian American (95%), women (98%), immigrants (100%), and faced limited English proficiency (98%). Each year, over 3,000 individuals benefit from one or more of our services, with the majority hailing from Queens. The demand for our services across the organization has steadily increased.

Our immigrant survivors have lost their financial means, some temporarily, while others face permanent hardship, resulting in a loss of livelihood and the inability to support themselves and their children while escaping from the cycle of violence. All this, while grappling with the multifaceted trauma of gender-based violence and domestic violence.

We earnestly request an annual budget allocation for the microgrants. This funding is crucial to ensuring that survivors of domestic and gender-based violence within the immigrant community have access to emergency support. This funding will enable them to improve their mental health, enhance their sense of safety, maintain stable housing, and regain financial stability. Notably, 377 clients have already benefited from the microgrant program, demonstrating the urgent need for this funding.



KAFSC eagerly anticipates the opportunity to collaborate with the Council, this Committee, and our esteemed community partners to ensure the continuity of essential services, especially for immigrant survivors and their children.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter, and for your continued support of the Korean American Family Service Center.



moving victims of violence from crisis to confidence

October 25, 2023

New York City Council
Committee on Women and Gender Equity
Hon. Tiffany Cabán, Chair

**Testimony of Jimmy Meagher, Policy Director, Safe Horizon
On Res. 0165-2022 (Single Differential Bill)**

Good morning and thank you, Chair Cabán, for the opportunity to provide testimony before the Committee on Women and Gender Equity. My name is Jimmy Meagher, and I am Policy Director at Safe Horizon, the nation's largest non-profit victim services organization. Safe Horizon offers a client-centered, trauma-informed response to 250,000 New Yorkers each year who have experienced violence or abuse, and we acknowledge the many ways systemic racism impacts the lives of our clients and our staff.

My colleague has offered testimony about the survivor microgrant program, which is a critical resource for survivors and their families, but I'll be focusing my testimony on Res. 0165-2022, sponsored by Council Member Louis. This resolution calls for the New York State Legislature to pass A. 2583/S. 15 and for Governor Hochul to sign it into law. This critical legislation, sponsored by Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi and State Senator Andrew Gounardes, would greatly expand domestic violence shelter providers' ability to accommodate single adult survivors seeking shelter.

Across the State, but particularly in New York City, the emergency domestic violence shelter system was configured for families. Most rooms are designed to hold a family of two, three, or more. Single adults seeking safety in a domestic violence shelter, then, face significant obstacles in obtaining this life-saving resource.

Currently, the New York State Office for Children and Family Services (OCFS) reimburses non-profit domestic violence emergency shelter providers with a per-person, per-night rate. This reimbursement rate is intended to cover all costs associated with operating the shelter, including rent, utilities, staffing, insurance, and other programmatic costs. Any reduction in this reimbursement severely impacts a provider's ability to cover the operating costs of the shelter. OCFS says providers should downsize to accommodate singles, but providers cannot afford to do this in every case because of the way shelters are reimbursed. Domestic violence shelter providers face a major financial disincentive to downsize rooms intended for families to house single adults who are victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault. The current reimbursement structure makes it much more difficult for an individual survivor to access emergency shelter and the trauma-informed services available there. Faced with this obstacle, survivors might otherwise remain in unsafe situations as a result.

This is why we strongly support state legislation, A. 2583/S. 15, which would require New York State to preserve the full reimbursement rate for providers who "downsize" a room configured for a family of two to accommodate a single adult individual. Domestic violence shelter providers who accommodate a single adult in a room designed for two individuals would receive a differential to preserve the existing per diem reimbursement rate. By removing the financial barrier for domestic violence shelter providers to house single adults, the bill will give greater access to domestic violence shelter to single adult victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse, and trafficking who otherwise face considerable obstacles to accessing the shelter system.

Safe Horizon operates New York City's 24-hour domestic violence hotline. Our Hotline advocates offer personalized, non-judgmental support to survivors of domestic and gender-based violence and provide safety planning and information about local resources. Our Hotline is also the centralized intake for survivors seeking emergency domestic violence shelter in New York City. Each year, the biggest category of individuals seeking domestic violence shelter are single adults with no children.

In 2020, about 49% of our hotline callers seeking shelter placement were single adults with no children, but we were only able to link 31% of these callers to shelter. By comparison, 27% of our hotline callers were from families of two (typically a mother and one child), and we were able to link 74% of these callers to shelter. Keep in mind, these numbers only refer to callers being linked to a provider for that provider's own intake and assessment, not callers actually being accepted into shelter, which is data Safe Horizon doesn't have access to.

