

## EGSCF INDUSTRY LEADER STORY

### STEPS TO END FAMILY VIOLENCE - TEEN ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM (TAP)

Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families is pleased to announce that our STEPS Teen Accountability Program (TAP) has been selected to participate on a panel presentation at the 13<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Domestic Violence celebrating the 30th Anniversary Celebration of the NCADV to discuss, *Building Grassroots Leadership for Social Justice*.

The TAPP Workshop “**Youthful Offender Domestic Violence Courts: Can A Court Help Break the Cycle?**” was selected from nearly 250 proposals nationwide. This workshop presents a model for how communities can come together to create change within the criminal justice system. The YODVC court was created through the collaboration of victim advocates, prosecutors, defense bar, and youth advocates who envisioned a better response to teen dating violence.

At the Conference, the workshop will discuss key issues of teen dating violence, the court system’s response to teen safety and offender accountability. It will be led by Hon. Miriam Cyrulnik, presiding Judge of the Brooklyn Youthful Offender Dating Violence Court (YODVC); Ms. Carol Grannum, STEPS to End Family Violence Facilitator of the Teen Accountability Program; the Teen Dating Violence Program at the Kings County District Attorney's Office and Center for Court Innovation (CCI).

Since the inception of the YODVC court, STEPS has continued to work closely with the court system and CCI and runs the only teen accountability program for males in New York City.

\* The Conference will be held on July 18 – 23, 2008 in Washington D.C.

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### **STEPS TO END FAMILY VIOLENCE HRA RELATIONSHIP ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM (RAPP)**

- Rishauna Zumberg, RAPP Coordinator, from Manhattan Center HS of Sciences and Math, was invited in March by HRA to speak on a panel of accomplished women in the domestic violence field to celebrate Women's History Month. The women spoke of their contributions to the women's movement and the services and awareness that now currently exists.
- RAPP Coordinators from the STEPS Program Brandeis and Marta Valle RAPP schools selected two Peer Leaders to participate in presentations on "Teen Relationship Abuse 101". The presentation was given to sixth graders at the Merrick Academy, a Queen's, N.Y., public charter school, creating a successful and informative collaborative effort.

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### **STEPS TO END FAMILY VIOLENCE**

The STEPS Program is working with other NYC agencies, corporations and government institutions to assemble the first Teen Dating Violence Prevention Conference in over a decade. The Conference will be held in February 2009, and will coincide with “National Teen Dating Violence Prevention Week.”