

Weekly Report from Assemblyman Charles D. Fall February 3, 2022

My office and the Gambian Community in collaboration with the Senegalese Association and ACASI are looking for donations to help the victims of the tragic Bronx fire. For more information about drop-offs see below or call my office at 718-442-9932.

Donations Needed



NYCHA has recently opened kitchens in vacant apartments at Stapleton Houses to serve as community kitchens. Those who are impacted by the gas outage can call management (718-448-5000) to schedule appointments in two-hour increments. There are 5 open kitchens with 1 being a 504/ADA accessible unit.



New York City Housing Authority Stapleton Houses 210 Broad Street Staten Island, NY 10304 Tel # (718) 448-5000 Fax # (718) 720-8834

01/14/2022

Dear 181/197 Gordon Street Residents,

Due to the gas outage in your building (181/197 Gordon St.), NYCHA is opening a Temporary Community Kitchen to accommodate residents who are interested in sharing a stove for cooking. <u>Residents will be allowed to book two-hour time slots to use the kitchen stove. Each resident will be responsible for their own clean-up and garbage removal.</u>

If you are interested in using this Community Kitchen until the gas service is restored, please contact the Management Office at 718-448-5000 at your earliest convenience.

We apologize for the inconvenience this outage has caused and greatly appreciate your patience and understanding. Please be advised that NYCHA staff, along with the contractor, are working diligently to restore service to all affected apartments as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Philip John Property Manager

District 61 News

Citizens Committee for NYC info session

I want to thank Citizens Committee for NYC for hosting this info session informing everyone that through their micro-grants folks can receive up to \$10,000 for their small businesses or up to \$5,000 for community projects. CCNYC has already invested nearly \$100,000 in the North Shore over the last couple of years. It is clear to me that their sense of priority for our black and brown, immigrant and women owned businesses will continue to uplift and provide opportunities for our communities. People can apply for these grants through the website. Community leaders can apply <u>here</u> and neighborhood business owners can apply <u>here</u>. Citizens Committee for

NYC's mission is to help New Yorkers come together to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods.



Updates from Albany

Recently, there has been a national spike in hate crimes, specifically towards those of the Jewish faith and towards black colleges and universities, with the start of Black History Month.

The New York State Legislature and the Governor's office remain committed in curbing and eliminating all hate crimes here in New York State. Over the past few years the legislature has passed laws and funded initiatives to accomplish this task.

Recently the Governor has announced that the number of hate crimes against the Asian American community has gone up 150 percent from 2019 to 2020 and has vowed to address all hate and division in New York State.

- Last year the final budget appropriated, \$25 million to the Communities Against Hate Crimes Grant Program.
- The Governor in her 2022-23 Executive Budget and vowed to secure funding once again for this program.

New York Hate Crime Anti-Terrorism Act:

- In 2020, legislation was passed that established a "domestic act of terrorism motivated by hate" crime as a new A-1 class felony punishable by up to life in prison without parole.
- Legislation, passed in 2019 as part of the state budget, named the Josef Neumann Hate Crimes Domestic Terrorism Act, to honor the victim of a stabbing attack in December at the home of a Monsey rabbi.

Funding for State Police Hate Crimes Task Force:

- The State Police Hate Crimes Task Force was established by the Governor in the 2018 to address the increase in bias-motivated threats, harassment and violence throughout New York State.
- Funding of \$2 million to support the Task Force's ongoing work, and to bolster the monitoring of digital media which promote violence, intolerance, selling of illicit substances and terrorism was allocated in 2019.

In 2019 A.3606-A was enacted into law:

- Directs the municipal police training council in consultation with the Division of Human Rights and the Hate Crimes task force to develop and maintain policies and procedures regarding the recognition of and response to hate crimes.
- Additionally, the council shall recommend to the Governor and the legislature rules and regulations with respect to establishing training and retraining of police officers.
- Legislation was signed into law in November of 2019.

"With the recent reports of spikes in hate crimes, most recently towards black institutions of higher learning, I must reiterate, one act of hate, is an act towards all. I pledge to continue to work with

my state colleagues and leadership to ensure all New Yorkers remain safe from these most heinous crimes."



Crucial Resources to Support and Aid Your Everyday Needs

1. The NYS Homeowner Assitance Fund is available now. You may be eligible for up to \$50,000 in financial assistance.



2. Important: The NYS Department of Labor will mail 1099-G tax forms to all Excluded Workers Fund (EWF) recipients to the address listed on their EWF application. The information from this form must be included in tax filings for the 2021 calendar year. As you may know, payments from the EWF are considered taxable income. Although payments were mailed with state taxes already taken out, they may still be subject to federal income tax. For more information click here.