In 2021, 31% of single clients who requested shelter were ultimately linked to shelter. In contrast, 76% of clients with 1 child, 78% of clients with 2 children, 73% of clients with 3 children, and 71% of clients with 4 or more children were ultimately linked to shelter. Whereas we had seen stability in percentages of clients linked to shelter across 2019-2021, 2022 data indicates it has gotten harder for families of all sizes to get linked to shelter, but single adults remain the hardest to link. Only 22% of single clients were linked to shelter in 2022, down from 31% in 2021.

So far in 2023, 18% of single clients who requested shelter were ultimately linked to shelter – down again from 2022, and significantly lower than in 2019-2021. In contrast, 71% of clients with 1 child, 66% of clients with 2 children, 57% of clients with 3 children, and 51% of clients with 4 or more children were ultimately linked to shelter. Since 2022, when it was harder for families of all sizes to access shelter, linkages for families with 1 or 2 children have started to recover, while linkages for singles and larger families have continued to drop.

By giving shelter providers greater financial flexibility to downsize a room meant for two people to accommodate a single adult, organizations will have increased capacity to shelter single adult survivors of domestic violence, trafficking, and sexual assault. Based on our data, this disproportionately impacts LGBTQ+ survivors, male survivors, and survivors with adult children (and are seeking to access shelter on their own).

This is a commonsense solution to a problem that continues to worsen. We urge the Council to pass Council Member Louis' resolution, the Legislature to pass A. 2583/S.15, and Governor Hochul to sign it into law.

October 25, 2023

New York City Council
Committee on Women and Gender Equity
Hon. Tiffany Cabán, Chair

**Testimony of Anyilis Soto, Economic Empowerment Specialist, Safe Horizon
On The Survivor Microgrant Program**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony to the Committee on Women and Gender Equity. My name is Anyilis Soto, and I am one of the Economic Empowerment Specialists at Safe Horizon, the nation's largest non-profit victim services organization. Safe Horizon offers a trauma-informed, client-centered response to more than 250,000 New Yorkers each year who have experienced violence or abuse. We use a lens of racial equity to guide our work with clients, with each other, and in developing the public positions we hold.

Safe Horizon is grateful to Council Member Cabán and her colleagues for establishing the survivor microgrant program in 2022 and for ensuring that funding for the program was allocated in the FY24 budget. Still, the \$1.2 million allocation is not nearly enough. We implore the city to add an additional \$4.8 million to total \$6 million for this crucial program.

I share my testimony to highlight the importance of New York City's microgrant program. Small amounts of money add up. One "minor" expense can often be what stands in the way of a survivor of domestic and gender-based violence from reaching economic stability, securing housing, and becoming part of a functional community.

In their efforts to survive and ensure the safety and well-being of themselves and their dependents, many times survivors have no option but to rely on credit cards for essential expenses. Credit card debt lowers their credit score, which in turn prevents them from being able to obtain an apartment. In reality, this often means an extended and costly shelter stay. While there are public benefits programs like cash assistance and the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), these programs often provide not enough money and come with incredible bureaucracy. Additionally, these programs have recently been taking an average of two to three months longer to get approved. In the meantime, survivors have no alternatives but to accrue credit card debt. Some of the most necessary forms of expenditures are:

1. Basic Necessities: credit cards are utilized to purchase food, clothing, transportation, and other essential items for daily survival.
2. Communication: credit cards are relied on to pay for phone-related expenses.
3. Medical Expenses: credit cards are utilized to pay for medical bills resulting from injuries sustained during domestic violence.

It is essential to note that these credit card expenditures are incurred out of necessity, as there is no other means of covering these critical, yet small expenses. Not having the necessary funds makes financial recovery more difficult and costly.

In September, I met with a domestic violence survivor who has a credit card debt of \$2,943. This debt resulted from purchases of basic necessities, items for survival. While she waits for her delayed public assistance case to be approved, she has no other option than to continue utilizing her credit card, putting her further into debt.

In conclusion, domestic and gender-based violence survivors need to be granted the necessary funding to be able to prevent homelessness or prolonged costly shelter stays. Survival spending is preventing survivors from reaching financial stability.

We respectfully ask the committee to consider fully funding the Microgrant Program to the full \$6 million. Making these funds available would be a crucial step in supporting survivors' recovery and healing, which can provide a financial lifeline and empower survivors to regain control over their lives.

