



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Tomorrow marks the Holocaust Remembrance Day, the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, as a time to remember the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution. As we are witnessing an alarming rise of antisemitism around the globe, it is more important than ever for us to recognize the critical lessons of Holocaust history as we commemorate the victims and honor the survivors.

Monday, January 22, 2024 marked the 51st anniversary of the US Supreme Court case Roe v. Wade. The case protected a woman's right to choose and reaffirmed basic equality for women to control their own destinies free from interference. To commemorate the significance of the decision and to reaffirm New York State's Commitment to reproductive health care, we passed maternal health bills and rallied with planned parenthood and hundreds of New Yorkers in the Capitol for the reproductive freedom and equity fund.

Kerri Neifeld, the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) Commissioner, joined our first People with Disabilities Committee meeting of the year. Resources shared by the Commissioner can be found in this report.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our community office if we can be of assistance.

Phone: 212.288.4607

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

**Office for People With Developmental Disabilities Commissioner
Kerri Neifeld Reports to Assembly Committee Chaired by
Seawright**



Commissioner Neifeld joined our first committee meeting of the session, providing updates on the New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities work for New Yorkers statewide with intellectual and developmental disabilities including the anti-stigma “Look Beyond campaign,” the Employability Project, and other initiatives.



Seawright and Neifeld discuss the upcoming People With Disabilities Committee Budget Hearing she will chair on February 13.

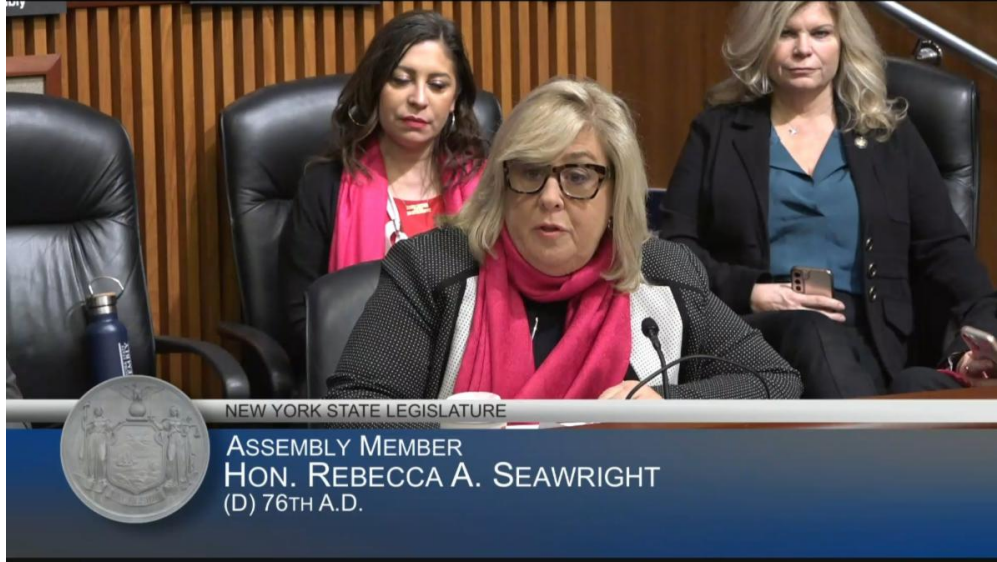


As more people with disabilities enter the workforce and begin looking for employment, it is important that business owners and operators understand the incredible benefits of hiring employees of all abilities. OPWDD gathered employment stories and employer profiles that are just a sample of the positive employment for people with developmental disabilities and employers. To learn more: <https://opwdd.ny.gov/community-involvement/about-employability>



OPWDD's latest initiative is the "Look Beyond My Developmental Disability" anti-stigma campaign.

Seawright Questions MTA Chairman Janno Lieber on Service Improvements for Roosevelt Islanders During F-Train Disruption



At the Joint Budget Hearing on Transportation, Seawright asked MTA Chairman & CEO Janno Lieber about an urgently needed elevator, F-Train and tram repairs, along with service improvements on Roosevelt Island. Watch: <http://tinyurl.com/2vudc32t>

Planned Parenthood Rallies for Equality Amendment and Reproductive Freedoms



Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie (center) with Assemblywomen (left to right) Monica Wallace, Didi Barrett, Jennifer Rajkumar, Pat Fahy, Jessica González-Rojas, and Rebecca Seawright.