- 3. Our children have faced many challenges throughout the pandemic. Now they're back at school and being asked to return to normalcy, but this school year is anything but normal. That's why the UFT's Positive Learning Collaborative (PLC) is offering free, confidential mental health sessions to students and to parents calling on their children's behalf. Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday: 8:30 A.M. to 12 P.M. Saturday: 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Call 212-709-3222 or Text "PLC" to 43961
- 4. What is HEAP? The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps low-income people pay the cost of heating their homes. How does it work? If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per season and could also be eligible for an emergency HEAP benefit if you are in impending danger of running out of fuel or having your utility service shut off. Are HEAP benefits available year-round? No, the application period normally begins in early to mid-November and continues into the winter, until funding for the program runs out.
- 5. Free SNAP Assistance See the flyer below



6. It's important to submit an SBA Loan Application - After you apply for disaster assistance from FEMA, you may be referred to the U.S. Small Business Administration. If you are referred to SBA, you should complete and submit the application. If your application is approved, you are not obligated to accept the SBA disaster loan but failure to submit the application may disqualify you from other possible FEMA assistance, such as disaster-related car repairs, essential household items and other expenses. SBA disaster loans are the largest source of federal disaster recovery funds for survivors. In planning your recovery, give yourself the widest possible set of options. Submitting the application

makes it possible for homeowners and renters to be considered for additional FEMA grants. Applicants may apply online using SBA's secure website at *DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov* or they may email *DisasterCustomerService@SBA.gov* for more information on SBA's disaster assistance program. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at **800-659-2955** or email *disastercustomerservice@sba.gov* for more information on SBA disaster assistance.

- 7. If you're a renter having trouble paying your rent, utilities, or other housing costs or if you're a landlord trying to stay afloat with tenants in this situation help may be available. State and local programs are distributing billions of dollars in rental assistance to help renters stay housed during the pandemic. <u>Visit the CFPB's Rental Assistance Finder</u> to find out what this means for you and what you can do. The CFPB's site also includes resources to help renters and landlords understand other resources to help navigate various financial hardships related to the pandemic.
 - 8. Staten Island Legal Services wants to help you. If you need free legal help during the COVID-19 crisis, for matters of immigration, foreclosure, small business advice, and more, call them at 718-233-6480.



9. Project Hospitality provides a wide range of services to our communities. From vaccinations to mental health guidance to help applying for rental assistance. See flyers below for more information.

Need to talk?



Here to talk | Here to listen | Here to support

We provide . . .

- InformationEducation
- Emotional support
- Links to resources
- We can provide virtual presentations on:
- Recognizing common reactions on:
 Building coping skills for the recovery process
- Managing COVID-related stress
 Identifying and meeting children's needs



We are here for YOU.

NY Project Hope Coping with COVID

Free, anonymous & confidential A program of the NYS Office of Mental Health Funded by FEMA

Necesitas Te sientes hablar?

incierto, agobiado, ansioso durante COVID?

Aquí para hablar | Aquí para escuchar | Aquí para apoyar





NY Project Hope

Nosotros Proporcionamos... Información Educación Apoyo emocional
 Enlaces a recursos

- Proporcionamos presentaciones virtuales sobre: Reconcociendo las reacciones comunes de COVID Desarrollando habilidades de afrontamiento para el proceso de recuperación Manejando estár esidecinada con COVID Identificando y satisfaciendo las necesidades de los niños

¡Contáctanos Hoy! 718-608-7900

HOPE@ProjectHospitality.org

Estamos aqui para USTED.

Gratis, anónimo y confidencial A program of the NYS Office of Mental Health Funded by FEMA

New York State **Emergency Rental Assistance** Program

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program assists households behind on their rent that have experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19 and are at risk of homelessness or housing instability. In addition, the program can provide temporary rental assistance and assistance with unpaid utility bits.

DO LOUALIEY?

(Rev 05/21)

- Eligible residents must meet the following criteria:



CALIFICO?

New York State

Emergency Rental Assistance Program

El Programa de Asistencia para Alquileres de Emergencia ayuda a las familias atrasadas en el pago del alquier que han sufrido dificultades financieras debido a la CCVID-19 y están en reisgo de quedarse en la calle o de padecer inestabilidad por la falta de vivienda. Además, el programa puede proporcionar asistenci de alquier temporal y asistencia para el pago de facturas de servicios públicos vencidas.

alimentos

221 HEBERTON AVENUE, STATEN ISLAND NV 10302 514 BAV STREET STATEN ISLAND NV 10304

Inmigracion

Los residentes aptos para solicitar la asistencia deben cumplir con los siguientes criterios

10. The BJ House Community - Mobile Pantry will come right to your door. Every first Wednesday of each month, every Tuesday, and every 3rd Saturday of each

Help

Pantry

221 HEBERTON AVENUE, STATEN ISLAND, NV 10302 514 BAV ST. STATEN ISLAND, NV 10304

Unemployment

month.