Thank you for your time.

October 25, 2023

New York City Council
Committee on Women and Gender Equity
Hon. Tiffany Cabán, Chair

**Testimony of blair doroshwalther, Program Manager of Economic Empowerment,
Safe Horizon
On The Survivor Microgrant Program**

Good morning. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony before the Committee on Women and Gender Equity. My name is blair doroshwalther, and I am the Manager of Economic Empowerment at Safe Horizon, the nation's largest non-profit victim services organization. Safe Horizon offers a client-centered, trauma-informed response to 250,000 New Yorkers each year who have experienced violence or abuse. We use a lens of racial equity to guide our work with clients, with each other, and in developing the public positions we hold.

Safe Horizon is grateful to Council Member Cabán and her colleagues for establishing the survivor microgrant program in 2022 and for ensuring that funding for the program was allocated in the FY24 budget. Still, the \$1.2 million allocation is not nearly enough. We, alongside other organizations that work with survivors, support adding an additional \$4.8 million to the already allocated \$1.2 million, totaling \$6 million, for this potentially life-changing microgrant program. \$6 million dollars would provide \$2,000 to over 2,500 survivor-led households.

We know that survivor microgrant programs work. The Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) successfully launched an Emergency Financial Relief Microgrant Program in 2020 at the height of the pandemic and assisted 377 survivors. The follow-up reporting from this microgrant program was overwhelmingly positive. In fact, roughly 40% of service providers reported that microgrants helped survivors they worked with maintain stable housing and improve their financial stability.¹ And, unsurprisingly, over half of the impacted survivors and their children reported feeling safer.

Microgrants are important and address an historic need for domestic violence and gender-based violence (DV/GBV) survivors to obtain safe housing and economic independence. DV/GBV is the leading cause of family homelessness in New York City. Economic abuse, which disproportionately impacts survivors from marginalized communities with historically limited resources and access to wealth, affects 99% of all domestic violence survivors and is one of the

¹ *Evaluation Summary Report: Emergency Financial Relief Microgrants Program for Survivors of Domestic and Gender-Based Violence*, NYC Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender Based Violence, May 2021, <https://www.nyc.gov/assets/ocdv/downloads/pdf/Emergency-Financial-Relief-Microgrants-Program-Evaluation-Summary-Report.pdf>

leading reasons a survivor stays in an abusive relationship.² Roughly eight in ten survivors identified lacking sufficient funds as the reason they stay with an abusive partner.³ Economic abuse is also a leading reason it is so difficult for a survivor of DV/GBV to gain financial independence and stability. Financial and housing insecurities last long after a survivor flees their home and can even last a lifetime.

I'd like to share the story of a survivor I recently worked with. We reviewed her credit report, which reflected that she had one credit card, two utility bills, and a student loan. According to her credit history, she paid each bill on time, in full every month. It wasn't until the final episode of violence after which she fled the abusive party that she became unable to make monthly payments. By the time she entered one of our shelters, her credit score had plummeted. Now, she is searching for housing but has been turned down due to a poor credit score. She was also working full-time until the person causing her harm began to stalk her at work. She was summarily let go. She is now looking for work, but she has been unsuccessful so far. She had to drop out of school as she was no longer able to consistently go to class or complete assignments. This survivor, like so many others, could greatly benefit from a \$2,000 microgrant. She could pay off her utility debt in collections, which would improve her credit score. She could stop using her already overly used credit card for survival spending. She could nearly pay off her credit card debt. Or, with \$2,000, she would be able to afford basic necessities. \$2,000 would have an immediate impact on her life. Without some form of cash funding or immediate employment, she is in danger of falling so far behind on her bills that it will take many years to recover. This will hinder her ability to secure safe housing. If her basic needs were met, she might also be able to start her college courses again, ensuring that her student loan debt isn't in vain.

This client prioritized surviving and fleeing an abusive relationship. Now she suffers from the crush of debt caused by domestic violence and economic abuse. Because many domestic violence survivors flee with little or nothing, they are often left without documentation to prove they are a survivor. Lack of documentation or "proof" can oftentimes exclude survivors from some existing funding sources. Institutions often don't take economic abuse into consideration when focusing on housing subsidies and other supports. Domestic violence and gender-based violence survivors can remain in debt for years if not the rest of their lives.

