



Assemblyman
Charles D. Fall
Assembly District 61

Weekly Report from Assemblyman Charles D. Fall
December 2, 2021

Upcoming Events

2021 North Shore Winter Wonderland Toy/Coat Giveaway





Van Duzer Street Civic Association Holiday

Tree Lighting in Tappen Park

District 61 News

Happy Hanukkah

Wishing all of my brothers and sisters who celebrate Hanukkah peace, light, and joy during this time.



Sunday Service at Fellowship Baptist Church and Christ Assembly Lutheran Church

It was wonderful spending Sunday at Christ Assembly Lutheran Church and Fellowship Baptist Church. Thank you to our faith leaders for getting our community through these difficult times.



Supporting our Nurses

I was proud to sponsor and vote for legislation that establishes clinical staffing committees in each general hospital to develop and oversee a clinical staffing plan and--in a separate piece of legislation--setting minimum staffing levels at nursing homes. Both pieces of legislation are a giant step forward, but with the workforce shortage dilemma throughout the state effecting so many New Yorkers, we have a lot more work to do this upcoming session.



Updates from Albany

This week, I participated in a roundtable zoom call with Attorney General Letitia James to discuss consumer protection and fraud matters for the upcoming legislative session. The meeting was hosted by Assemblymember Nily Rozic, Chairwoman of the Assembly Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection.

One of the departments within the Attorney Generals office is the Bureau of Consumer Frauds & Protection:

- Law enforcement actions are taken by the Attorney General to protect the public good and to ensure a fair marketplace.
- However, for individual consumer complaints, the Bureau of Consumer Frauds and Protection offers an informal dispute resolution program for complaints against a merchant or business.
- Although the Attorney General's Office will do its best to assist you, we are not authorized to represent individual consumers in court or provide legal or financial advice.
- If you need a lawyer, please consult with your county bar association or contact our district office at 718.442.9932.

The Attorney General/Bureau of Consumer Frauds & Protection office handles cases associated with deceptive student lending, robocalls, lemon law violations, identity theft, predatory acts against seniors and several other fraud related issues.

If you need assistance on the above referenced topics, the Attorney Generals central staff suggests that you fill out an online complaint form at <https://ag.ny.gov/consumer-frauds/Filing-a-Consumer-Complaint> or call the General Helpline at 1-800-771-7755.

As the Chair of the Assembly Subcommittee on Consumer Fraud and Protection and a member of the Assembly Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection, I would like to thank Attorney General James and Chairwoman Rozic for holding this important roundtable discussion.

I look forward to continuing our work protecting all New Yorkers from deceptive and predatory acts. You can always reach out to my team with any concerns and we will direct you to the appropriate officials.

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

1. **Governor Kathy Hochul Signed Package of Legislation to Support Small Businesses.**
Governor Hochul signed a package of legislation to increase State agency support of small businesses in New York. The legislation will create a small business liaison with the Departments of Agriculture and Markets, Environmental Conservation, Labor, Transportation, and Taxation and Finance.
2. **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.](#)
6. **Review the State guidelines for travelers arriving in New York State.**
 - View the Test-and-Trace Corps **COVID-19 Wait Times Dashboard** 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.](#)
 - [Click here for a full list of NYC Health + Hospitals walk-in testing sites 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. [Click here to learn more](#) or call (844) 692-4692.
[Please click here if you have any further questions.](#)
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Crucial Resources to Support and Aid Your Everyday Needs

1. Our children have faced many challenges throughout the pandemic. Now they're back at school and being asked to return to normalcy, but this school year is anything but normal. That's why the UFT's Positive Learning Collaborative (PLC) is offering free, confidential mental health sessions to students and to parents calling on their children's behalf. Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday: 8:30 A.M. to 12 P.M. Saturday: 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Call 212-709-3222 or Text "PLC" to 43961
2. [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.

3. Free SNAP Assistance - See the flyer below



Free SNAP (Food Stamps) Assistance ASISTENCIA GRATUITA DE SNAP (Cupones de alimentos)

**MetroPlus Health
Staten Island Community Office**
238A Port Richmond Ave.
Staten Island, NY 10302

SNAP enroller is on site **2 DAYS a week.**
Check below for our hours!

