

Weekly Report from Assemblyman Charles D. Fall October 28, 2021

Trick or Treat in the Park

In partnership with PR Strong, the NYPD, RCDA and MetroPlusHealth my office will be hosting "Trick or Treat in the Park" on October 30th. From 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM, families can come out for games, candy and resources at Veterans Park located on Park Ave. and Bennett Street.

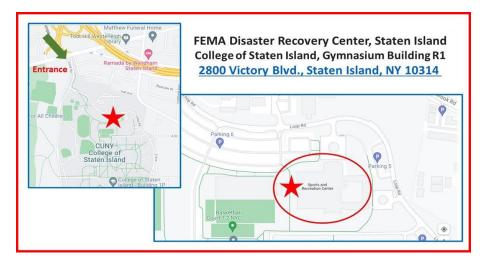


If you or a loved one has been affected by the storm click here to reach out to our office

See more resources below:

• <u>Click here to apply for FEMA if you have not done so already or call (800) 621 - 3362.</u>

- Tips for Appealing Decision from FEMA
- American Red Cross in Greater New York is providing temporary shelter for those affected 877.RED.CROSS.
  - College of Staten Island, Gymnasium Building R1 2800 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314 is our local Disaster Recovery Center and will be open from 10 AM - 7 PM Monday - Saturday and closed Sunday until further notice.





## FEMA DISASTER ASSISTANCE

To apply and get answers to your questions, call:

## 800-621-3362

#### 711/VRS (Video Relay Service)

#### Please have the following available:

- Your address with Zip code
   Condition of your damaged home
- Condition of your damaged nome
   Insurance information, if available
- Social Security number
- Phone number where you can be contacted
  Address where you can get mail or email
- address to receive electronic notifications

Stay in touch with FEMA: When you apply, you will receive a FEMA registration number. Save it. You will need the number whenever you contact FEMA.

bank routing number.

Direct Deposit: Disaster assistance funds can be sent directly to your bank account. Please provide your bank account type, account number and

Online registration also available



Disaster assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status.



## **Early Voting**

Early voting is from October 23rd - October 31st. Click here to find your early polling site.



### **District 61 News**

### Honoring 35 Years of Serivce To Our Community

I was honored to join Mt. Sanai last Sunday to celebrate Bishop Brown's 35 years of service. I presented him with a plaque and thanked him for his continuous guidance and friendship. His decades of service are appreciated by our entire community and we thank him.



## **Updates from Albany**

Assemblyman Fall's legislation granting New Yorkers a second chance was signed into law as chap.486.

Governor Hochul enacted (A.2573-A/S.294-A) that will now allow those who served their sentence the ability to become executor or executrix to their family estate. The legislation was passed in the Assembly by a bi-partisan vote of 146-1 and along party line vote 43-20 in the Senate.

- State law governs probate and surrogate courts, not federal law, so the rules can vary a great deal from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.
  - For example, in New Jersey and Oregon, there are no laws stating that a convicted felon can't serve as executor of an estate.
  - In New Jersey, this applies even if the named executor is still in jail when the testator dies.

- Previous law prevented anyone convicted of a felony to become a fiduciary of an estate, even if the deceased parent/family member(s) named said individual executor to the estate.
- It is important for persons preparing their estate plan to prepare a Will and Trust and to nominate the persons they want to act as executors, executrix or trustees.
- In most instances the court respects the choices made by the creator of the document and appoints the nominated parties, however
- The new law gives latitude to the court to still judge on certain cases where the prior conviction was associated with fraud, embezzlement or whose crime may be averse to the welfare of the estate.

"First and foremost, I would like to thank Governor Hochul for signing my legislation into law. The new law is essential to grieving families who have a family member prohibited from acting as an executor due to his or her conviction after paying their debt to society. Unfair and unjust prohibition under previous statute should not play a part in grief-stricken family's decisions to finalize their estates."