FreeFrom, a domestic violence services agency in California, provides flexible funding to survivors. According to their last report, 49% of survivors spent this money on credit or debt relief and 66% spent it on rent or mortgage assistance.⁴ To maintain safe and affordable housing, survivors need economic independence. An easily accessible microgrant could provide funding for a survivor to begin creating that foundation for stability. Additionally, grants have historically been proven to increase housing stability, safety, and well-being. New York City's 2020 microgrant program found that nearly 50% of survivors who received a microgrant reported that their mental health had improved.

² Laura Johnson, Yafan Chen, Amanda Stylianou, Alexander Arnold, *Examining the Impact of Economic Abuse on Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence: a scoping review*, National Institute of Health, May 2022, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9121607/>

³ 2018 National Poll on Domestic Violence and Financial Abuse, Allstate Foundation, https://allstatefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/2018-Research-Deck_Final.pdf

⁴ *Support Every Survivor: How Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Sexuality, and Disability Shape Survivors' Experiences and Needs*, FreeFrom, 2020, <https://www.freefrom.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Support-Every-Survivor-PDF.pdf>

Safe Horizon strongly supports adding an additional \$4.8 million in funding for the survivor microgrant program to expand the program's reach and allow more survivors to feel safe, obtain or maintain permanent housing, and begin their journey toward economic stability and recovery.

Thank you for your time, and I am happy to answer any additional questions.



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**Written Testimony
submitted to The New York City Council
Committee on Women & Gender Equity
*October 25, 2023***

Sanctuary for Families is submitting this written testimony in response to the October 25, 2023 oversight hearing by the Committee on Women and Gender Equity on “Microgrants for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence”. Sanctuary is grateful to the Council for passing Local Law 22 the prior year—creating the Housing Stability Support Program to provide these grants—and for the \$1.2 Million in funding in FY24.

As New York City’s largest provider of wrap-around services for survivors of domestic violence, trafficking, sexual assault, and related forms of gender-based violence, Sanctuary for Families was designated to administer the initial, privately-funded microgrant program during the COVID-19 pandemic, in partnership with the Mayor’s Office to End Domestic & Gender-Based Violence, beginning in July 2020. We were pleased to have this opportunity to address some of the most urgent financial needs of abuse survivors, exacerbated greatly by the pandemic, and to participate in a first-if-its-kind citywide microgrant initiative. In less than six months, Sanctuary distributed \$468,750 in financial grants to 377 clients from 41 victim service agencies citywide, with grants averaging approximately \$1,250. Grant requests were received from large, citywide providers such as Urban Resource Institute and Safe Horizon, as well as many from smaller community-based organizations —such as Garden of Hope and Sauti Yetu.

We know the microgrant program was a lifeline for scores of abuse survivors. Even these modest grants helped many remain housed/avoid eviction, and a significant percentage of clients reported feeling safer and improved mental health as a result of the grants. Nearly a third of all grants were used for rent, and approximately 30% for purchase of technology such as laptops (a critical need for communication, employment, and school amidst pandemic lockdowns), and smaller percentages for furniture for new apartments, utilities, food and basic needs, and childcare. The

program also reached a diverse array of individuals and families—90% BIPOC (including 40% Latinx, 32% Black, 13% Asian), 65% immigrants, and 95% low-income or living in poverty. The original program, unfortunately, reached very few LGBTQIA+ survivors, and we know the city is committed to addressing this imbalance in the new program.

As invaluable as the microgrant program was for many abuse survivors across the city, there were significant implementation challenges: as several other service providers testified in person on October 25, a lengthy grant application and extensive documentation were required to gain approval, and then requested items would be purchased directly by Sanctuary, payment made to a vendor (such as a landlord), or the applicant service provider would purchase the item and then submit receipts to Sanctuary for reimbursement. In the span of less than six months, Sanctuary fielded 693 applications from over 40 different service providers and disbursed grants that helped 377 individuals and families with emergency needs. Many Sanctuary administrative and finance staff had to be enlisted in the complex, time-consuming process of reviewing, approving, and disbursing these grants—and there was frequent communication with applicant service providers to request additional information when applications were incomplete or unclear. The burdensome administrative process slowed down the processing of grants considerably, far from ideal in the distribution of urgently needed cash assistance.

