



Department of Justice

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OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AWARDS OVER \$1 MILLION FOR QUEENS FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) today announced that it has awarded the Borough of Queens \$1.1 million to help support the Queens Family Justice Center. Modeled after the Family Justice Center pilot initiative announced by President George W. Bush in October 2003, the Queens Family Justice Center will provide co-located, multi-disciplinary services for victims of family violence and their children. The announcement was made during the opening ceremony of the center with officials, community leaders and residents in attendance.

“Responding to the complex and immediate needs of victims in the community is an important and vital part of the healing process,” said Cindy Dyer, Director of OVW. “The co-location of services, like those in the Queens Family Justice Center, makes a victim’s search for help and justice more efficient by bringing together professionals who provide an array of services under one roof.”

In addition to creating a Family Justice Center, the award continues a long-standing tradition of Queens County’s collaborative work with its victim service partner Safe Horizon and the Office of the Queens County District Attorney to enhance services for domestic violence victims. These services may include criminal justice advocacy, civil legal assistance, culturally and linguistically specific services, and access to police, prosecutors, medical facilities and social services.

More information about the Family Justice Center initiative is located at <http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/pfjci.htm>.

The Office on Violence Against Women provides leadership in developing the nation’s capacity to reduce violence against women through the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act and subsequent legislation. Created in 1995, OVW administers financial and technical assistance to communities across the country that are developing programs, policies and practices aimed at ending domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. In addition to overseeing 12 federal grant programs, OVW often undertakes initiatives in response to areas of special need, dedicating resources to develop enhancements in areas requiring

particular attention or in communities facing particularly acute challenges. More information is available at www.ovw.usdoj.gov .

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