11. The Port Authority and the Council on Port Performance is hosting a virtual internship, apprenticeship, and job fair for careers in Transportation, Logistics, and Distribution (TLD) on Wednesday, February 9th.



The Port of New York & New Jersey supports over 500,000 regional jobs. Discover a rewarding career in Transportation, Logistics and Distribution (TLD).

Attend our Virtual TLD Internship, Apprenticeship & Job Fair Wednesday, February 9, 2022 11am-1:30pm

Whether seeking a first-time career or a career change, the TLD internship, Apprenticeship & Job Fair will connect you to employers in the region. Attend this event to:

- Attend this event to: → Find apprenticeship and internship opportunities that develop your career and match your interests. → Identify apprenticeship opportunities to obtain new credentials, target your career advancement strategy, and gain valuable work experience and professional instruction from Industry leaders.
- Learn if you are suited for a career in TLD.
 Discover opportunities for In-demand, critical port roles in drayage trucking, CDL-required pathways, and warehousing & logistics.



It is encouraged to participate on a PC/Computer, rather that mobile device, in order to use the full capabilities offered in the TRMD platform. REMO's preferred browser is Chromo, howe OS starta and Microsoft Edge can also be used. Please that idditional REMO Help/Tips on their YouTube channel: the distance of the programmer of the transmission of the transmission of the transmission of the distance of th



12. The Y is now offering new rounds of FREE lifeguard training and certification this spring, including at the Broadway Y. Pre-tests are required for this opportunity and are currently underway, with lots of times and dates at Ys across the city. Experienced

swimmers should see here for details and scheduling.



13. St. Ann's Creative Learning Center has open enrollment right now. Call 718-273-5371 for more information.



14. Small Business Resources:

- For counseling and help services through SBS click here.
- <u>Procurement Center Representatives (PCRs)</u> help small businesses win federal contracts. PCRs view many federal acquisition and procurement strategies before they're announced. This enables them to influence opportunities that should be set aside for small businesses. PCRs also conduct market research, assist small businesses with payment issues, provide counseling on the contracting process, and more.
- <u>Subcontracting Program Assistance (SPA)</u> can help you with subcontracting questions after a contract is awarded. SPA can help you with tools to match prime contractors and subcontractors, help small businesses market their services to prime contractors, and more.

• SBA Learning Center. The SBA offers free online courses to help small businesses understand government contracting. You can find these video classes in the <u>SBA Learning Center</u>.

Useful Events and Opportunities

1. Help support your neighborhood schools - For more information click here





Help support your neighborhood schools!!!

- \$200 a day! (\$199.27 to be exact)
- This could be your chance to see if teaching is the career for you
- Requirements:
 - Interest and commitment to helping kids and a school
 - Bachelors Degree and authorization to work in the US

For more information: <u>https://www.schools.nyc.gov/careers/substitute-teaching</u>

*Please pass this information on to anyone you know who meets the requirements and might be interested.

Lamson Lam can help answer questions and get you nominated. Please reach out him at $\underline{IIam@schools.nyc.gov}$

2. The Department of Transportation is hiring - Apply by 2/15

Get paid \$24.50/hr!

We're Hiring!

Learn about horticulture through hands-on training!

Under the guidance of the New York City Department of Transportation and the City Cleanup Corps, U. Arias Corp is seeking trainees for our Greener Roadways Training! A program where New Yorkers are paid \$24.50 an hour to care for greenspaces and roadway plantings across Brooklyn and the Bronx. This includes:

- All aspects of plant-care
- . Plant identification & planting techniques
- Watering & irrigation system management Equipment & safety training
- .
- And more!

In addition to real-world maintenance experience, trainees will receive industry-level certifications and mentorship for continuing careers in horticulture!

The program starts in 2022 from March to June. We're hiring trainees for full-time (40 hours a week for 16 weeks) & part-time (20 hours a week for 8 weeks) positions!



3. Put your swimming skill to the ultimate test. Become an NYC Lifeguard – help keep New York's beaches and pools safe and develop skills that will last a lifetime.



Earn your whistle! Become an NYC lifeguard.

HOW TO JOIN

All potential lifeguards must pass the Lifeguard Qualifying Test, a series of vision and swim exams. To qualify, you must:

Be at least 16 years of age by the start of employment.

