



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Since 1976, the month of February has been a time to celebrate the contributions of Black Americans and honor the activists who stood up against racial discrimination and helped shape our country. In celebration of National Black History Month, our office is sponsoring an essay contest, with awards going to the top entries from schools in the Upper East Side, Yorkville, and Roosevelt Island.

As the Chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging, we are fighting for a budget that exceeds the needs of our aging population in New York State. We commend Governor Hochul on her inclusion of \$45 million in the Executive Budget to put an end to the waiting list for aging services. This is historic, and I look forward to pushing for more key investments to help older New Yorkers age in their communities of choice and support caregivers. I joined leaders from AARP to thank Governor Hochul for making this a priority.

New York's marginalized youth face unprecedented mental health challenges. In 2023, almost a quarter of high school students reported having seriously considered suicide in the past year. This was highest among LGBTQ+ identifying teens, who comprised 45% of this number. No child should suffer bullying based on their identity. I am proud to have spoken at a press conference on the Capitol's Million Dollar Staircase in support of Francesco's Law, which I co-sponsor and strongly support, to safely store firearms.

Our office is hosting a book drive for underserved public schools in New York City through Project Cicero. Please consider donating new and gently used books through March 5 for students, preschool through high school. Enclosed in this special report, you will find more information on this and other upcoming events and helpful resources.

As always, please consider our office your resource.

Phone: 212.288.4607

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Assembly Member Seawright

is sponsoring a National Black History Month essay contest, with awards going to the top entries from schools in the Upper East Side, Yorkville, and Roosevelt Island.



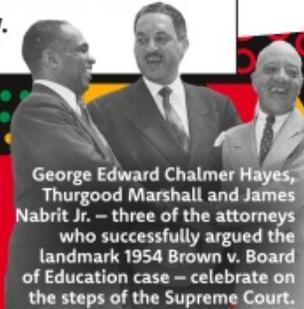
Civil rights protesters participate in the 1965 Selma to Montgomery marches.

ESSAY CONTEST

Tell us about a Black American who stood up to injustice or broke down barriers. Or tell us about a significant moment or event that helped shape American history.



Send your essay by 02/28/25 to:
Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright
1485 York Avenue, New York, NY 10075
212-288-4607, seawright@nyassembly.gov



George Edward Chalmer Hayes, Thurgood Marshall and James Nabrit Jr. – three of the attorneys who successfully argued the landmark 1954 Brown v. Board of Education case – celebrate on the steps of the Supreme Court.

Seawright Joins AARP Advocates to Say “Thank You” for a \$45 Million Proposal to End Waiting Lists to Access Vital Services

Seawright to Chair hearing to push for even more services funding in the final New York State budget



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright stands with Governor Hochul (center) with AARP advocates.

Seawright Speaks Out at Press Conference in Support of Francesco's Law



Standing with the parents of Francesco, a teen victim of cyberbullying, Assembly Member Seawright said, ***"The data is compelling and unarguable: Sometime between this press conference and sundown, another teen will have taken their own life with a firearm. Statistically, that teen will have a higher likelihood of identifying as LGBTQ+. This status quo cannot stand. Francesco's Law is a common-sense solution that will protect young New Yorkers. Thank you, Diana and Jennifer, for your dedication and advocacy on behalf of families across our great state."***



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, Diana Cochran, Assembly Member Khaleel Anderson, Senator Brad Hoylman, and Jennifer Allsop holding a photo of her son Francesco.

Legislative Women's Caucus Kicks Off Legislative Priorities for 2025



The Legislative Women's Caucus is an organization of women elected to the New York State Legislature. Today, 47 women serve in both the Assembly and the Senate. These women represent urban, suburban, and rural districts across New York State.

Fighting for Higher Education Funding



Assembly Member Seawright and SUNY Chancellor John B. King in the Well of the Assembly Legislative Office Building discussing priorities for higher education in the New York State Budget, including \$750 million for the SUNY State-operated campuses and \$650 million for the modernization and revitalization of SUNY hospitals.

Seawright Statement on Child & Pedestrian Fatalities in 2024



“While it is encouraging that Vision Zero has made verifiable progress in a few areas —

such as the lower rate of pedestrian fatalities among seniors and a slight overall decrease in some districts--this report underscores in urgent, heartrending detail the ground yet to be covered,” said Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright of the Upper East Side, Yorkville and Roosevelt Island. **“It is unacceptable that child fatalities are at a record high. It is distressing that city-wide fatalities increased and unconscionable that those killed were disproportionately from communities of color. We join with the courageous survivor advocates of FSS in furthering common sense, life-saving solutions that will protect all New Yorkers, especially children, and bring us the safe, walkable city that we deserve.”**

Child and Pedestrian Fatalities Rose in 2024 While 132 Vehicles Received 100 or More Speed Safety Camera Tickets, Including Two Vehicles Who Received More Than 500, New Data from Transportation Alternatives and Families for Safe Streets Shows

[Read More](#)

News You Can Use

Here's How To Join Your Local Community Board



Here's How To Join Your Local Community Board - Upper East Side, NY - Applications for community boards are live now.