## Critical Updates, New Policies, and Testing Locations to Protect You and Your Community

1. <u>Governor Kathy Hochul today New Yorkers on the state's progress combating</u> <u>COVID-19.</u> "New Yorkers have made tremendous progress in the fight against COVID, but make no mistake - our work is not done," **Governor Hochul said.** "We all remember the spike in infections last winter and it's now on all of us to ensure it doesn't happen again. As we move towards colder months and more opportunities for people to gather indoors, the vaccine has become even more important. There's no reason to wait - it's free, it's available and it's the right thing to do, so get your shot today.

- 2. Governor Hochul announced that the MTA's nationally celebrated program to mentor local minority-owned, women-owned and disadvantaged businesses (MWBE) has helped participating companies win a total of \$500 million in MTA contracts since the state's program was founded in 2010. A \$2 million contract to Alliance Tri-State Construction, Inc., of Staten Island was the decisive award that put the total over the half billion mark. It is the 485th contract to be awarded to a participating business since the start of the program. MTA Chief Diversity Officer Michael Garner and his team, working closely with MTA Construction & Development and the MTA's Office of Construction Oversight, have led the Authority to an unprecedented pace of activity in recent years, with hundreds of millions of dollars in contracts awarded.
- 3. <u>Governor Hochul and Mayor Blasio announced \$27 million is available to provide</u> 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. When I saw the devastation of Hurricane Ida, I pledged that we would do everything in our power to help impacted communities recover, and this funding is a fulfillment of that promise," Governor Hochul said. "With these resources dedicated to undocumented New Yorkers who are ineligible for FEMA relief and partnerships with organizations on the ground, we can close gaps in aid and help New Yorkers in need. I urge eligible New Yorkers to apply to get the funding they need to rebuild.
- 4. Governor Hochul announced a series of changes to both attract more applications and accelerate payments within New York State's Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Under the Governor's direction, the state will invest an additional \$1 million in marketing and outreach efforts to raise awareness about the rent relief program, the available funding, and the strong tenant eviction protections in place for those who apply. The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, which administers the program, will analyze application data to target areas of the state with relatively low numbers of applications.
- 5. Eligible individuals can schedule vaccine appointments by contacting:
  - The NYC Vaccine hotline at 877-829-4692 or clicking here
  - The NYS hotline at 888-364-3065 or clicking here
  - SOMOS, a community health provider at 833-766-6769
  - Eligible individuals will have to fill out a screening form and attest to being in an eligible category. Anyone who is NOT eligible for vaccination, should not sign up for an appointment. Click here to find updated vaccine eligibility lists, vaccine locations near you, and schedule a vaccine appointment when eligible.
  - Click here for a COVID-19 vaccine fact sheet.
  - <u>Review the State guidelines for travelers arriving in New York State</u>.

- View the Test-and-Trace Corps <u>COVID-19 Wait Times Dashboard</u> for estimated wait times for NYC Health + Hospitals COVID-19 testing locations. This wait time information is updated by site staff every two hours.
- Use the DOH map to find all State-run testing sites.
- <u>Click here for a full list of NYC Health + Hospitals walk-in testing sites</u> available at no cost to you on the North Shore.
- Use the Phone-a-Clinician program with Health + Hospitals, by calling (844) NYC-4NYC. Call to connect with a medical provider free of charge seven days a week from 9 AM 9 PM.
- Individuals that are unable to safely isolate themselves at home may be afforded a free temporary hotel room. <u>Click here to learn more</u> or call (844) 692-4692.
   <u>Please click here if you have any further questions.</u>

## **Crucial Resources to Support and Aid Your Everyday Needs**

1. The BJ House of Community offers a variety of resources for our community! See the flyers below to learn more about their services.



- The Staten Island Business Outreach Center is hosting several events in November to help incoming business owners and entrepreneurs. <u>To Register for their events click</u> <u>here.</u>
- 3. The 2021-2022 Regular HEAP Benefit opened October 1, 2021

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.

