



ASSEMBLY MEMBER
LATOYA JOYNER
77TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
 ASSEMBLY.STATE.NY.US/MEM/LATOYA-JOYNER



MARCH 2015 - NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1, ISSUE 3

Bolstering Awareness for SNAP, SCRIE



Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner joined Liveon NY at the Highbridge Senior Center as they helped the community with their SNAP applications and recertification applications for the NYC Rent Freeze Program for Seniors (SCRIE).

These programs can help add more food on the table and offer more money to those in need in our community.

CONTACT US:

District Office

250 Broadway Suite 2208

New York, NY 10007

212-312-1498

joynerl@assembly.state.ny.us

Follow us:

[@JOINJOYNER](https://twitter.com/JOINJOYNER)

Sign up for our email alerts here



LATOYA'S LINE

As an alumna of the SUNY Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner speaks to [The Legislative Gazette](#) on why she supports the program because of the potential impact it can have on students who come from low-income communities by allowing them to attend college.

"You won't need much convincing from me," said Joyner. "If it was not for EOP I truly would not be standing here today."

Supporting District 9's Accomplishments



In supporting District 9 schools, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner attended The Family School's February Winter Recital/Black History Month assembly.

Standing alongside Principal Pamela Lee and the school's mascot, Fantastic Fox, Assemblywoman Joyner supports the achievements of the school's elementary students.

March 2015 Off-Site Constituent Services Hours and Locations

When: Monday, March 9 (10:00 AM-12:00 PM)

Where: APEX Adult Daycare - 1175 Findlay Avenue Bronx, NY 10456

When: Tuesday, March 10 (10:00 AM-12:00 PM)

Where: Daughters of Jacob Nursing Home - 1160 Teller Avenue Bronx, NY 10456

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER INTRODUCES NEW ASSEMBLY SPEAKER



During Caucus Weekend, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner had the honor of introducing new Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie, the first African-American Assembly Speaker in its more than 230-year history. Speaker Heastie was honored by the New York State Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators, as part of its annual event in the State Capitol.

Heastie, a longtime Bronx Assemblyman for the 83rd Assembly District, was first elected as Speaker on Feb. 3, 2015.

“As I know from personal experience, Carl has a lengthy track record of being deeply committed to expanding the role of women in government and he has played a vital role in overcoming fractious divisions and unifying one of New York’s most diverse counties.”

-Assemblywoman Joyner’s support for Speaker Heastie

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER HONORS LOCAL YOUTH, EDUCATORS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS



Commemorating Black History Month, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner recognized District 9 high school students for their stellar essay and poem writing, which focused on the Civil Rights Movement – reminiscing on past protests and modern day protesting.

Also, District 9 teachers/administrators and Rev. Albert O.L. Sutton, pastor from The Friendly Baptist Church and The New Friendly Day Care Center, were honored for their work for developing and teaching our community’s future leaders.

Frederick K. Brewington (right), civil rights attorney, also offered powerful words as the keynote speaker.



BUDGET: JOYNER REQUESTS MORE FUNDS FOR PROGRAMS TO IMPACT DISTRICT 77

As the New York State Budget for FY2015-2016 is currently being decided up in Albany, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner would like you all, her neighbors, to know about the issues she is fighting for:

- Combating chronic disease (diabetes, obesity, kidney disease and asthma) with the help of healthy foods such as fresh fruits and vegetables. She supports increasing funding for the Healthy Foods Initiative, which can increase awareness for healthy eating in the district.
- Increase funding for the Summer Youth Employment Program to help increase participation among our district's teenagers.
- Investing in NYCHA, supporting childcare needs for working families, increase funding for public and bilingual education, supporting paid Family and Medical Leave, reviving New York's Legal Educational Opportunity Program and many other programs.



ASSEMBLYWOMAN LATOYA JOYNER INTRODUCES NEW LEGISLATION TO END TENANT DISCRIMINATION

BRONX, N.Y. – Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (Bronx-77AD) introduced a new bill that will fight to end tenant discrimination based on income across the Bronx and New York. Assembly Bill A.5166 seeks to end prior discriminatory practices by landlords that block prospective tenants from gaining housing based on their lawful source of income.

“All of New Yorkers, not just my fellow Bronxites, deserve to be treated fairly when they seek affordable housing,” said Assemblywoman Joyner. “Too often, the very fabric of our

communities – our families and residents – are being pushed away due to the means by which they obtain their income. By including source of income protections in New York’s Human Rights Law, there will now be single statewide solution to this unfair, yet commonplace practice.”

Assemblywoman Joyner believes that Assembly Bill A.5166 can assist in this fight for tenant rights by unifying both state and citywide standards to prohibit discrimination.

PUBLISHED OP-ED ARTICLES

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner recently published an opinion article for *City & State Magazine* explaining how the New York State Attorney General's Office can increase funding for NYCHA repairs.