Have at least 20/30 vision in one eye and 20/40 in the other - without corrective lenses. Glasses and contact lenses may not be worn during the eye exam.

Help keep New York City's beaches and pools safe and develop skills that will last a lifetime. As a lifeguard, you'll have the chance to:

• Develop job skills Become part of a team Earn NYC Lifeguard certification and learn CPR, first-aid, and rescue techniques

Practice your swimming

Lifeguards work five to six days each week, and first-year lifeguards earn a minimum of \$16 an hour, for a weekly salary of about \$800.

Individuals must be vaccinated to take the qualifying test.

Sign up today at nyc.gov/parks/lifeguards.



4. Community Conversation on Smoking & Vaping being held on Wednesday, Feb 9th and is open to all Staten Islanders ages 13+



5. Urban Faries of S.I.C.O., Beautiful Heartbeats Inc, and Free It Forward Host their 1st Annual Community Baby Shower. February 17th, 6:00PM-8:00PM

Urban Fairies of S.I.C.O., Beautiful Heartbeats Inc. & Free It Forward Host Our IST Annual Community BAR SHOWER

We are looking for donations of new or like new baby, new mom items, gift cards and/or in kind donations of the following, cribs, bassinets, pack and plays, strollers, carseats, tummy time mats, teethers, sippy cups, baby wash diaper creme, diapers, wipes, clothing, gear, bottles , pacifiers, unexpired formula ,food, etc. Please contact us to donate, or collaborate

WE WILL BE ACCEPTING DONATIONS SATURDAY 1/22/2022 11am to 2pm 266 Wild ave 10314 Please text to confirm drop-off 646-568-5094 Urban Fairies of S.I.C.O., Beautiful Heartbeats Inc. & Free It Forward Host Our 1ST Annual Community BABY

SHOWER

SPACE IS LIMITED admittance with tickets preferred walkins accepted but limited masks mandatory vaccines preferred get tickets @ https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ufosico-beautiful-heartbeats-inc-free-itforward-community-baby-shower-tickets-240117577137

Or scan the Barcode for tickets limited to mom and plus 1 2 ticket maximum We are looking for donations of new like new baby, new mom items, gift c and/or in kind donations of the follow cribs, bassinets, pack and plays, stro carseats, tummy time mats, techters, cups, baby wash diaper creme,diaper patient of the strength of the strength of the patient of the strength of the strength of the patient of the strength of the strength of the patient of the strength of the st Pajama Program 2/17/22 cribs, bassmann carseats, tummy time man-cups, baby wash diaper creme, diapon wipes, clothing, gear, bottles &, please unexpired formula, food, etc. Please contact us only to table free items, don or collaborate 6PM - 8PM Hear beats S 😓 🕭 🌏 @ 3Js Creations PRECIOUS MO (event space) FREE IT FORWARD 2220 Forest Ave SI,NY 10303 MetroPlus Good360

6. Central Family Life Center presents their 17th Annual Staten Island Black History Townhall. Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 12 PM.



7. The Forest Ave. Comeunity Fridge is a group from Mariners Harbor looking to help out our community with Food Insecurity.

@FORESTAVECOMEUNITYFRIDGE

WHO ARE WE?

We are a collaborative group, born and raised on the North Shore, who are passionate about addressing the health food disparity in our neighborhood of Mariners Harbor. The foundation of our initiative is "take what you need, leave what you don't" and "we keep us fed and healthy!" – in hopes of creating a culture of unity, interdependence, community restoration and empowerment in Mariners Harbor.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY FRIDGE?

A Community Fridge is a fridge that provides **free and healthy food** for community members. The fridges offer access to fresh produce, healthy grains and perishable items to communities that do not have a lot of access to healthy food options.



HOW CAN MY BUSINESS HELP?

Your business can help by donating surplus food to our fridge or allowing us to purchase food at reduced costs. WHY SHOULD MY BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION CARE

ABOUT A COMMUNITY FRIDGE?

In recent political and racial events, many businesses and organizations are looking for ways to fight against racial inequity. Community fridges represent mutual aid – the idea that solidarity not charity is what communities need in order to become fairer and stronger. By donating food to our fridge, your business will be taking part in our ongoing movement for creating justice – first within our communities.

Sincerely,

Charles D. Fall Member of Assembly

ALBANY OFFICE: Room 534, Legislative Office Building, Albany, NY 12248. 518-455-4677, FAX 518-455-5946 DISTRICT OFFICE: 853 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10310. 718-442-9932, FAX 718-442-9942