4. Free SNAP Assistance - See the flyer below



- 5. 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 *disaster assistance*.
- 6. 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</u> <u>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.

7. 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.

## 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 upgat utility bits.

#### DO LOUALIEY?

- Eligible residents must meet the following criteria:
- gible residents must meet the following orterna:
   Household gross income at or below 80 percent of area median income, which varies by courty and household size.
   A member of the household received unemphyment benefits or experienced a reduction in income, incurred significant costs or experienced financial hardship, directly or indirectly, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
   The applicant oves past due rent at their current residence.

Local Community Organization Information:

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Pripet Call 929-724-5360 or email srap@projecthospitality org for assistance submitting your application from one of Project Hospitality's ERAP enrollers.

**Project Hospitality** 

**Help Center Services** 

Are All Available By Phone!

**Apply for** 

Health Insurance

or NYC Care

Mental

Health

Services

Immigration

Help

#### HOW DOES IT WORK?

HOW DOES IT WORK? This assistance on pay up to 12 months of past due rent and for some households, pay up to 3 months for future rent. The program can also pay for up to 12 months of overdue electric or gas bills. Please note, payments will always be issued directly to the landlord or utility provider.

#### HOW CAN I APPLY? Applications can be submitted online beginning June 1.

For more information, visit otda.ny.gov/ERAP or call 844-NY1RENT (844-691-7368)



Project

Hospitality

Apply

for SNAP

Legal

Services

Apply

for

Unemployment

ALL NOW AND LEAVE A MESSAGE WITH YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER AND

REACH US AT **718-420-6466** OR **718-448-3470** For help with snap, call **347-410-3657** 

Apply for

WIC and

Cash

Assistance

Domestic

Violence

Services

Food

Pantry

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



# New York State Emergency Rental Assistance Program

El Programa de Asistencia para Alquières de Ernergencia ayuda a las familias atrasadas en el pago del alquier que han sufrido dificutades financieras debido a la COVID-19 y están en riesgo de quedarse en la calle o de padecen instabilidad por la falta de vivinda. Admáns, el rograma puede proporcionar asistencia de alquier temporal y asistencia para el pago de facturas de servicios públicos vencidas.

#### CALIFICO?

- Los residentes aptos para solicitar la asistencia deben cumplir con los siguientes criterios
- Los la represa bactos de la famita son ignatas e interesa al 80% del ingreso promedio del área, que verse apoint el tramó del la conde dy de la famita.
   Un miembro de la familia recibió subsidios de desempleo o experimentó una reducción en los ingresos, incursó en costos significativos a sufrió dificuitades financieras, directa o indirectamente, debido a la pandemia de COVID-19.
   El solicitante adeuda alquileres en su recisidoncia actual.

#### COMO FUNCIONA?

Esta asistencia puede pagra hasta 12 meses de renta vencida y, para algunas familias, pagar hasta 3 meses de alguieres futuros. El programa también puede pagar hasta 12 meses de facturas de electricidad o gas vencidas. Freque en cuenta que los pagos siempre se emitrán directamente al propietario o al provedor de servicios públicos.

¿CÓMO PUEDO SOLICITARLA? Las solicitudes se pueden enviar en línea a partir del 1 de junio.

Para más información, visite otda.ny.gov/ERAP o llame al 844-NY1RENT (844-691-7368)





Los servicios del Centro de Ayuda estan disponibles por via Telefonica! LLAME AHORA V DE JE UN MENSA JE CON SUN MORRE V NUMERO DE TELEFONO V LE DEVENTIMOS LA ILAMADA: COMUNIQUESE CON NOSOTOS A LOS NUMEROS DE TELEFONO VIE-420-6466 0 AL 7118-448-3470 . PARA DETENER AVUDA CON SNAP UPROGRAMA DE ASISTENCIA NUTRICIONALI LLAME AL 347-410-3657		
Solicitar para SNAP (programa de asistencia nutricional)	Solicitar WIC y Asistencia en efectivo	Solicitar un Seguro Medico o NYC Care
Servicios Legales	Servicios de Violencia Domestica	Servicios de Salud Mental
Solicitud de desempleo	Despensa de alimentos	Ayuda en casos de Inmigracion



8. 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?