In fact, the grants were ultimately not grounded in the trust-based philosophy of low-barrier grants. Sanctuary and other service providers do not generally have administrative staff capacity to place hundreds of custom orders for furniture, clothing, or personal care items—and this should be an unnecessary step in a truly low-barrier grant model, where it would be acceptable to give clients direct cash assistance and let them fulfill their financial needs themselves (see the excellent, well-documented March 2021 report on this topic by Free From, [Trust Survivors: Building an Effective and Inclusive Cash Assistance Program](#)). Survivors know best what their most pressing financial needs are and how to address them. As one survivor quoted in the Free From report powerfully stated, “I would hope that [my] representatives acknowledge that most survivors already deal with financial abuse and control as to how we can or should spend our money. They should take the opportunity to support us and give us the freedom and trust us to use the help the best way that we can.”

While the new microgrant program has yet to be implemented, we understand that a much more streamlined process will be utilized for the approval and distribution of grants. We strongly

recommend that grants be paid directly to abuse survivors rather than third parties, to ease the administrative burden on any agency distributing the grants: but more importantly, to demonstrate the trust that should be the foundation of this type of financial assistance. We also urge the city to increase the funding level of this program to \$6 million, the original requested amount. When the program was initially announced a year ago, Mayor Adams expressed his commitment to this “fully funding” this program, and the \$1.2 million allocated falls far short of what experienced domestic violence policy analysts recommended.

With \$6 million, the City could reach 2,550 households at an average of \$2,000/household. These households account for more than 50% of the families and single adult survivors in shelter on any given night in NYC—though it is crucial that these grants not be only designated towards survivors living in shelters, understanding that some survivors are not able to access shelter, or not feel as if shelter is the best option for them. We are aware of the significant budget challenges the City is confronting, but this is a relatively modest amount that we know can make such an outsized impact on the lives of abuse survivors living in poverty. Research also shows that supporting survivors in this way—and allowing them to get safe and/or stabilized in the ways that they know best—can prevent significantly higher public costs in the future, from law enforcement, shelter, and medical costs related to recurrence of domestic violence; to housing and relocation costs resulting from eviction.

On behalf of Sanctuary for Families and the thousands of abuse survivors we serve each year, we express our profound gratitude to Council Member Cabán—for sponsoring and advocating for the successful passage of the Support Survivors Act this year, and then for following up to ensure adequate funding and effective, timely implementation for this program. Our thanks also to all of the members of the Committee on Women & Gender Equity for calling this hearing to shed light on this vital program, and the need to get it up and running as soon as possible.



Support Survivors Funding City Council Testimony

Teal Inzunza, LMSW

October 25, 2023

Good afternoon, Chair Cabán. My name is Teal Inzunza. I am the Program Director of the Economic Empowerment Program at the Urban Resource Institute (URI). I also co-chair a citywide taskforce called the Domestic Violence and Economic Justice Taskforce, which is composed of advocates from around NYC. I am thankful for the opportunity to testify before you and share why the Support Survivors microgrants are essential for survivor safety in NYC.

URI is grateful to the New York Council for advocating to include the Support Survivors microgrant program in this year's budget. While advocates requested \$6 million to fully fund the program, only \$1.2 million was allocated. At \$1.2 million, the program will only be able to provide \$2,000 grants to 600 survivors. An infusion of \$6 million would ensure that 2,250 survivors received at least \$2000 in essential direct cash assistance. Just for reference, there are over 4,100 households in domestic violence shelters on any given night; even with \$6 million, only half of all households in shelter would be able to access this vital program. This does not even account for the hundreds of survivors that are still residing with their abusive partner or those that are unable to access shelter. \$1.2 million is simply not enough to meet the need.

It is important to understand that experiencing domestic or gender-based violence is extremely costly for survivors. In a [survey conducted by Free From](#), survivors overwhelmingly stated that direct cash assistance was their most urgent need to find safety. In this national survey, Free Form found that on average, survivors needed \$730 to manage their urgent safety needs. NYC is the most expensive city in the US and we as advocates know that the cost of safety is much higher here than in other places in the country.

It is vital that a survivor's ability to access this funding is not tied to whether a survivor is 1) in shelter, 2) has dependents 3) is documented, or 4) has an open public assistance case. Nearly all of New York City's direct cash assistance programs have had one or more of these restrictions, which has left many of the most vulnerable survivors unable to access support.

I have worked with survivors who have said that the small amount of money programs like Support Survivors provide could mean that they could move out of shelter and into a home or would not be forced to spend another night with their abusive partner or on the street or subway.

While the cost to the City to fully fund this program is \$6 million, the cost to survivors who do not have access to direct cash assistance is often deadly. Survivor's needs are often urgent and high stakes. Funding the Support Survivor microgrant program and ensuring that it quickly and efficiently implemented is crucial for survivor safety.

