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September 30, 2021

Dear Friends,

This newsletter includes good news regarding the opening of the 2021 round of clean water grants and a workshop I will be hosting to help with the application process. This program has been a priority of mine, and I am thrilled that the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation will again come to Westchester for local governments in our region.

Next week I will be participating in a webinar on Digital Equity in Westchester organized by The Stem Alliance. In this year's state budget, I led the effort to establish a NYS Digital Inclusion Grant program to grow these essential programs throughout New York State. Digital Inclusion programs are a vital tool to addressing the digital divide. Race, economics and age are often the barriers to digital literacy. I am working with national and state activists in the digital inclusion movement. I am also working with state officials on the planning and rollout of the new \$15 million state program included in the state budget. The Stem Alliance is a leader in these efforts.

Below you will find:

2021 Clean Water Grant Funding Announced

Clean Water Grant Workshop

Digital Equity in Westchester Webinar

Covid-19 Booster Update

Ida Relief for Undocumented New Yorkers

Furniture Drop-offs and Ongoing Support for Flood Victims

My staff and I continue to work on helping with a variety of storm recovery and relief issues facing businesses and individuals. Some updates on resources are included here as well as information on Covid-19 booster shots. Please call my office if I can be helpful on any issue at 914-939-7028.

Warm regards,



2021 NYS Clean Water Grant Funding Announced

Last week Governor Hochul announced \$600 million in new clean water grant funding. The biggest portion of the funding is \$400 million in grants through the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act program (WIIA) and the Intermunicipal Grant (IMG) program, which have received tremendous response by local governments, environmental and construction groups in helping upgrade our clean water infrastructure.

I helped launch these programs in 2015. To date, WIIA and IMG have provided \$1.2 billion in grants to local governments, including \$4.5 million to Westchester

municipalities for important clean water projects.

The WIIA and IMG grants will again be administered by the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC), which has done a great job of working with local governments during the application process, expediting post approval contracting and getting funds to municipal awardees.

Grant applications must be submitted, along with any required supporting documentation, to NYSWaterGrants@efc.ny.gov no later than **5:00 pm on Monday, November 22, 2021**. For additional information about the water grant programs and grant applications and to register for two upcoming webinars on Thursday, October 7th at 11:00 am and on Tuesday, November 2nd at 2:00 pm, please visit the EFC website at www.efc.ny.gov and the DEC website at www.dec.ny.gov.

EFC Clean Water Grant Workshop - October 20th

As I have also done each year, I will be co-hosting an EFC Clean Water Grant Workshop on **Thursday, October 20th from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm at the Jay Heritage Center Carriage House in Rye, New York**. EFC staff will present and answer questions regarding this year's application process. These workshops have been very helpful in encouraging successful applications from our region and for applicants to learn more about the process and all EFC programs. (Covid-19 protocols to be observed: proof of vaccination and masking required for this event)

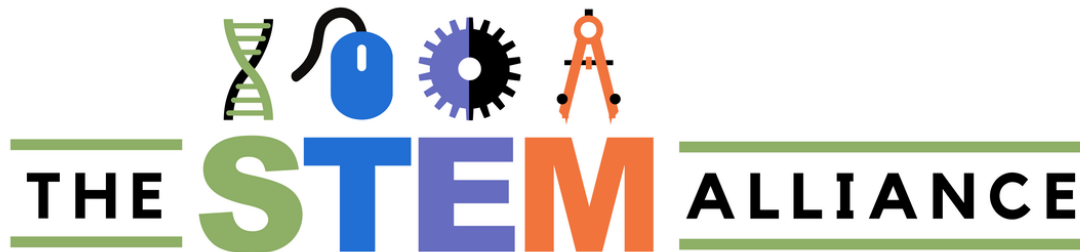
Our EFC Clean Water Grant Workshop will again be co-hosted by local groups:

- Federated Conservationists of Westchester (FCWC)

- Jay Heritage Center
- Save the Sound
- Westchester Putnam Construction Industry Council (WP CIC)

With Governor Hochul's announcement on clean water was news of an additional \$200 million being added to the Water Quality Improvement Project Program (WQIP) that will be included in the 2021 CFA funding round, which has already occurred. Those applications are now being evaluated. The governor also announced that the Publicly Owned Treatment Works Asset Management Program will make \$10 million available to establish asset management programs that will help municipalities monitor, protect, and responsibly plan upgrades for wastewater infrastructure systems, at no cost. An additional \$5 million in Green Innovation Grant Program funding will be available to communities that utilize unique stormwater infrastructure design and create cutting-edge green technologies to mitigate the impact of climate change.