- InformationEducation
  - Emotional support Links to resources
- We can provide virtual presentations on:

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





NY Project Hope

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(Rev.05/21)

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Office of Temporary state and Disability Assistance

Project

NOW AND LEAVE A MESSAGE WIT

Apply

for SNAP

Legal

Services

Apply

for

Unemployment

Hospitality

Eligible residents must meet the following criteria:

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• A member of the household received unemployment benefits or experienced a reduction in income, incurred significant costs or experienced financial hardship, directly or indirectly, due to the COVID-19 particular due rent at their current residence.

For more information, visit otda.ny.gov/ERAP or call 844-NY1RENT (844-691-7368)

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Información de la organización comunitaria loca

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Project Hospitality

Llame al 929-724-5360 o envie un correo

electronico a <u>erap@projecthospitality.org</u> para recibir asistencia con la solicitud de un Enroller de Project Hospitality.

#### COMO FUNCIONA?

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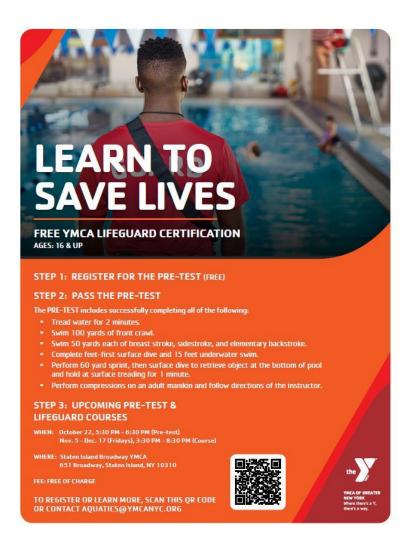


- 9. Small Business Resources:
- For counseling and help services through SBS click here. •

- <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. The Broadway Y is excited to offer a FREE lifeguard training and employment program starting in November, with pre-tests happening this Friday. This opportunity is particularly suited to high school seniors and college students who already have swimming skills. **Contact aquatics@ymcanyc.org** 



- 2. State parks and historic sites are staffed by a core of permanent employees who work year-round to maintain these precious resources. During the peak of our operating season (May through September) the permanent staff is supplemented by several thousand seasonal employees who work to ensure that our patrons have a positive and safe experience when visiting our sites.
- Be a part of the premier park system in the United States with more than 250 state parks, historic sites, golf courses, swimming pools, beaches, campgrounds, marinas, trails, and museums and nature centers.
- Work in some of the most beautiful, scenic, and historic places New York State has to offer.
- Make a tangible impact on your community. Parks are for everyone, and **all are welcome here:** People of every age, ability, color, or creed belong here – without exceptions – yourself included! People of every kind come visit us in order to have *experiences* – and at OPRHP, *we get to be part* of these special times in truly meaningful ways. See how you can make a difference as a part of Team OPRHP! <u>To learn more about seasonal or</u>

### permanent employment click here.



 Snow season is coming! Become a paid emergency Snow Laborer to help us clear snow from steps, streets, crosswalks and fire hydrants after winter storms. Earn \$15/hour. Must make an appointment and be at least 18 years old. Click here for more details.



4. The Central Family Life Center is now accepting applications for their free Career Training Programs. **Call (718) 273-8414** ext.8 and see the flyer below for more information.



- 5. The NYS Department of Public Services has partnered with ECC Technologies to request consumers' help in better understanding their experience with broadband access in the state. Please take the brief survey <u>here.</u>
- 6. The Daffodil Project is the largest volunteer effort in NYC history and living memorial in remembrance of the victims of 9/11, now in it's 20th year. See the flyer below for dates and more information.



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 inititative 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

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,

horaly

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