*Los especialista de SNAP estan disponible los
2 dias a la semana. ¡Revisa a continuación
nuestros horarios y ubicaciones!*

Day & Time <i>Día y Hora</i>	Location <i>Ubicación</i>	SNAP Enroller <i>Especialista de SNAP</i>	How to Schedule <i>Cómo Programar</i>
Tues, Wed <i>Martes, Miércoles</i> 9:00am – 4:30pm	In Office <i>En la Oficina</i>	Florence Lanipekun	Walk-in or call <i>Orden de llegada o Llamar al</i> 929-270-2181
Mon, Thurs, Fri <i>Lunes, Jueves, Viernes</i> 9:00am – 4:30pm	Virtual Services (Remote) <i>Servicios Virtuales (Remoto)</i>	Florence Lanipekun	Call <i>Llamar al</i> 929-270-2181

Sponsored by New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance.
SNAP...Putting Healthy Food Within Reach. Visit www.mybenefits.ny.gov to check your eligibility. This material was funded by
USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



You can also scan to contact
us from our website.

4. 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 disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance.
5. 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. [Visit the CFPB's Rental Assistance Finder](#) 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.

6. 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.**



DO YOU NEED FREE LEGAL HELP DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS?

Staten Island Legal Services is here to help you and your family get through this together.

Services Offered:

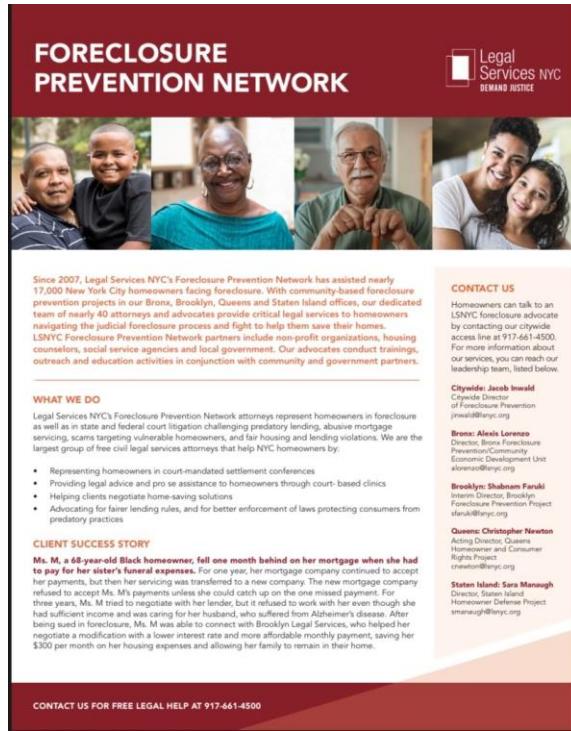
- Unemployment Benefits & Employment Issues
- Immigration
- Food Stamps (SNAP), Public Assistance, Medicaid
- Bankruptcy and Consumer Help
- Eviction/Illegal Lockouts
- Student Loan and Debt Collection
- Mortgage Relief & Foreclosure Prevention
- Domestic Violence, Orders of Protection, & Child Support
- Education
- LGBTQ/HIV+
- Small Business Advice

CALL STATEN ISLAND LEGAL SERVICES

Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
We speak your language and serve all 5 boroughs of NYC.
718-233-6480

**STATEN ISLAND
Legal Services NYC
SENIOR OFFICE**

legalservicesnyc.org



FORECLOSURE PREVENTION NETWORK

Legal Services NYC
DEMAND JUSTICE

CONTACT US

Homeowners can talk to an LSNYC foreclosure advocate by contacting our citywide access line at 917-661-4500. For more information about our services, you can reach our leadership team, listed below:

Citywide: Jacob Inwald
Citywide Director, Foreclosure Prevention Project
jinwald@lnyc.org

