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VIOLENCE OUT BROWNSVILLE LAUNCHES ITS NEW OFFICE IN BROWNSVILLE, BROOKLYN, AS IT WORKS TO END GUN VIOLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

Brooklyn, NY, June 14, 2016 – Violence Out Brownsville celebrated the opening of its new office today at [1667 Pitkin Avenue](#), where it will be able to expand services aimed at curbing gun and gang violence in the community.

Started in 2015, Violence Out Brownsville works with young people in Brownsville, Brooklyn, who have been involved with or are at risk of becoming involved with gun violence and gangs. The program provides participants with a variety of wrap-around supportive services, including job training programs and access to employment, legal and therapeutic services, conflict mediation and more.

It is a program of CAMBA, one of Brooklyn’s largest and most comprehensive human services organizations.

Joanne M. Oplustil, President and CEO of CAMBA, said, “Violence Out Brownsville is committed to creating a safe and vital community, with the close partnership of neighborhood organizations and leaders, elected officials and concerned Brownsville citizens. Our goals include giving positive alternatives to young people who have been involved in violence or are likely to succumb to violence, stopping potentially violent incidents before they occur and working within the neighborhood to spread our message of “Brownsville in – violence out.”

Violence Out Brownsville is based on the national [Cure Violence](#) model, which views violence as a public health issue and addresses it at its source by changing social norms and employing disease control methods. The Cure Violence model sends out “violence interrupters” who locate potentially lethal, ongoing conflicts and respond with a variety of conflict mediation techniques, both to prevent imminent violence and to change the norms around the need to use violence. Cure Violence hires workers who live in the community, are known to high-risk people and have possibly even been gang members or spent time in prison, but have made a change in their lives and turned away from crime. Interrupters receive specific training for detecting potential shooting events, mediating conflicts and keeping safe in these dangerous situations. Outreach staff act as mentors for high-risk youth.

To qualify for Violence Out Brownsville’s services, participants must be residents of or frequent North Central Brownsville; between the ages of 16 and 25; and involved with or at risk of becoming involved with violence.

This program is funded by the New York City Council and NYC Health + Hospitals.

(more)

The new Violence Out Brownsville office is at 1667 Pitkin Avenue, 2nd Floor, Brooklyn NY 11212. Contact information is (718) 226-0433, ext 50100 or violenceout@camba.org.

ABOUT CAMBA

Started in 1977, CAMBA is a nonprofit agency that connects people with opportunities to enhance their quality of life. CAMBA offers integrated services and programs in: Economic Development, Education & Youth Development, Family Support, Health, Housing and Legal Services. CAMBA serves more than 45,000 individuals and families, including 9,000 youth, each year. Learn more about CAMBA's life-changing services at www.camba.org.

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