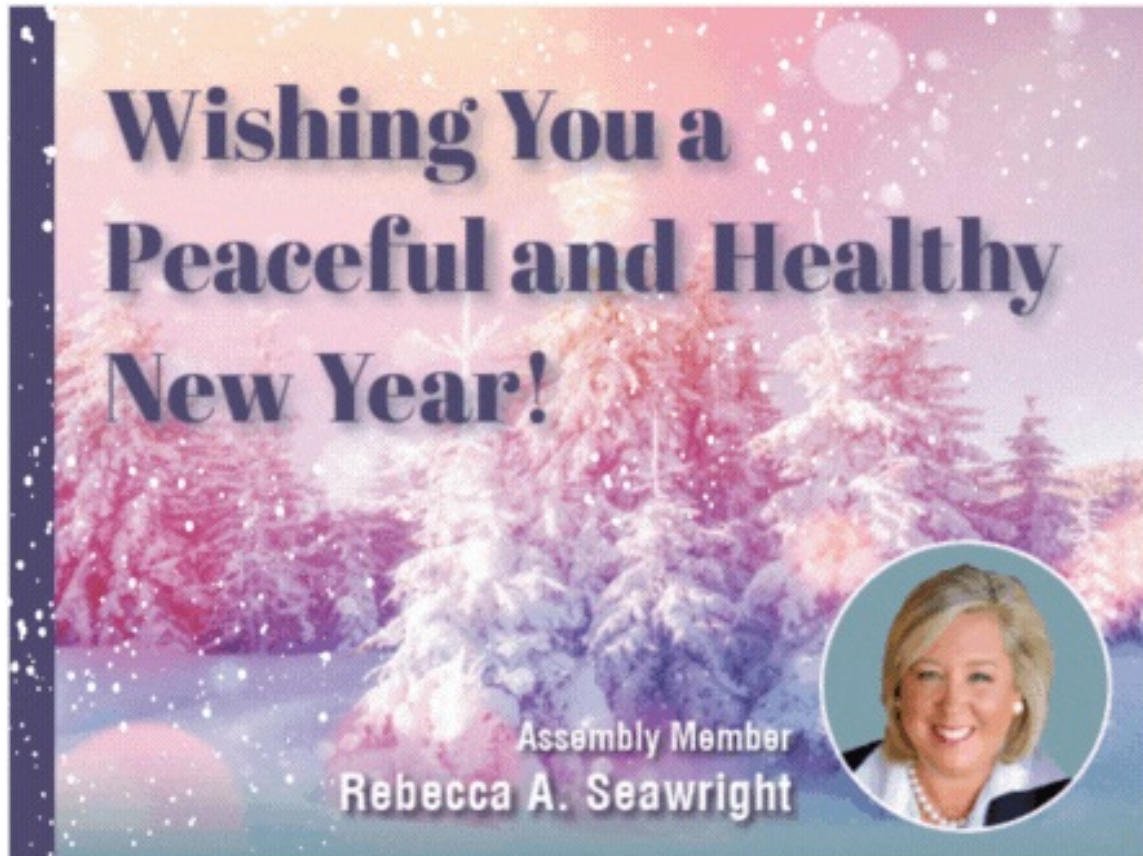


Rebecca
Seawright
ASSEMBLYMEMBER



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Merry Christmas to those who are celebrating next week. Have a healthy and happy New Year!

As Chair of the Assembly People with Disabilities Committee I cochaired a joint Assembly Hearing on the issues facing the workforce for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities on Tuesday at Hunter College CUNY. It is clear from the testimony by witnesses that we must ensure the recruitment and retention of skilled caregivers and secure the future viability of our workforce.

I recently introduced legislation with Senator Mannion to expand coverage for breast cancer screenings and bolster early detection for women who are at higher risk.

Thank you to our neighbors who attended our holiday open house yesterday and to all who generously contributed toys, books and board games for Asylum seeker families in our neighborhood and the New York Center for

Children. I would like to acknowledge the work of Cub Scouts Pack 290 for helping to make the collection a success!

As a reminder our office is closed for the Christmas and New Year Holidays from December 25 to January 1. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 2 at 9:30am.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our community office if we can be of assistance.

Phone: 212.288.4607

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,



REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

**Chair of the Assembly People with Disabilities Committee
Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright Cochaired Joint
Hearing on Workforce Shortages in New York State at
Hunter College**



Assembly Chair of the Assembly People with Disabilities Committee Rebecca Seawright cochaired a joint Assembly Hearing on the issues facing the workforce for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities on Tuesday, December 19 at Hunter College CUNY.

Assembly Member Seawright said, ***“This vital workforce is hemorrhaging employees: there’s a 17% vacancy rate and 30% annual turnover in agencies serving New Yorkers with I/DD. This endangers the people they serve and deprives them of their autonomy. The reality is without action people will be at severe risk.”***

Witnesses represented Direct Support Professionals who are non-profit and public employees. They implored the Chair and her colleagues to address the lack of access to services, long waiting lists, and an increase in consequences associated with unmet treatment needs for individuals at risk of, or diagnosed with, mental health conditions, physical, intellectual, or developmental disabilities, or other medical conditions.

