

SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA) STATEMENT

THE TOWN OF YORKTOWN HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM (YORKTOWN) PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO ANY CHILD OR ADULT VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV), DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT OR STALKING.

ACTING AS A RESOURCE CENTER FOR COUNTY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE AS WELL ASSISTED FAMILIES, YORKTOWN CONNECTS FAMILIES WITH SERVICE PROVIDERS THAT CAN HELP FAMILIES TO AVOID BECOMING A VICTIM, ACCESS IMMEDIATE SERVICES IN A CRISIS OR AS A RESULT OF AN OCCURANCE, OBTAIN OR MAINTAIN HOUSING AND ENHANCE VICTIM SAFETY.

AS A MEMBER OF THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY URBAN CONSORTIUM, YORKTOWN REFERS FAMILIES TO THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY OFFICE FOR WOMEN, WHOM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FOURTEEN COUNTY AGENCIES, NOT FOR PROFITS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS, PROVIDE INFORMATION, COUNSELING AND SHELTER SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS.

ADDITIONALLY, THE OFFICE OF WOMEN IS A PARTNER IN THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY FAMILY JUSTICE (FJC) COLLABORATIVE, WHICH IS LOCATED COUNTY COURT COMPLEX WHICH PROVIDES A SAFE PLACE WHERE VICTIMS CAN TALK WITH A COUNSELOR, GET LEGAL HELP SUCH AS OBTAINING AN ORDER OF PROTECTION AND CHILD SUPPORT, LEARN ABOUT MAKING A SAFETY PLAN, FIND OUT ABOUT DV SHELTER SERVICES, ACCESS PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, IN ADDITION TO OTHER SERVICES FREE OF CHARGE.

THE FJC INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS:

- WESTCHESTER COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
- HOPE'S DOOR
- MY SISTER'S PLACE
- VICTIM ASSISTANCE SERVICES OF WESTCOP
- PACE WOMEN'S JUSTICE CENTER
- LEGAL SERVICES OF THE HUDSON VALLEY
- WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
- WESTCHESTER COUNTY CHIEF OF POLICE ASSOCIATION

YORKTOWN PROVIDES ALL APPLICANTS/PARTICIPANTS WITH A VAWA NOTICE REGARDING THEIR RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS AND FORM HUD-50066-CERTIFICATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE OR STALKING AT INITIAL BRIEFING AND AT REEXAMINATION. ALL OWNERS ARE PROVIDED A VAWA NOTICE AT TIME OF REQUEST FOR TENANCY APPROVAL SUBMISSION FOR INITIAL LEASE UP OR MOVES WITH CONTINUED ASSISTANCE. VAWA LEASE ADDENDUM IS ATTACHED TO ALL LEASES. BOTH NOTICES ARE POSTED ON YORKTOWN'S WEBSITE.

Karren H. Perez
Program Director