



The  
**Gateway Center**  
FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

September 21, 2011

To: Commissioner Dan Saltzman  
From: Martha Strawn Morris, Director

Subject: Accept the Report on One Year of Operation of the  
Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services

In October of 2009, the City of Portland entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Multnomah County to jointly support the Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services.

In accordance with the Intergovernmental Agreement with Multnomah County, members of the Gateway Center Advisory Council, in conjunction with the Director of the Center, shall report annually to both the City and County Commissioners.

The Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services brings together at one-site community-based victim services, criminal justice services and civil legal assistance. The Center is an easily accessible, safe, and welcoming, offering victim's of domestic violence access to resources to ensure their safety and help them to address their own and their children's immediate and longer term needs.

The Gateway Center began operations in September of 2010. In its first year of operation the Center has served more than 2,000 individual victims of domestic violence.

We recommend that Council accept the report.

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'MS' followed by a flourish.

Martha Strawn Morris  
Gateway Center

**TO THE COUNCIL**

Commissioner Saltzman concurs with the report of the Gateway Center Advisory Council  
and

**RECOMMENDS**

That the Council accept the report.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Saltzman'.

Commissioner Dan Saltzman



# The Gateway Center

FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

## Report to Portland City Council

October 5, 2011

### The Numbers (Year 1)

Unduplicated Participants.....	2030
Unduplicated Children Served in Childcare.....	750
Total Service Visits to the Center.....	4509
Total Support Group Visits to the Center.....	977
Total visits to Childcare.....	1407
Restraining Order Applications Completed.....	557

The Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services has been operating for just over a year. During the first year, more than 2000 participants visited the Gateway Center more than 4500 times. Since January 2011 almost 1000 additional visits have been made to support groups offered at the Center. 750 children accessed the therapeutic child care as well.

### The Participants

Those seeking services at the Gateway Center come from all walks of life and all different parts of town. Some have access to resources. Some do not. Some have never talked about the abuse they have suffered to anyone even after 10 or more years. Some come with support people who are well-aware of their situations but are unsure how to help. Many

have housing. Many do not. Most are women, and most are between 19 and 49 years old.

Approximately 50% of the participants are referred to the Center by service providers. Almost 20% are referred by police or other law enforcement agency. Another 20% tell us that a friend or family member told them about the Gateway Center.

### **The Services**

Since all first-time participants sit down first with an advocate (called a “Navigator” at the Gateway Center), the advocates provided the largest volume of services to participants. Navigators provided assessment, safety planning, information and referrals more than 2000 times in the first year.

After the navigators, the most used on site services were the Oregon Department of Human Services – Self Sufficiency, Legal Aid Services of Oregon and mental health services provided by Lifeworks NW. While prosecution and law enforcement were accessed less frequently, when accessed they were extremely important to the individual participant.

Restraining order facilitation is another important service provided at the Gateway Center. 557 restraining orders applications were submitted from the Center. Restraining order applications were completed in at least 15 different foreign languages including Igbo, Karen and Burmese among others.

The various agency representatives are working extremely well together. Co-location has increased cross-agency referrals and partnership. The fact that most participants return for at least a second visit to the Center is a strong indicator of the worthwhile experience the Center is providing. Indeed, almost 100% of participants indicate they were satisfied with their visit, that they were treated with respect and felt safe during their time at the Gateway Center.

## **The Gateway Center Partners**

The Gateway Center is one-stop shop for victims of domestic violence and their children. The Center co-locates a variety of service providers to make it easier for victims of domestic violence and their children to receive a variety of services under one roof.


Current on-site partners include:

- City of Portland
- Multnomah County
- Multnomah County Circuit Court
- Multnomah County District Attorney's Office
- Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
- Portland Police Bureau
- Legal Aid Services of Multnomah County
- Oregon Department of Human Services
- Volunteers of America Oregon – Home Free
- Volunteers of America Oregon – Family Relief Nursery
- LifeWorks Northwest
- Bradley Angle – Healing Roots Center
- Native American Youth & Family Center
- Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon – Russian Oregon Social Services
- Catholic Charities El Programa Hispano – Project UNICA
- Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization
- YWCA of Greater Portland
- Abuse Recovery Ministry & Services
- Sexual Assault Resource Center



Agenda No.  
**REPORT NO.**  
Title

Accept the Report on One Year of Operation of the Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services (Report)

<p align="center"><b>INTRODUCED BY</b> Commissioner/Auditor: <b>Saltzman</b></p>	<p>CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>SEP 30 2011</u></p>
<p align="center"><b>COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</b></p> <p>Mayor—Finance and Administration - Adams</p> <p>Position 1/Utilities - Fritz</p> <p>Position 2/Works - Fish</p> <p>Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman <i>DS/sc</i></p> <p>Position 4/Safety - Leonard</p>	<p align="center">LaVonne Griffin-Valade Auditor of the City of Portland</p> <p>By:  Deputy</p>
<p align="center"><b>BUREAU APPROVAL</b></p> <p>Bureau: Bureau Head:</p>	<p><b>ACTION TAKEN:</b></p> <p>OCT 05 2011 <b>ACCEPTED</b></p>
<p>Prepared by: M. Strawn Morris Date Prepared: September 27, 2011</p>	
<p>Financial Impact &amp; Public Involvement Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Council Meeting Date <b>October 5, 2011</b></p>	
<p><b>City Attorney Approval:</b> required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan</p>	

**AGENDA**

**TIME CERTAIN**   
Start time: **9:30 AM** *2 of 3*

**Total amount of time needed: 30**  
(for presentation, testimony and discussion)

**CONSENT**

**REGULAR**   
**Total amount of time needed: \_\_\_\_\_**  
(for presentation, testimony and discussion)

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	1. Fritz	✓	
2. Fish	2. Fish	✓	
3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	✓	
4. Leonard	4. Leonard	✓	
Adams	Adams	✓	