Governor Hochul who spoke at the rally said, "We need to make sure that no future Governors, no future Legislatures can ever strip away these rights we have here in the great State of New York. And that is why the right to an abortion will be enshrined forever after this November's election, because it's on the ballot."



Planned Parenthood advocates visited Assembly Member Seawright's Albany office to lobby for comprehensive sex education in our schools.

Seawright Tosses Up Ceremonial Jump Ball at CUNY Wheelchair Basketball



Assembly Member Seawright attended CUNY's wheelchair basketball team led by Head Coach Ryan Martin at Queens College's FitzGerald gym.

Equality New York Advocates Celebrate the Passage of the Intersex Education Bill in Both Houses



Equality NY Executive Director Amanda Babine, Assembly Member Seawright and Melissa Sklarz.

Advocating For School Funding and Foundation Aid With Alliance For Quality Education



Yorkville parents at PS151 Jessica Luck, and Joemca Castillo.

Consider Our Office A Resource

HEAP Application Now Open



The 2023-2024 Emergency HEAP application is open.

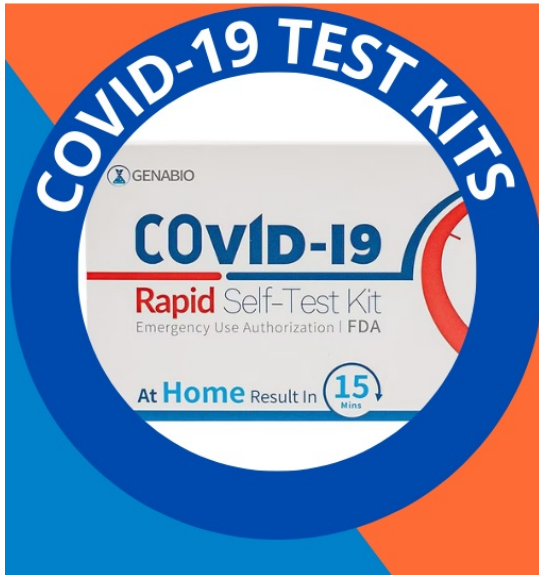
If you are eligible, the Emergency HEAP Benefit can help you heat your home if you are in a heat or heat related emergency.

Learn more about the Emergency HEAP benefit:
<https://on.nyc.gov/3RLHVpo>

Rebecca Seawright

ASSEMBLYMEMBER

**NO-COST
THURSDAY
PPE
GIVEAWAY**



12:00PM-2:00PM

**COMMUNITY OFFICE
1485 YORK AVENUE
(78/79 STREETS)**

212-288-4607

**SEAWRIGHTR
@NYASSEMBLY.GOV**

Community Board Applications Are Now Open!

Prospective members must submit a biography or resume and complete a comprehensive online application explaining why they want to join the board, what skills they offer, and their relationship to their districts. These applications are reviewed and evaluated by an independent screening panel. Qualified applicants are interviewed on the panel's recommendation by staff members of the Manhattan Borough President's office. [Click here to apply!](#)

Upcoming Events

The Elder Care Crisis

How to afford the *huge* cost of care

A public forum

Wednesday, January 31, at 6:30 pm

On Zoom

Expert Speakers:

Naomi Cahn, Professor, University of Virginia Law School;

Jessica Forden, New School for Social Research;

Dr. Eilon Caspi, Assistant Research Professor, University of Connecticut;

Jill Gianola, Financial Advisor and Author.

Sponsored by the Women & Families and Health, Seniors & Social Services Committees of Community Board 8 Manhattan

This virtual program will be free and open to the public.

To attend, scan the QR code below or visit [cb8m.com](https://www.cb8m.com) and click Women & Families Committee for the link.





Credit: Netflix/American Symphony

Become a Lifesaver: Register to Donate Blood Stem Cells

For patients with life-threatening blood cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma, a cure exists through blood stem cell donation. But finding a donor match can be difficult, especially for ethnically diverse people.

