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Rising Ground to Open a New Trauma Recovery Center Supporting Survivors of Violent Crime in East Flatbush

**Grand Opening celebration to be held on
Wednesday, March 19 at 10:30 am at 3521 Church Avenue**

(New York, New York—March 13, 2025) – Rising Ground, a trusted and longstanding human services nonprofit at the forefront of meeting the critical needs of New Yorkers, will open a new **Trauma Recovery Center** (TRC) at 3521 Church Avenue in the East Flatbush neighborhood of Brooklyn focused on providing support, including mental health services, to victims of violent crime.

Rising Ground’s East Flatbush TRC was launched in August 2023 providing services virtually and in the community. To date it has supported 160 survivors. The opening of the new physical location at 3521 Church Avenue will allow the TRC to expand its reach in the community and provide on-site care. Led by **Director Gerardine Cadet Mareus**, the East Flatbush TRC houses three therapists, a community support coordinator, and a holistic healer. Services are available in Haitian Creole, Spanish, and English. The TRC can also provide onsite childcare for clients in session.

“Rising Ground’s TRC is designed to help victims of violent crimes overcome barriers to accessing mental health treatment, health care, and legal resources in the acute aftermath of trauma,” said **Alan Mucatel, Rising Ground CEO**. “The TRC supports recent victims of violent crime, including survivors of physical assault, sexual assault, gun violence, stabbings, domestic violence, and human trafficking and facilitates healing for survivors of trauma, violence, and loss through an innovative model that blends

comprehensive care, advocacy, and outreach. We are immensely proud to be able to bring the Rising Ground TRC to the East Flatbush community.”

The East Flatbush TRC joins two other TRCs established in New York City with \$5 million in Council funding for the comprehensive, trauma-informed crime victim services centers that provide recovery support to victims of violence in communities underserved by traditional victim services but that are most affected by violence, including gun violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and hate crimes. **New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams** will deliver remarks at the opening of the East Flatbush TRC on Wednesday, March 19.

“Too often, crime victims in neighborhoods experiencing high levels of violence never receive the support and resources they need to recover and find stability,” said **Speaker Adrienne Adams**. “I am proud of the Council's continued work to reverse this trend by opening new trauma recovery centers (TRCs) throughout our city, including in Flatbush, Brooklyn. When we are able to address the unresolved trauma left behind in our communities by violence, we are able to increase safety by curbing cycles of violence. The Council is laser-focused on ensuring that TRCs remain a key part of our city’s public safety system for years to come.”

The TRCs are based on a model of care developed in 2001 at the University of California San Francisco and have been proven to improve economic, health, and social outcomes of those who receive their services. They improve public safety by interrupting cycles of violence and increasing participation in the legal process.

Ms. Cadet Mareus said Rising Ground’s East Flatbush TRC has already seen similar results: “The outcomes of the TRC's efforts are profound and directly impact the vulnerable community it serves. Already observed in our assessments, clients at the TRC experience a decrease in psychological and medical symptoms, an increase in

functional abilities, and an overall improvement in the quality of life. The TRC's success is not just measured in numbers but in the positive transformation it catalyzes within the lives of individuals facing complex challenges in East Flatbush. We are excited to expand this work with the opening of our new location and encourage people seeking help to contact us.”

All survivors of trauma are accepted regardless of citizenship status, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, religion/spirituality, nationality, socioeconomic status, and insurance status. Trauma is defined as “a severe traumatic event that resulted in a death of a loved one or severe change in daily life that is unsustainable.”

The East Flatbush TRC has a Helpline at 917-444-1908 and email TRCHelpline@RisingGround.org. People can also submit a referral form [here](#).

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About Rising Ground

Rising Ground is a leading nonprofit human services organization, currently operating more than 101 programs at 143 sites across all five New York City boroughs and Westchester County, employing a workforce of 2,100+ people. Driven by the belief that each of us can thrive when life has hope and opportunity, Rising Ground provides caring support and proven paths to positive change, helping more than 30,000 individuals and 72,000 family members to rise above adversity. Founded in 1831 as Leake & Watts, an orphanage, Rising Ground has been at the forefront of supporting evolving community needs and is a leader in utilizing results-focused, evidence-based practices. For more information, visit RisingGround.org.