[Read More](#)

Consider Our Office Your Resource!

**Rebecca
Seawright**
ASSEMBLYMEMBER

NO-COST SCREENING MAMMOGRAMS

The Mammogram Bus



American-Italian
CANCER FOUNDATION

**will be at our Community Office
1485 York Avenue**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025
9:00am to 4:30pm**

For an appointment please call
212-288-4607

Eligibility:

Women age 40 to 75
Currently living in New York City
No Mammogram in the past 12 months

- No co-pays required and deductibles are waived
- Uninsured patients also welcomed
- Medical Services provided by Multi-Diagnostic Services

**Funded by a grant from the NYS DOH Cancer Services Program
Additional funding provided by the generous support of the JALBCA, NBCF,
NYC Council, NYC DOHMH, NYS Senate, MCHF,
RAR Foundation, and individual patrons.**



METROCARD BUS

STOPS HERE (79/YORK):

WED. 02/05 & 02/19

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

REFILL YOUR
METROCARD

APPLY FOR
REDUCED FARE

CASH ONLY

Rebecca
Seawright
ASSEMBLYMEMBER

NO-COST NOTARY

Monday - Friday

10am-12pm

1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)



ASSEMBLY MEMBER

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT



HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
AT 3:30 PM ATTORNEYS FROM
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSING-
RELATED MATTERS AT NO-
COST FOR CONSTITUENTS OF
THE 76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

**A VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL
HOST A ONE -ON-ONE SESSION
WITH ATTENDEES.**

Get help navigating the housing court process, responding to notices, dealing with threat of eviction, getting repairs from negligent landlords, and advocating for your rights as a tenant in New York City!



**SCAN ME TO
RSVP!**

**RSVP REQUIRED:
CALL: 212-288-4607**

EMAIL: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV

*The legal clinic is solely to provide guidance and advice from attorney's experienced in landlord- tenant law.
The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorney- client relationship.
Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise constituents in any legal matters.*

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's App is Live!

Stay Up-To-Date with the latest:

- News
- Events
- Legislation
- Livestream
- Media

Available on iPhone and iPad



Cash Assistance Benefits Skimming Alert

Beware of attempts to steal your EBT benefits electronically through skimming or phishing. To learn more and file an online claim for stolen Cash Assistance benefits, go to <https://on.nyc.gov/on.nyc.gov/benefitreplacement>

New York's Paid Family Leave Program

Since first launching in 2018, New York State Paid Family Leave has provided critical benefits to improve the lives of tens of thousands of working New Yorkers and their families. In addition to ongoing enhancements, the wage replacement benefits continue to increase in line with the New York State Average Weekly Wage. Click here to learn how Paid Family Leave may be able to help you and your family in 2025. Visit: paidfamilyleave.ny.gov/2025

Empire State Child Credit

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance is issuing supplemental Empire State Child Credit payments to over 1.5 million low- and moderate-income New Yorkers. The 2024–2025 New York State budget provides for an additional payment to eligible taxpayers based on the Empire State child credit. If you qualify for a payment, you don't need to do anything; we will automatically calculate and send you a check for the amount you're entitled to. For more details, visit [the Additional Empire State Child Credit Payments](#).

Energy Affordability Programs

The NYS Energy Affordability Program provides income-eligible consumers with a discount on their monthly electric and/or gas bills. You may be enrolled automatically if you receive benefits from a government assistance program; for more information visit [this ConEd webpage](#) and click the "download form" button in the Energy Affordability Program box ([or click this link directly to download the pdf](#)). Or call 800-752-6633; the seniors-only direct line is 800-404-9097, M-F, 8:30 am – 5 pm.

Regular HEAP Benefit

The 2024-25 Regular HEAP benefit reopened January 25, 2025. Find out if you may be eligible and apply for programs and services. If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year to help you pay for heating your home. Visit: otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/

Health Insurance

The NY State of Health Open Enrollment Period for 2025 is underway until January 31, 2025. New Yorkers can enroll in a Qualified Health Plan by the 15th of the month for coverage starting the 1st of the following month and benefit from new cost-sharing reductions for additional savings. Visit nyc.gov/health/healthcoverage or call 347-665-0214 to connect with an enrollment counselor and get more information.

HIICAP

Approximately 500 trained HIICAP counselors located in local offices for the aging across the

state are available to answer New Yorkers' questions about Medicare, Medicare Advantage programs (managed care), Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medigap, and other health and long-term care insurance. Counseling is also available through a toll-free HIICAP helpline at 1-800-701-0501. Visit: <https://aging.ny.gov/health-insurance-information-counseling-and-assistance-program-hiicap>

Renters rights

In New York City, tenants have many rights relating to the safety and quality of their housing. Tenants should expect to live in safe, well-maintained buildings that are free from vermin, leaks, and hazardous conditions. [Laws protect tenants from harassment and discrimination](#). For more information on tenants' rights, please see the [Tenant Bill of Rights](#).