The *American Symphony: Become a Lifesaver* campaign aims to increase the number of young people who join NMDP's global blood stem cell donor registry. People between the ages of 18-40 can join this registry of potential donors with a simple cheek swab.

Drop by an information table at MSK on Wednesday, January 31, to get swabbed and learn how you can make a difference in the lives of people with blood cancers and disorders.

NMDP/MSK Blood Stem Cell Donor Information Table

Wednesday, January 31

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Zuckerman Research Center Lobby

417 East 68th Street, between First and York Avenues



Learn more about the *American Symphony: Become a Lifesaver* campaign by pointing your smartphone at the QR code and tapping the link.



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

RAISING HEART HEALTH FOR ALL WITH FREE SCREENINGS

Celebrate American Heart Month with Lenox Hill Hospital. Join us for a day of free health education and consultations with some of New York's top health care specialists.

Free screenings:

- Cholesterol/HDL
- Glucose
- Blood pressure
- Lung function

Free health education:

- Cardiovascular health
- Stroke risks, symptoms and treatment
- Diabetes
- Using a defibrillator (AED)
- Hands-only CPR
- Medications (bring yours to discuss with a pharmacist)
- Physical therapy
- Stress management
- Nutrition and heart-healthy snacks
- Sleep health
- Mental health

**Go Red
Heart Health Fair**
Friday, February 2
11am - 2pm

**Einhorn Auditorium at
Lenox Hill Hospital**

131 East 76th Street
(between Lexington and Park
Avenues)





Give a **little** time.
Make a **BIG** impact.

Deliver Joy to an Older Neighbor!

Volunteer for DOROT's Winter Package Delivery

Sunday, January 28, 2024

When you volunteer to deliver a care package and connect with an older neighbor for a visit or call, you can make their day -- and yours!

Pre-registration and valid U.S. government-issued photo ID are required.

How it works:

- 1 Register at dorotusa.org/packagedelivery
- 2 Pick up a package and get matched with an older adult
- 3 Deliver the package to the home of an older adult
- 4 Connect for a visit or friendly call!

Sunday, January 28, 2024
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM



171 W 85th Street • New York, NY 10024 • dorotusa.org

We are grateful to the estate of Sanford H. Goldstein, the Sunshine Foundation, and Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York for their support of DOROT's Holiday Package Delivery programs. Thank you to Moise Safra Center for hosting DOROT's East Side Package Delivery.

COMMUNITY BOARD 8 MANHATTAN presents

Winter Crafts Show

featuring

LOCAL NYC CRAFTERS



Please Join us on:
February 10, 2024

Free Admission!
11am to 4pm

Location: Robert F. Wagner
Middle School; 225 East 75th St.

Crafts • Jewelry • Clothing
Soaps • Pottery • Housewares
Notecards • Gifts • Handmade
Items • And more!



www.cb8m.com



@CB8M



@CB8Manhattan



Manhattan Community Board 8 Calendar

The Manhattan Community Board 8 (CB8M) represents the Upper East Side of Manhattan and Roosevelt Island. CB8M is comprised of 50 volunteer members who serve as advocates and service coordinators for the community and its residents, as well as help citizens resolve municipal service delivery complaints.

CB8M reviews and makes recommendations on various issues, including applications for Zoning Text Amendments, building variances and special permits, liquor licenses, sidewalk cafes and street fairs, changes to landmarked buildings or buildings in historic districts, traffic and transportation issues, and more.

Each month, CB8M committees meet to discuss and resolve issues in the community.

Full Board Meeting - 3rd Wednesday
Land Use Committee - 2nd Wednesday
Street Life - 1st Tuesday
Transportation - 1st Wednesday
Housing - 1st Thursday
Parks - 2nd Thursday
Landmarks - 3rd Monday
Social Justice - 4th Monday
Zoning and Development - 4th Tuesday
Youth and Education - 4th Thursday

[Read More](#)

In Case You Missed It: Past Editions Of Our Community Update

[Community Update: January 12, 2024](#)

[Community Update: January 5, 2024](#)

[Happy New Year: A Year in Review](#)

[Community Update: December 22, 2023](#)

[Community Update: December 15, 2023](#)

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