Thank you.

YWCA of Kalamazoo
353 E. Michigan Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49007



October 17, 2023

Chair Cabán, and members of the Committee on Women and Gender Equity:

YWCA Kalamazoo Support of New York City Survivor Microgrant Program

YWCA Kalamazoo strongly supports the New York City Council's legislation that established a microgrant program to support survivors of domestic and gender-based violence. We applaud the initial funding of \$1.2 million for this pioneering effort and encourage the City to further fund this program.

As an organization with a mission of eliminating racism and empowering women, YWCA Kalamazoo, based in West Michigan, knows firsthand the immense barriers faced by survivors of gender-based violence. At YWCA Kalamazoo we operate an emergency shelter and provide many other services for survivors in our community. Financial insecurity is a major obstacle to safely leaving an abusive relationship. Small, flexible grants with low barriers to access, like the one being launched in New York City, can be lifesaving.

The New York City microgrant program is paving the way for other cities and communities to follow suit. Seeing the strong advocacy for this program in New York City, including calls to increase funding to \$6 million and protect it from budget cuts, inspires our own efforts here in Kalamazoo. We hope to model advocacy and legislation off of New York City's example as we push for similar flexible, accessible grant programs for survivors in our city and state.

We urge the Council to continue supporting survivor-centered programs, maximizing accessibility, and ensuring grants are available to all. As this program launches and evolves, it will set precedents across the country. An investment in resources such as these microgrants creates long-term savings by providing stability that helps survivors safely transition to independence.

YWCA Kalamazoo looks forward to the impact of the City's microgrant program on survivors in New York City. We also look forward to the influence it will have on spurring increased investment in supportive services for survivors nationwide. For this reason we strongly support the Council's efforts to implement and strengthen this program! We thank the Council for your leadership on this issue and the framework it sets for us all across the country in our own local communities.

Daniel Hamilton
Director of Public Policy
dhamilton@ywcakalamazoo.org

Testimony by Evie Litwok, Executive Director of Witness to Mass Incarceration

Incarcerated women are 30 times more likely to be raped than free women. In 2003, the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by Congress with the intent to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse in confinement. The passage of this Act spearheaded the development of national standards to prevent incidents of sexual violence in prison. These 50+ standards include specific guidance on protecting the most vulnerable population in prison—LGBTQ+ incarcerated people. Nine years later, in 2012, the final rule on the standards became effective. However, today, 20 years since PREA was passed by Congress, sexual violence has in confinement continues **to exist**, indicating PREA standards and monitoring is not working to deter sexual violence.

Witness to Mass Incarceration (WITNESS) is committed to eliminating sexual violence in confinement because there is no #MeToo Movement Behind Bars. WITNESS is creating a Hotline as one avenue for formerly incarcerated people to report sexual violence and receive support without fear of retaliation. PREA standards 115.51 (Inmate reporting)-115.54 (access to outside confidential support services) requires the agency to create a robust reporting culture that ensures there is an easily accessible mechanism for people inside to report sexual abuse and for people outside of confinement to report sexual abuse and assault on their behalf.

In 2018,19, WITNESS was funded by the National PREA Resource Center to convene 10 LGBTI survivors of sexual violence. We produced a report entitled *Sexual Violence Against LGBTI People in Confinement: There is No #MeToo Movement Behind Bars* was produced by the Witness to Mass Incarceration organization through a grant received from the National PREA Resource Center (PRC) and funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) within the US Department of Justice.

https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/Witness_Sexual%20Violence%20Against%20LGBTI%20People%20in%20Confinement%20-%20Revised%20October2019.pdf

Two of our recommendations include:

Retaliation and Accountability: Retaliation is the single most contributing factor in deterring incarcerated people from reporting sexual abuse. There is no standard of accountability developed at the federal, state, or city level to ensure compliance and eliminate retaliation. In order to combat this issue, prisons must reward and recognize officers who are willing to facilitate reporting and ensure protection to those who report to create system-wide accountability.

Rates of Unsubstantiated and Unfounded Reporting: Reports of sexual abuse in prison are deemed unsubstantiated at a drastically high rate. National data shows that only 12% of allegations made in confinement are substantiated.¹ In Texas, the Trans Pride Initiative's report *The Myth of PREA Zero Tolerance in Texas Prisons* reports that of the 1,567 complaints filed only 13 were deemed substantiated—a rate of just 0.83%.² In comparison, rates of false allegations outside of prisons are estimated to range from 2% to 10%, indicating “an estimated 90% to 98% of all allegations can be expected to be true.”³ It is not possible for such a large number of complaints by incarcerated people—an extremely at-risk population—to be false.