Bronx: Alexis Lorenzo
Director, Bronx Foreclosure Prevention Project
alexislorenzo@lnyc.org

Brooklyn: Shaniun Franklin
Acting Director, Brooklyn Foreclosure Prevention Project
shaniun@lnyc.org

Queens: Christopher Newton
Acting Director, Queens Foreclosure Prevention Project
cnewton@lnyc.org

Staten Island: Sora Manough
Director, Staten Island Homeowner Defense Project
smanough@lnyc.org

WHAT WE DO

Legal Services NYC's Foreclosure Prevention Network attorneys represent homeowners in foreclosure prevention projects in our Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island offices, our dedicated team of advocates provide free legal services and resources to homeowners facing foreclosure, navigating the judicial foreclosure process and fight to help them save their homes. LSNYC's Foreclosure Prevention Network partners include non-profit organizations, housing counselors, social service agencies and local government. Our advocates conduct trainings, outreach and education activities in conjunction with community and government partners.

CLIENT SUCCESS STORY

Ms. M, a 68-year-old Black homeowner, fell one month behind on her mortgage when she had to pay for her sister's funeral expenses. For one year, her mortgage company continued to accept her payments and did not take action to foreclose. Then, the mortgage company refused to accept Ms. M's payments unless she could catch up on the one missed payment. For three years, Ms. M tried to negotiate with her lender, but it refused to work with her even though she had sufficient income and was caring for her husband, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease. After being sued in foreclosure, Ms. M was able to connect with Brooklyn Legal Services, who helped her negotiate a modification with a lower interest rate and more affordable monthly payment, saving her \$300 per month on her housing expenses and allowing her family to remain in their home.

CONTACT US FOR FREE LEGAL HELP AT 917-661-4500

7. 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?

NY Project Hope
Coping with COVID

Feeling uncertain, overwhelmed, anxious during COVID?

Here to talk | Here to listen | Here to support

We provide . . .

- Information
- Education
- Emotional support
- Links to resources

We 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

Contact Us!
(718)608-7900
HOPE@ProjectHospitality.org

We are here for YOU.

Free, anonymous & confidential

A program of the NYS Office of Mental Health
Funded by FEMA

Necesitas hablar?

NY Project Hope
Coping with COVID

Te sientes incierto, agobiado, ansioso durante COVID?

Aquí para hablar | Aquí para escuchar | Aquí para apoyar

Nosotros Proporcionamos...

- Información
- Educación
- Apoyo emocional
- Enlaces a recursos

Proporcionamos presentaciones virtuales sobre:

- Reconociendo las reacciones comunes de COVID
- Desarrollando habilidades de afrontamiento para el proceso de recuperación
- Manejando estrés relacionado con COVID
- Identificando y satisfaciendo las necesidades de los niños

¡Contáctanos Hoy!
718-608-7900
HOPE@ProjectHospitality.org

Estamos aquí 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 unpaid utility bills.

DO I QUALIFY?

Eligible residents must meet the following criteria:

- Household gross income at or below 80 percent of area median income, which varies by county and household size.
- 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 pandemic.
- The applicant owes past due rent at their current residence.

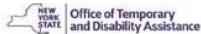
HOW DOES IT WORK?

This assistance can 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)



Office of Temporary
and Disability Assistance

(Rev. 05/21)

Local Community Organization Information:



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

New York State Emergency Rental Assistance Program

El Programa de Asistencia para Alquileres de Emergencia ayuda a las familias atravesadas en el pago del alquiler que han sufrido dificultades financieras debido a la COVID-19 y están en riesgo de quedarse en la calle o de padecer instabilidad por la falta de vivienda. Además, el programa puede proporcionar asistencia de alquiler 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 ingresos brutos de la familia son iguales o inferiores al 80% del ingreso promedio del área, que varía según el tamaño del condado y de la familia.
- Un miembro de la familia recibió subsidios de desempleo o experimentó una reducción en los ingresos, incurrió en costos significativos o sufrió dificultades financieras, directa o indirectamente, debido a la pandemia de COVID-19.
- El solicitante adeuda alquileres en su residencia actual.

