



NEWS From ASSEMBLYWOMAN Alicia L. Hyndman



Dear Neighbor,

2021 has been a busy and productive year, and I am grateful for all that we have achieved together! This year, I worked side by side with my colleagues to deliver progress on issues that long awaited action — from voting reform measures and protections for immigrant communities to environmental advocacy addressing the realities of climate change as well as ensuring the need to put our homeowners and tenants first. As 2022 approaches, I hope you will stay engaged and encourage your neighbors to get involved. In the following pages, you will learn more about what we have accomplished over the last year and our work ahead. Please do not hesitate to contact me at hyndmana@nyassembly.gov with your questions or concerns.

Grants & Community Funding

This year, I was privileged to secure funding for various organizations in our community who have proven to be vital to providing important services to us all.

Black Spectrum Theatre Co. Inc.	Mobile stage upgrade and maintenance	\$65,000
Community Health Network	Tree of Life project	\$85,000
EdeYouth Inc.	Funding for the Empowering Young People program	\$25,000
Showing Hearts Foundation Inc.	Heart for the Community program	\$25,000
United Black Men of Queens Foundation Inc.	Mentoring program	\$25,000

War on Gun Violence

Thanks to the Assembly Majority’s gun violence initiative, I was able to request grant funds for our community organizations who work tirelessly to ensure our streets are safe.

LIFE Camp Inc.	\$50,000
100 suits for 100 men	\$25,000
United Black Men of Queens Foundation Inc.	\$25,000
King of Kings Foundation-	25,000 \$25,000

Furthermore, I was also able to secure over \$250,000 in state funding to create a grants program as part of the Governor’s gun violence initiative to help address gun violence issues in our community as well as provide services to victims of gun violence and community programs for our youth.



100 Suits for 100 Men Grand Opening

I joined 100 Suits founder Kevin Livingston, Mayor Bill de Blasio and other elected officials for the grand opening of the new 100 Suits for 100 Men office. We’re proud of the work this organization does to be the violence interrupters in our community.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

This year, I championed the following legislation:

Bill No.	
A00959	Relates to premium reductions of commercial risk insurance policies covering for-hire vehicles
A00982	Establishes State University of New York educational opportunity centers; repealer
A02670	Directs the New York State Department of Health to conduct a study on the incidences of asthma in cities and towns having a population of more than ninety thousand
A03020	Relates to minimum wage rates for covered airport workers
A06429	Requires hospitals distribute literature created by the commissioner to patients at a high risk of sickle cell disease
A06476	Authorizes pharmacists to provide immunizations which are recommended by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to patients eighteen years or older
A06769	Relates to the determination of youthful offender status

My colleagues and I fought tirelessly throughout the 2021 state legislative session to enact critical legislation and invest in the resources and services that would help our families, communities and small businesses recover and rebuild from the devastating economic effects of the pandemic.

Here is some of the legislation we passed in this year’s legislative session:

- putting a stay on evictions and foreclosures for small businesses as well as providing funding to help them get back on their feet
- expanding the existing utility-shut off moratorium for all New Yorkers
- \$29.1 billion for public schools and \$19.8 billion in Foundation Aid to support high-need schools, as well as continues a multi-year investment in universal pre-kindergarten to give all our kids a solid educational foundation
- \$88 million to increase the maximum TAP award and rejects proposed tuition increases at CUNY and SUNY
- \$69.4 million in local assistance for childcare programs, family and children’s programs and youth programs
- \$50.9 million in grants and programming to support working parents
- gun safety legislation to help law enforcement crack down on gun violence without infringing on the rights of law-abiding gun owners

The vaccines have been the boost we needed; most restrictions have been lifted and brighter days are here as we turn the corner on this pandemic and safely reopen our economy. It was the compassion, resilience and strength of New Yorkers that truly helped get us to this point and showed what we can accomplish when we work together. My commitment is to keep fighting to get New York all the way back from this pandemic by always putting families first

Juneteenth Celebration

In 2020, I was honored to spearhead legislation to make Juneteenth a state holiday in New York and this year on June 19th, in conjunction with Southeast Queens elected officials, we got to celebrate our maiden Juneteenth event "Juneteenth in Queens." President Biden also signed law this year making Juneteenth a federal holiday.



Hurricane Ida Recovery Information:

Key Messages

If you have a mold problem caused by Hurricane Ida, call your insurance company to file a claim. Mold can pose serious health risks and should be removed as soon as possible. If you have not already applied for FEMA assistance, file an application. You may be eligible for a one-time \$300 Cleaning and Sanitizing grant to help with Ida cleanup costs. Find tips about mold remediation from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at Homeowner's and Renter's Guide to Mold Cleanup After Disasters | CDC.

If you disagree with a FEMA decision about your eligibility for disaster assistance, remember that you have the right to appeal. Be sure to provide documentation of the damage that affected your essential living space or made your home uninhabitable. That includes repair estimates, contractor bids and photos. For more information and advice on the appeals process, see <https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20211014/tips-appealing-decision-fema>.