We recommend ending the practice of prison officials being the sole party responsible for determining the veracity of sexual assault claims. No complaint should be eliminated by the officials who work in the prison, and all complaints should be considered true. We recommend an independent and impartial group investigate all PREA allegations.

These were some of the suggestions we made several years ago. Today, there is still little reporting inside prison.

Our project, will do what PREA could not do- **prevent, detect** and **respond** to sexual violence in confinement. We will build upon our Witness Network (WN) cohort of formerly incarcerated survivors of sexual violence. Our WN cohort heals by talking together about shared experiences of sexual harassment, abuse and assault. We deal with the trauma they face or observe inside, to build leadership of formerly incarcerated

women and LGBTQ+ survivors of sexual violence, to have communities hear about their experiences in order to build up support from the general public on this issue.

We will have a WITNESS Hotline for formerly incarcerated people because we believe they will be the ones to provide more accurate statistics on the severity of sexual violence in NYC jails. The WITNESS hotline will also get calls from women who live in NYC but were incarcerated in upstate NY prisons or with the FEDS.

In order to truly **prevent, detect** and **respond** to this problem, we must take over where the Department of Justice and the National PREA Resource Center fail. Successful implementation of this strategy requires three full-time staff people--one to **respond** to the trauma by creating additional Witness Network cohorts, the second to run the Witness Hotline to **detect** the problem, and the third is to **prevent** sexual violence by preparing legislation needed to fix the original bill.

Testimony by Evie Litwok, Executive Director of Witness to Mass Incarceration

I am a formerly incarcerated Jewish lesbian and the child of two survivors of the Holocaust. These intersections impacted me during my time at two federal women's facilities and in solitary confinement.

Following my release from prison in 2014, I remained homeless and penniless for 16 months. However, this did not stop me from testifying to the FBI and others about the sexual harassment, abuse and assault I experienced and saw first-hand during my incarceration.

Within an hour of being in prison and during my first intake interview, the officer was flirting with me. I looked at him and said “Why are you flirting with me? He said “ I like it”. I said, I’m old... what do you want with me? He said, “I like old”. I said, "I'm a lesbian”. He said. “Well that is even better”

Most of the women I was incarcerated with were mothers. One officer used to target them. I was standing near him when I heard him speaking with her. “Do you want to see your children this weekend? Puzzled, she answered, “Of course I do”. He said, “then I want a blow job.” And she had to do it or risk being put into solitary or transferred.

WITNESS works on eliminating sexual violence in confinement because there is no #metoo movement behind the walls. I am here today to speak for the women and LGBTQIA2S people who are incarcerated and without a voice. Most of the women targeted are already survivors of domestic violence, something which each officer knows from the Pre-Sentencing Report.

Incarcerated women are 30 times more likely to be raped than free women. In 2003, the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed by Congress with the intent to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse in confinement.

However, on this, 20th anniversary of the passage of PREA , sexual violence in confinement continues **to exist**, indicating PREA standards and its auditor monitoring is not working to deter sexual violence.

I've been invited to Washington DC to attend PREA's celebration of its 20 year anniversary. I sit in listening sessions with the BOP (Bureau of Prisons) where most of the session is an infomercial for PREA's success. And when they telling the formerly incarcerated on the call that their new survey shows that sexual violence is not a probelm anymore, I politicly interrupt the speaker and say “ that is no possible. Not unless you're measuring prisons on the moon.”

Sexual violence in the NYC jail system is a problem. People inside cannot report sexual violence. This leads to trauma of the rape, trauma from the threat of no reporting and trauma we come home with - IN NYC formerly incarcerated women and LGBQIA2S people are disproportionately traumatized from all of this and for being asked to rebuild their lives with trauma and no access to reasonable resources. We need to help FIP women who are traumatized. And we have to get a better assessment of the severity of sexual violence in confinement

In 2018,19, WITNESS was funded by the National PREA Resource Center and the Bureau of Justice Statistics to convene 10 formerly incarcerated LGBTI survivors of sexual violence in a 16 week leadership development curriculum. We collectively produced a report I included in this testimony.

https://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/Witness_Sexual%20Violence%20Against%20LGBTI%20People%20in%20Confinement%20-%20Revised%20October2019.pdf

We collectively spent a combined 924 months, totalling 77 years, in 63 correctional facilities- primarily jails and prison- giving us a great deal of experience with how PREA doesn't work.

