

Weekly Report from Assemblyman Charles D. Fall

February 14, 2020 Happy Valentine's Day!

Advisory Notice: My Albany and District offices will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2020 in observance of Presidents Day. Please direct any emails to <u>Agosas@nyassembly.gov</u>. Both offices will reopen on Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

## **Updates from Albany**

## Discussing Staten Island Priority Issues with Mayor de Blasio

It was great to have the chance, once again to speak to and thank Mayor de Blasio for delivering on projects that I have advocated for such as the City's Fast Ferry on Staten Island, which will be implemented in 2020; funding for the Cromwell Center; Universal Pre-K funding; and funding for the Port Richmond High School athletic complex.

Some of the other issues I addressed with the mayor were the City's plans for relocating the Jersey Street sanitation garage to Fresh Kills; acquiring funds for the Curtis High School athletic complex; preventing another mount Manresa by ensuring that the agreement between the City and the Goodhue Center is upheld; the construction of an indoor pool for Staten Islanders; and addressing the concerns of Medicaid cuts and how important it is to find any and all alternative funding to make sure these cuts do not impact our families and seniors. Many of the aforementioned proposals are set to be in place within the next year and I look forward to working with the administration to fulfill these community needs.



Watch here as I address Mayor de Blasio during a joint Assembly-Senate budget hearing on Local/General Government

#### 2020 African Diaspora Resolution

It was a privilege for me to introduce and have my African Diaspora resolution ratified by a bi-partisan consensus here in the Assembly. The resolution requests that Governor Cuomo proclaim the month of February, as African Diaspora Month in the State of New York. As Black History month comes to a midpoint, this resolution speaks to the wide span of African culture and achievement in our state.



### Meeting with the College of Staten Island President

It was a pleasure to meet with CSI President Bill Fritz and his staff in Albany. We discussed their growing need for funding to upgrade campus security; methods for addressing the TAP gap; concerns with CSI's operations budget; and the need for a high performance community center. It is essential that we provide our students with safe facilities and high quality resources to ensure their success. Together we will continue to advocate to ensure the appropriate funds are allocated to CSI.



# **District 61 News**

### North Shore Youth Assembly (NYSA) Initiative

I partnered with United Activities Unlimited (UAU) to provide nearly 100 youth in the 61st assembly district with civic education workshops, access to volunteer service opportunities, and an opportunity to attend the 2020 NYS Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators Annual Legislative Conference in Albany. In anticipation of the conference, the youth participated in two community-based workshops where they learned about the responsibilities of local government and the ways they can become more civically engaged.

During the conference this weekend, the youth participants will attend a Youth Summit, tour parts of the capital and get to explore my Albany office. These youth delegates will have an opportunity to represent and give voice to their community by learning about how government works and their role in making a difference on a local and state level. I look forward to sharing photos from the conference in next week's report!





**Celebrating Black History Month** Senator Diane Savino and I are hosting a Black History Month celebration, recognizing black movers and shakers in the community. Join us on Saturday, February 29, 2020 from 3-5pm at Reach Out & Touch Ministries, 51 Cottage Place. All are welcome to attend. Contact my district office at 718-442-9932 or email <u>Agosas@nyassembly.gov</u> to RSVP!



### Scholarships, Internships and Career Opportunities

- Applications for the National Council of Negro Women- Staten Island, High School Achievers Award are open! NCNW-SI is seeking high school students, grades 9-12, with a history of community involvement and academic achievement to apply. Applications are due by March 1. NCNW-SI will hold an information workshop on Thursday, February 20 from 10am to noon at Brighton Heights Reformed Church, 320 Saint Marks Avenue. Click here to download an application or RSVP for more information on the workshop and contact Dr. Janet Leslie at 917-692-3000.
- The office of Comptroller Scott Stringer is accepting applications for its 2020 Summer Internship **Program!** This is a paid, 9-week program (June 8<sup>th</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>) and it is open to both undergraduate and graduate students. Interested applicants should click here to apply! The application will close on March 6<sup>th</sup>.



- The Lower East Side People's Federal Credit Union (LESPFCU) is offering a People's Memorial College Scholarship to support first-time college students with their career path by offering a monetary incentive to cover qualified college expenses such as partial tuition, school books, school equipment and relocation expenses. The People's Memorial College Scholarship awards two prizes of \$1,000. This scholarship application is open to members and non-members of LES People's FCU. Applications must submitted no later than March 31, 2020 at 4pm. Completed applications can also be submitted via email to <u>aportada@lespfcu.org</u>. <u>Click here to</u> download an application!
- Lower East Side People's Federal Credit Union is also seeking a Media Communication and Outreach Associate. LESPFCU is a non-profit financial cooperative organized in 1986 that promotes economic justice and opportunity in NYC neighborhoods, including the North Shore of Staten Island. <u>Click here to learn more about</u> this job opportunity.



### **Community Resources**

- Apply now for the **NYPD Citizens Police Academy.** The Citizens Police Academy was established to provide members of the community with a background and understanding of NYPD policies and activities, as well as the structure and limit of police power. This is a 10-week program that runs 2 nights per week, at the NYC police academy in Queens starting on March 16th. The NYPD transports candidates to and from the academy, meeting at the 121st precinct. Apply by February 21 by **contacting Community Affairs Officers P.O. Jacobson or P.O. Sibal at** (718) 697-8777.
- NYC Service is hosting their inaugural NYC Mayoral Service Recognition Awards. The Awards will honor organizations, businesses, and individuals who have dedicated themselves to service in 2019 and are creative thinkers leading their communities in strengthening NYC with people power. Nominations are accepted until February 28, in the following categories:
  - Partnership Impact Award
  - Community Impact Award

- o AmeriCorps Alum Impact Award
- Youth Impact Award

Click here to learn more and submit a nomination!