¿COMO FUNCIONA?

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

¿COMO PUEDO SOLICITARLA?

Las solicitudes se pueden enviar en línea a partir del 1 de junio.

Información de la organización comunitaria local:



Llame al 929-724-5360 o envíe un correo electrónico a erap@projecthospitality.org para recibir asistencia con la solicitud de un Enroller de Project Hospitality.

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



Office of Temporary
and Disability Assistance

(Rev. 05/21)



Project
Hospitality

**Project Hospitality
Help Center Services
Are All Available By Phone!**

CALL NOW AND LEAVE A MESSAGE WITH YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER AND WE WILL RETURN YOUR CALL.

REACH US AT **718-420-6466 OR 718-448-3470**

FOR HELP WITH SNAP, CALL **347-410-3657**

**Apply
for SNAP**

**Apply for
WIC and
Cash
Assistance**

**Apply for
Health
Insurance
or NYC Care**

**Legal
Services**

**Domestic
Violence
Services**

**Mental
Health
Services**

**Apply
for
Unemployment**

**Food
Pantry**

**Immigration
Help**

221 HEBERTON AVENUE, STATEN ISLAND, NY 10302
514 BAY ST. STATEN ISLAND, NY 10304



Project
Hospitality

**Los servicios del
Centro de Ayuda están
disponibles por vía Telefónica!**

LLAME AHORA Y DEJE UN MENSAJE CON SU NOMBRE Y NÚMERO DE TELÉFONO Y LE
DEVOLVEREMOS LA LLAMADA. COMUNÍQUESE CON NOSOTROS A LOS NÚMEROS DE TELÉFONO
718-420-6466 O AL 718-448-3470 . PARA OBTENER AYUDA

CON SNAP (PROGRAMA DE ASISTENCIA NUTRICIONAL) 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**

221 HEBERTON AVENUE, STATEN ISLAND NY 10302
514 BAY STREET STATEN ISLAND NY 10304

8. 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.



THE CENTRAL FAMILY LIFE CENTER
YOUTHBUILD

IMPACT

Now Accepting Applications for our **FREE** Career Training Programs
Please Call (718) 273-8414 ext. 8

QUALIFICATIONS:

17-24 years old, No HS diploma, Out of School, Not Working During the Day,
and Live on Staten Island

Let's Get It!!

Get Paid, Get your High School Equivalency Diploma, Get Certified and Get a Job!

For more info visit us at www.centralfamilylifecenter.org/youthbuild-impact

117 WRIGHT STREET, STATEN ISLAND, NY 10304

The Central Family Life Center is an equal opportunity employer and is equal opportunity recipient. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. YouthBuild NYC receives funding support from the U.S. Dept. of Labor and the NYC Dept. of Youth & Community Development.

9. Small Business Resources:

- [**For counseling and help services through SBS click here.**](#)
- [**Procurement Center Representatives \(PCRs\)**](#) 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.
- [**Subcontracting Program Assistance \(SPA\)**](#) 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 [SBA Learning Center](#).

Useful Events and Opportunities

1. MSSI'S 4th Annual Winter Warmth Drive - Jackets, hats, scarves, gloves, and



MSSI'S 4th Annual WINTER WARMTH DRIVE

In partnership with MetroPlus Health

December 4th, 2021

12pm to 3pm

1625 Forest Ave, Staten Island, NY 10302



Winter Jackets



Hygiene essentials



Hats, scarves, gloves

New Jackets for
men,women and
children

hygiene essentials
for men , women
and babies

Items for men,
women and
children

AND DISASTER RELIEF

Disaster Recovery information and more

For more information contact us @
muslimsistersonsi@gmail.com or 718 6151365

more.

2. The **Forest Avenue BID** invites you to watch Santa Claus drive down Forest Avenue.



3. Metro Community Health Centers invites all to their Holiday Health Fair. Saturday, December 11th from 11 AM - 3 PM. See the flyer below for more information.



4. 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 initiative 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 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles D. Fall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Charles" on top and "D. Fall" below it.

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