My office is available to help applicants in this important funding opportunity and to support your application at every step in the process. I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming EFC workshop on October 20th, and please feel free to contact me at 914-939-7028 for more information or with any questions you may have.





Thursday, October 7th @7:30pm

Digital Equity in Westchester

AN URGENT CALL FOR DIGITAL INCLUSION
AS A DRIVER OF
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY & RECOVERY

**A Free
Webinar**

Hosted by
The STEM Alliance

PANELISTS

Jordan Cormier

Director of Programming, Youth Shelter of Westchester

Grace Battaglia

Director of Marketing & Community Relations
Open Door Family Medical Center and Foundation

Dr. Fenix Arias

Chief of Operations, Yonkers Public Schools

Assemblyman Steve Otis

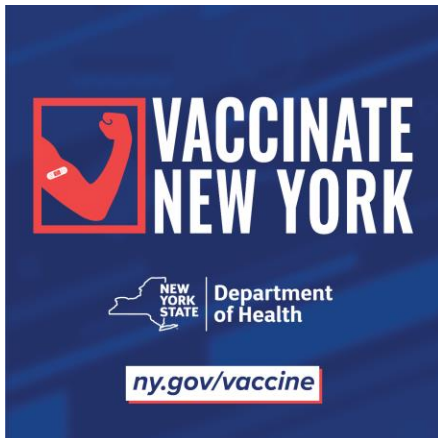
New York State District 91

Digital Equity in Westchester - A STEM Alliance Webinar

In celebration of National Digital Inclusion week, join a Free Webinar about [Digital Equity in Westchester](#)

Thursday, October 7, 2021 @ 7:30pm

[Register](#)



Covid-19 Booster Doses Now Available for Eligible New Yorkers

On Monday, Governor Hochul announced that New York State endorsed the CDC's recommendations to ensure at-risk New Yorkers can stay protected from the virus and encouraged all New Yorkers to stay up to date with recommended vaccines this fall including the seasonal flu shot. Workers in high-exposure jobs, including school staff, may receive a Pfizer booster shot, based on an assessment of their individual benefits and risks.

A new dedicated booster website has also launched to help New Yorkers get their shot. Visit [NY.gov/Boosters](https://ny.gov/boosters) for more information.

\$27 Million Available For Hurricane Ida Relief for Undocumented New Yorkers

Community Organizations Selected in Impacted Areas to Help Undocumented Survivors Receive Recovery Assistance

Selected Not-For-Profits Will Work Directly with Residents Who Do Not Qualify for FEMA Assistance

Governor Hochul announced \$27 million is available to provide relief to undocumented survivors of the storms and flooding caused by the remnants of Hurricane Ida. This funding will be distributed through grants to an established network of community organizations and provided to New Yorkers who are not eligible to receive storm recovery assistance through the FEMA Individual Assistance Program or other means.

To get connected with assistance, impacted residents should call the ONA Hotline at 1-800-566-7636, 9am to 8:00pm, Monday through Friday or visit the partner not-for-profits. Hotline assistance is available in over 200 languages.



Furniture Sharehouse Opens Drop-Off Location in Mamaroneck To Aid Ida Victims

The Furniture Sharehouse is accepting small apartment-sized furniture in good condition. The group is asking that those interested in donating carefully review their donation [guidelines](#) to see what items they can and cannot accept.

Drop-off hours at the Waverly Avenue container will be Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. For those unable to drop off furniture, local pickup may be available, depending on the size and quantity of

items.

Drop-off is also available at Furniture Sharehouse's warehouse located at the Westchester County Airport. Donations are accepted on Wednesdays and Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. The special Ida aftermath hours will be in effect through the end of September only.

To request a pickup or if you are unsure about your items, send photos and dimensions of the furniture to furnsharemamk@gmail.com.



The [Coalition for Community](#) is still engaged in helping flood victims in Mamaroneck. Donations and volunteers are still needed at St. Thomas church to help families in need. Sign-Up [HERE](#)

FEMA Mobile Unit To Visit Port Chester This Week

Village Hall Municipal Parking Lot

222 Grace Church Street

Port Chester, New York 10573

Thursday September 30: 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Friday October 1: 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Saturday October 2: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Appointments are NOT necessary

SERVICES PROVIDED WILL INCLUDE: Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA), Registration, Case Review, Individual Assistance (IA), Document Scanning & Submission, Hazard Mitigation Planning.