Homeowner Handbook

Homeowner Help NY offers a comprehensive guide to help New York homeowners navigate the responsibilities of homeownership and access available resources in their time of need. To view the handbook, visit <https://homeownerhelpny.org/handbook>.

Property Tax Exemptions

It's time to renew property tax exemptions, including SCHE, DHE, and the Clergy Exemption, for the 2025-26 tax year. The deadline to renew is March 15, 2025. Visit nyc.gov/contactdof or call 311 for details.

Mental Health Hotline

There's a three digit phone hotline, 988 for mental health. Call 911 for mental health emergencies.

Mobile ID

Ever forget your wallet and wish you had your ID on you? Now you can with New York Mobile ID! Just download the app, and a highly secure digital version of a state-issued driver license, learner permit or ID will be on your smartphone whenever you need it. More info here.

NYCDOT Street Work Permit Maps

The NYC DOT provided a street work permit map for our district so New Yorkers could have access to any active street work information in real time. You can view the map here: <https://dmv.ny.gov/id-card/mobile-id-mid>

Curbside composting

Curbside Composting service is now available to ALL NYC residents citywide. Compost is picked up every week on your recycling day. Visit: www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/collection/residents/curbside-composting.page

Attention MTA Reduced-Fare customers

Your half-fare benefit is moving to OMNY! Look for your new Reduced-Fare OMNY card in the mail soon and [check this page for updates](#). Continue to use your Reduced-Fare MetroCard in the meantime.

MTA Mobile Sales

Services offered at mobile sales vehicles

- Get help with a Reduced-Fare application
- Get more information about OMNY and sign up
- Transfer MetroCard balances (full-fare and Reduced-Fare to OMNY account)
- Report a lost/stolen Reduced-Fare MetroCard
- Ask our team about any OMNY-related issues

Note: Mobile sales buses and vans are making credit card transactions for OMNY only. You can still buy a MetroCard using cash. Check this site for the sales bus schedule: <https://www.mta.info/fares/mobile-sales>

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits

New changes include providing a simplified one-page application form, allowing older New Yorkers to re-certify their benefits for 36 months instead of 24 months and eliminating the interview requirement for re-certification. To learn more about SNAP and apply for benefits, [click here](#).

Unclaimed Funds

Check to see if you or someone you know may have unclaimed funds via this tracker by NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli: <https://www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?fbclid=IwAR2JR5SjGd4zt7CdT5aw5NQiBqloud2O141dOUbqPWOjoolIaO8Qi7xxTFw>

COVID-19 resources

You can order four COVID tests (for free, including shipping!) at [this website!](#) To see the latest data and key metrics on COVID-19 in New York City, check out the [NYC Department of Health's website](#). Vaccine shots are also available in pharmacies, clinics, hospitals and doctors' offices.

Community Service Society of New York

Need healthcare assistance or an advocate on your side when dealing with a medical bill, insurance denial, or a confusing notice? Call the Community Health Advocates hotline at 1-888-614-5400 and receive help today!

Congestion Pricing discounts and exemptions

Vehicles entering Manhattan streets at or below 60th St will be tolled. Most E-ZPass users will pay \$9 during peak hours or \$2.25 overnight, once daily. Discounts and exemptions, such as the Low-Income Discount or Disability Exemption plans, are available—learn more at [mta.info/discounts](#). Update your E-ZPass account to ensure accurate toll rates and credits. For details, visit [congestionreliefzone.mta.info](#).

Animal Care Centers of NYC needs your help!

Due to a temporary suspension of dog intake, they're calling on the community to step up and adopt. If you're ready to welcome a furry friend into your home visit a local ACC Center or [check out their website for more details](#).

Emergency Preparedness

NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) will keep you informed and prepared during emergencies through the Notify NYC alert system. Sign up at [nyc.gov/notify](#) or by calling 311.

Upcoming Events



ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA SEAWRIGHT

P R O J E C T
CICERO

BOOK DRIVE

for kids in under-resourced NYC Schools
through March 5, 2025

District Office of Assembly Member
Rebecca Seawright
1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)

- ✓ **Yes: new and gently used books for pre-school through high school**
- ✗ **NO: Adult books, textbooks, library discards, or out-of-date non-fiction/reference books**

Want to order books from the Project Cicero wishlist?
Visit projectcicero.org/wish-list





THE LIVES THAT MADE THE LIFE WE LIVE

An exhibition highlighting unlauded Black inventions & their silent impact on our global standard of living.

FEB 7th - MAR 2nd

OPENING CEREMONY 2/8

6-9 PM

ART, MUSIC & PERFORMANCES OPENING NIGHT

RIVAA GALLERY

527 Main Street
Roosevelt Island, NY 10044

rivaa
Roosevelt Island Visual Art Association

[Community Update: January 24, 2024](#)

[Community Update: January 17, 2024](#)

[Community Update: January 10, 2024](#)

[Community Update: January 3, 2024](#)

Did someone forward this email to you?
[Sign up for our e-news here.](#)

 Share This Email

 Share This Email



Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright | 1485 York Avenue | New York, NY 10075 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!