- <u>NYC Care</u> is now available on Staten Island! NYC Care is a health care access program that guarantees low-cost and no-cost services to New Yorkers who do not qualify for or cannot afford health insurance. To enroll call 646-692-2273 or visit the NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health, Vanderbilt, 165 Vanderbilt Ave to start receiving primary and preventative care services; mental health support; help with services for housing, food and nutrition and so much more. <u>Find multilingual resource information here</u>.
- Beginning on March 1, 2020, a new bag waste reduction law will take effect in New York State. All plastic carryout bags (with limited exceptions) will be banned from distribution by anyone/business required to collect New York State sales tax. In NYC all businesses covered by the ban will be able to charge a \$0.05 fee on paper bags. I encourage shoppers to BYOBag- Bring Your Own Bag to avoid any frustrations and help the health of our communities by reducing our plastic use. With the help of NYC Sanitation, my office will provide free reusable bags that will help you avoid fees while shopping and support the effort to reduce waste! Click here to learn more about the Bag Waste Reduction Law.



• Receive free tax prep support in preparation for the 2020 tax season! Project Hospitality and NYC Consumer and Worker Protection are offering free tax prep services from January 27 until April 15 for individuals that earned \$64,000 or less with dependents, or \$45,000 or less without dependents. See the flyer below for locations and details on the appropriate documents to bring.

NYC Free Tax Prep	
OPEN FROM JANUARY 27 UNTIL APRIL 15	
You are eligible for this free service if you:: Worked or received unempbyment in 2019. Earned SR4,000 or isss with dependents or \$45,000 or isss without dependents. FILE FOR FREE AND KEEP YOUR WHOLE REFUND!	
SERVICE SITES:	
HELP CENTER 514 Bay St., Staten Island, NY 10304 Monday - Friday 9am-Spm 718-448-3470 or 716-273-6737 Call now to make an appointment!	HELP CENTER 221 Heberton Ave., Staten Island, NY 10302 Monday - Friday 11am-7pm 718-420-6466 Call now to make an appointment!
YOU CAN ALSO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT ONLINE AT	
SINGLESTOPTAX.ORG/APPOINTMENT What to Bring with You	
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- Applications to enroll young children in NYC Pre-K for All and 3-K for All for the 2020-2021 school year are **open!** The two programs, which provide free, full-day care and education, are part of a broader effort to create more high-quality early care and education programs for children from birth to 5 years old. The three methods to apply are:
  - Online at <u>MySchool.nyc</u>
  - Over the phone at (718) 935-2009
  - In-person at a Family Welcome Center. The Staten Island Center is located at 715 Ocean Terrace, Building

### **Community Events**

• First Central Baptist Church will host their first Women Empowerment Tea of 2020, "A Celebration of the Rich Legacy of Womanhood" tomorrow, Saturday, February 15, from noon to 3pm at 59 Wright Street. HIV screenings will be provided by CHASI Beauty and Health Units. RSVP to Tdonegan@centralfamilylifecenter.org or call 718-273-8414.



• Richmond University Medical Center will be hosting Breast Cancer Screening Day for members of the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) on February 22 and February 29 from 8am to 2pm. Please call (718) 818-1161 to set up an appointment. Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women, no matter your family history, it is important to get screened today!





• The TD Charitable Foundation and the 5 Chamber Alliance are hosting two events on Staten Island: "<u>Defining</u> <u>Your Business for Success: Tools for Purposeful Business Planning</u>" on Tuesday, February 25, and "<u>A</u> <u>Guide to Home Ownership</u>" on Wednesday, February 26. RSVP in time to claim your free admission.

- On Thursday, February 27 the JCC Beacon Program at I.S. 49 will host a Black History Month Celebration for Unsung Community Service Leaders to shine a light on the work of change makers in Staten Island. The event will take place at I.S. 49, 101 Warren Street from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. All are welcome to attend! Contact Dorcas Meyers at 917-406-7736 or email <u>ran@rocanatural.com</u> for more information or to learn how you can participate.
- The Staten Island Family Justice Center will offer an Overdose Prevention Training facilitated by Planned Parenthood on Friday, February 28 from 11 am to 12:30 pm at 126 Stuyvesant Place. Participants will learn how and when to administer Naloxone, an antidote that can reverse the fatal effects of an opioid overdose and potentially save a life. All participants will receive a free Naloxone kit after completing the training. Click here to register.
- On Thursday, March 12 the NYPD will host an Active Shooter training at the Christian Pentecostal Church, 1020 Targee Street. Doors will open at 6:30pm and the training to begin at 7pm. The primary focus of this presentation is to teach community members how to identify potential threats and tips for improving security within a facility. The NYPD strongly encourages representatives from all houses of worship, sensitive locations and publicly accessible facilities to attend this training. For more information and to RSVP email PBSI@nypd.org or call (718) 667-2219.



Sincerely,

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Charles D. Fall Member of Assembly

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