Individual Assistance

Once disaster survivors apply for assistance, FEMA is required to verify the reported losses to determine the applicant's eligibility for assistance. Each application is treated individually. If a FEMA inspection is required, the inspector will contact the survivor within 14 days. Please make sure that the contact information on your application is correct and return the inspector's call promptly to expedite your claim. Remember that the inspector may contact you via call, text, or email and that the call may come from an unfamiliar area code. If you do not hear from the inspector within 14 days, call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 or visit the nearest Disaster Recovery Center to check on the status of your application.

Renters who live in the nine counties designated for federal assistance after Hurricane Ida can apply for FEMA assistance for necessary expenses and disaster-related serious needs not covered by insurance. Renters may be considered for help to replace personal property such as furniture, appliances, school supplies, vehicle repairs, medical and dental bills related to the disaster. For more information, call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362, visit the nearest Disaster Recovery Center at fema.gov/DRC or visit DisasterAssistance.gov.

Hazard Mitigation

Information about reducing your risk can be found at fema.gov/emergency-managers/risk-management.

Disaster Recovery Centers

At a Disaster Recovery Center, you can apply for FEMA disaster assistance, check the status of your application and get information

about other resources available.

The Rockland County Disaster Recovery Center at Orangetown Soccer Club Complex, 175 Old Orangeburg Road in Orangeburg is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday.

Disaster Recovery Centers listed below are open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, closed Sundays, at these fixed locations:

- Hostos College, 450 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451
- Queens College, 152-45 Melbourne Ave., Queens, NY 11367
- Medgar Evers College, 231 Crown St., Brooklyn, NY 11225
- College of Staten Island, 2800 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314
- Michael J. Tully Park Physical Activity Center, 1801 Evergreen Ave., New Hyde Park, NY 11040
- Public Library, 136 Prospect Ave., Mamaroneck, NY 10543

Ways to Apply to FEMA

To apply for FEMA assistance, visit DisasterAssistance.gov, use the FEMA mobile app or call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362. If you use video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service. Helpline operators are available from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Press 2 for Spanish. Press 3 for an interpreter who speaks your language.

You can also apply at any Disaster Recovery Center. To find one near you, visit fema.gov/DRC.

U.S. Small Business Administration

SBA disaster loans are the largest source of federal disaster recovery funds for survivors. These low-interest disaster loans are not just for businesses. Homeowners, renters and certain nonprofits that were affected by Hurricane Ida may apply online for disaster loans using SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/ela/s/>. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or email DisasterCustomerService@sba.gov for more information. Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call 800-877-8339.

Get More Information

For additional online resources as well as FEMA downloadable pamphlets and other aids, visit DisasterAssistance.gov and click "Information."

For referrals to agencies that support community-specific needs, call 211 or visit 211nys.org/contact-us. New York City residents can call 311.

AROUND THE DISTRICT



Groundbreaking of the 116th Precinct

The groundbreaking of the new NYPD precinct was long awaited in Rosedale, Queens. This precinct rectifies the decades-long inequality of public protection needed in this area of Southeast Queens. What we need people to understand in this mostly black community is that we need equity and respect from our police. So while I am a supporter of Black Lives Matter I am also a supporter of adequate and respectful policing.



I was honored to join our Islamic brothers and sisters in Queens to celebrate Eid al-Fitr.



183rd and 184th Streets Hurricane Ida devastation and building back

The record breaking rainfall from Hurricane Ida took us completely by surprise and the devastation it caused our community is still being felt by the homeowners that now live with severely cracked foundations, mold and mildew, and navigating all the city and state agencies that exist to help them.



Senior Appreciation Month 2021

I had a great time honoring and celebrating with our seniors during Senior Appreciation Month.



Our Back to School Event with small business owners Teado's and Cheese Bus, and 100 Suits

Helpful Tools & Links

- Updates on New York's COVID-19 response: www.coronavirus.health.ny.gov
- Updates on COVID-19 vaccines: www.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov
- Advance Child Tax Credit payments created by the President's American Rescue Plan will be sent directly to households through the end of 2021: www.whitehouse.gov/child-tax-credit
- Do you own a small business? You can apply for the NYS COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant program: www.nysmallbusinessrecovery.com

New York State Homeowner Assistance Fund

The New York State Homeowner Assistance Fund (NYSHAF) is a federally funded program dedicated to assisting homeowners who are at risk of default, foreclosure or displacement as result of a financial hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please visit: <https://www.nyhomeownerfund.org/> where you can:

- Learn more about the program, including eligibility criteria and what types of assistance will be available;
- Enter your email to be notified when the application period opens; and
- Read our detailed guide about the NYS HAF application, including eligibility criteria and a list of documents you may need to provide when applying.

The NYS HAF program also has a dedicated call center staffed with live operators who speak multiple languages and who can assist you with any additional questions you have about the program or the application process.

Contact: 1-844-77-NYHAF (1-844-776-9423). The call center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

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Reports to the People

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SURVEY

The 2022 legislative session is right around the corner and I need your input as I continue fighting for the issues that matter most to our community.

I want to hear from you. What priorities do you think I should focus on in the 2022 legislative session? Fill out an online survey on my website: www.nyassembly.gov/hyndman



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