NYC has more than 8 plus million people with 2 million being justice -impacted. The trauma we come home with impacts not only us and everything we do, but also our family, friends and community. You don't get over being raped in prison... and the combinations of incarceration and rape leads to trauma which is almost never dealt with...

We need funding to help with this problem.

In order to truly **prevent, detect** and **respond** to this problem, we must take over where the Department of Justice and the National PREA Resource Center fail.

Successful implementation of this strategy requires three full-time staff people--one to **respond** to the trauma, the second to run the Witness Hotline to **detect** the problem, and the third is to **prevent** sexual violence by preparing amendments needed to fix the original bill.

Evie Litwok

evie@witnessstomassincarceration.org

Thank you for the opportunity to give my testimony at this hearing. My name is Michelle Bennett, and I am a survivor of domestic violence. I am also apart of ENDGV Voices Committee and New Destiny's Survivors Voices Project to bring awareness to other survivors.

I am a parent of one and my abuser is his father. He brought both my child and me to the United States promising that we get married. The wedding was to be less than two weeks upon my arrival into the United States. I had no say with anyone, and he never show up for the wedding. I was abuse emotionally, psychologically, sexually, and financially.

This person even put out both my child and I out of the apartment, knowing I had nowhere to go. That's when I ended up in shelter. Now I am in my own apartment, but as soon as I moved to my apartment, HRA decided to close my Cash Assistance case. Because of this my rent has not been paid from since June. I have been all over the place trying to resolve this issue, but I have just been given the runaround. Even up to this day, I am still working on it. I am stuck. I can't work because of my immigration status, without a work permit I cannot work. So, I decided to go to school and hope that by the time my U Visa is granted I have more skills to start a career.

Public Assistance is hard to maintain. I even had three tickets from the MTA because I couldn't afford to buy a metro card. I had to pay the MTA \$300. If my child needed pants, shoes, anything, I simply can't afford it.

I fear losing my apartment. Stability is important especially for children. I pay a portion of the rent from the child support that I receive. I will have to pay a bigger portion in rent because the child support is my form of income. This program would be a life safer. I am pledging that you take this in consideration. This will help us, survivors, a lot. I appreciate the time for have and allowing me my testimony. Thank you.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/25/2023

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Kristen Shaw

Address: P.O. Box 2379 NYC 10008

I represent: NYC Alliance Against Sexual Assault

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 0105 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/25/23

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Ellie Downs

Address: Sackett St Brooklyn, NY 11217

I represent: Girls for Gender Equity

Address: 25 Chapel St Brooklyn, NY 11223

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 165

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jimmy Meagher (pronounced Mar)

Address: _____

I represent: Safe Horizon

Address: 2 Lafayette St NY NY 10007

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/25/2023

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: blair doroshwalther

Address: 2 Lafayette

I represent: Safe Horizon

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/25/23

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: JOANN KIM

Address: _____

I represent: KOREAN AMERICAN FAMILY SERVICE CENTER

Address: PO BOX 541429, FLUSHING, NY, 11354

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/25/23

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: GABRIELA SANDOVAL PERUENA

Address: _____

I represent: NEW DESTINY

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 0165
 in favor in opposition

Date: October 25, 2023

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Stephanie Woodbine

Address: 149th Avenue 10422

I represent: New Destiny Survivors Voices Project

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 0165
 in favor in opposition

Date: 10/23/2023

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Danica Espinal

Address: _____

I represent: New Destiny Survivor Voices Project

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Teal Inzunza

Address: BROOKLYN NY 11226

I represent: Urban Resource Institute

Address: 211e 43rd St, NY, NY 10017

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Mari Moss

Address: homeless

I represent: Mothers Separated from children and made homeless

Address: homeless

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/25/2023

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: SALONI SETHI, FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Address: _____

I represent: MAYOR'S OFFICE TO END DOMESTIC AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Address: 253 BROADWAY, 4TH FLOOR

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10-25-2023

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jamal Alsarraj

Address: _____

I represent: Mayer's office to End Domestic & GE. Violence

Address: 253 Broadway, 4th Floor, New York NY

◆ Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms ◆

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10.25.23

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: EVIE CITWOK

Address: 71st ST

I represent: WITNESS TO MRS INCARCERATED

Address: 71st ST NY NY 10023

◆ Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms ◆