Seawright said, ***“Hearing each witnesses testimony will better inform our work for the upcoming legislative session and more importantly the budget. We must ensure the recruitment and retention of skilled caregivers, securing the future viability of the workforce.”***

The hearing was held jointly with the Assembly Labor, Higher Education, Health and Mental Health Committees.



Parent advocate and board member of AHRC, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and parent advocate Nancy Petrino at the Hearing on Workforce at Hunter College.

Seawright Rallies with Communication Workers of America Ahead of Hearing in Support of their Workforce



Assembly Member Seawright joined the Communications Workers of America (CWA) in support of their nurses in fighting for safe staffing to save lives. CWA members testified at the hearing on workforce to their personal experiences working in healthcare without adequate staffing in the hospital.

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright Spread Holiday Cheer Delivering Toys To Children In Need Including Local Asylum Seeker Families and the New York Center for Children



Manhattan Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright delivered toys Friday to Asylum Seeker families at the Bentley Hotel and domestic violence survivors at the New York Center for Children.

Through the month of December, the Office of Assembly Member Seawright collected toys, books and board games to distribute in the district.

She said, ***"We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of support, especially to our new neighbors seeking asylum in New York. The generosity of our community shines each year as we come together to give to local children and make their holiday season memorable."***



Rebecca Jacobs, Bilingual Therapist at New York Center for Children received the toys from Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.



Seawright Introduces Legislation to Expand Coverage for Breast Cancer Screenings



Two New York state lawmakers announced legislation Thursday that would expand coverage for breast cancer screenings and bolster early detection for women at higher risk.

A bill from Democratic state Sen. John Mannion and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright would expand insurance coverage for women in New York to those with second-degree family members, like grandmothers, granddaughters, aunts or nieces, who have had breast cancer.

Current state law enacted in 1989 includes age and other limits, and mammography insurance covers only first-degree family member history.

[Read More](#)

Office of Assembly Member Seawright Open House Celebrated The Holiday Season



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, Community Board 8 Member Lori Bores and Congressman Jerry Nadler.



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, Cub Scout Lucas Alperin, Lauren Alperin and office intern Samantha.



Seawright asked the pack to answer trivia questions about New York State and scouting.



Executive Director of Upper Green Side Sarah Gallagher and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.



Ann Meschery, Director of In-Park Events for Carl Schurz Park Conservancy and Assembly Member Seawright.



Community Board 8 Member Lindsey Cormack, Congressman Jerry Nadler, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Charlotte Cormack.

Welcoming New 19th Precinct Inspector Zuber to the Upper East Side



Inspector Neil Zuber, Assembly Member Seawright and Community Affairs Detective Michael Lombardi.

Seawright Honors New York Women's Foundation



Assembly Member Seawright presented the New York Women's Foundation with an Assembly Citation for their work as the largest women-led grantmaking organizations in the world.



New York Women's Foundation Board Member Jean Shafiroff, Candace Bushnell, a feminist journalist and best selling author of the Sex and the City Anthology, and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.

Bills Signed Into Law

Strengthening Consumer Protections

Assembly Member Seawright is proud to have cosponsored and strongly supported legislation to put consumers over corporations' profit margins. To protect hardworking families from additional financial stress, Seawright helped pass laws to:

- require companies to clearly post credit card transaction surcharges;
- prohibit medication price gouging to keep health care affordable;
- exclude medical debt from credit reports so patients receive care without facing financial ruin; and
- require businesses to notify consumers about upcoming automatic renewal or continuous service charges (Chs. 723, 725, 727 and 728 of 2023).



Upcoming Events



Manhattan Community Board 8 Calendar

The Manhattan Community Board 8 (CB8M) represents the Upper East Side of Manhattan and Roosevelt Island. CB8M is comprised of 50 volunteer members who serve as advocates and service coordinators for the community and its residents, as well as help citizens resolve municipal service delivery complaints.

CB8M reviews and makes recommendations on various issues, including applications for Zoning Text Amendments, building variances and special permits, liquor licenses, sidewalk cafes and street fairs, changes to landmarked buildings or buildings in historic districts, traffic and transportation issues, and more.

Each month, CB8M committees meet to discuss and resolve issues in the community.

- Full Board Meeting - 3rd Wednesday
- Land Use Committee - 2nd Wednesday
- Street Life - 1st Tuesday
- Transportation - 1st Wednesday
- Housing - 1st Thursday
- Parks - 2nd Thursday
- Landmarks - 3rd Monday
- Social Justice - 4th Monday
- Zoning and Development - 4th Tuesday
- Youth and Education - 4th Thursday

[Read More](#)

In Case You Missed It: Past Editions Of Our Community Update

[Community Update: December 15, 2023](#)

[Community Update: December 8, 2023](#)

[Community Update: December 1, 2023](#)

[Community Update: November 20, 2023](#)

[Community Update: November 17, 2023](#)

[Community Update: November 9, 2023](#)

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