How the Empire State Can Help Fix NYCHA's Decay

BY LATOYA JOYNER,
ASSEMBLY MEMBER

February 9, 2015

New York City's largest landlord is failing to adequately house and repair its decaying buildings. But there is a solution—even during this time of federal and public housing budget cuts. New York State Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman's settlement proceeds can help restore the New York City Housing Authority.

At the state level, there is a surplus of funds thanks to record financial

settlements from major New York players in the nation's capital markets industry. Meanwhile, there is only \$25 million earmarked for NYCHA capital repair funding in Gov. Andrew Cuomo's 2015-16 Executive Budget. With over 179,000 apartments, NYCHA has more than 330 developments across the five boroughs—and many are in desperate need of repair and maintenance.

In the Bronx, there are nearly 38,000 Section 8 units under lease—the largest percentage of Section 8 units in New York City. For the 77th Assembly District, this includes thousands of my constituents and nearly 10 NYCHA developments. And these buildings are in bad shape. The Housing Authority notes that more than 75 percent of its buildings are over three decades old. Since 2001, NYCHA says it has lost about \$900 million in funding for capital improvements and reductions in federal funding cuts have also led the city's largest landlord to hold off on accepting and/or processing any new Section 8 voucher applications. The closure of this essential housing program to new applicants has only served to worsen the shortage of affordable housing in New York and is plainly unacceptable.

According to the Community Service Society, a group focused on fighting poverty and strengthening New York, NYCHA's shortfall is not new—sadly it has lasted for fourteen years. In 2011, even before Superstorm Sandy wreaked havoc and federal funding was cut due to sequestration, the public housing authority's funding gap was more than \$60 million. This does not include the more than \$6 billion needed to repair their deteriorating infrastructure. NYCHA even admits that the state of repairs and response times at developments have been dismal. For instance, repair requests for compactors, doors, intercoms,


leaks, mildew and roof fans have all lengthened.

Meanwhile, NYCHA Chair and CEO Shola Olatoye has admitted previously that there needs to be a revolution in how funding and proper maintenance are achieved. According to Olatoye, "It's time to make innovative, practical, difficult choices about how we operate, how we are financed and the ways we rebuild and rehabilitate our 2,500 properties. Creating clean, safe and connected communities has to start from the ground up."

Funding at the state level may be more readily available to help jump-start these communities. Early last year, Gov. Cuomo and Attorney General Schneiderman broached this idea when additional deposits into the state's general fund were proposed from a landmark \$613 million securities settlement with JPMorgan Chase. It was ultimately allocated for housing-related programs: Schneiderman's office took a piece in order to create programs aimed at preventing avoidable home foreclosures and future financial fraud. Up to 15 percent of the record settlement was slated for deposit into the state treasury, multiple media accounts stated.

Bronx families that live in NYCHA buildings should not have to accept their current situations when there is readily available funding to help rectify these problems. In Albany, I will work with my Assembly colleagues to push for solutions, and I will urge the attorney general to put money from his office's settlement proceeds toward the Housing Authority and Gov. Cuomo to prioritize NYCHA properties when divvying up state funding. Community members and families need this influx of cash to help repair and maintain their homes.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER INVITES YOU TO HER UPCOMING MARCH EVENTS



**JOIN US FOR FREE FITNESS FUN
IN HONOR OF
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

ZUMBA fitness

ASSEMBLYWOMAN
LATOYA JOYNER

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
BRONX WRITING ACADEMY
270 EAST 167TH STREET
BRONX, NY 10456

SATURDAY, MARCH 21
J.H.S. 145
ARTURO TOSCANINI
1000 TELLER AVENUE
BRONX, NY 10456

SATURDAY, MARCH 28
MOUNT EDEN
CHILDREN'S ACADEMY
1501 JEROME AVE
BRONX, NY 10452

*ALL CLASSES ARE
FROM 1:00 PM-2:30 PM

NYC DISTRICT 9
Department of
Education
BRONX
**COMMUNITY
EDUCATION
COUNCIL**

**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS MOMS
AND DAUGHTERS!**

**SNACKS AND
REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE
PROVIDED**

**BRING YOUR
SNEAKERS AND
YOUR MOVES!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE
CALL ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER'S
DISTRICT OFFICE AT 212-312-1498**

In honor of Women's History Month, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner, along with the Community Education Council District 9, invite parents and students to their month-long ZUMBA celebration at local schools (location/times listed below).

SATURDAY, MARCH 14	SATURDAY, MARCH 21	SATURDAY, MARCH 28
BRONX WRITING ACADEMY	J.H.S. 145 ARTURO TOSCANINI	MOUNT EDEN CHILDREN'S ACADEMY
270 EAST 167TH STREET BRONX, NY 10456	1000 TELLER AVENUE BRONX, NY 10456	1501 JEROME AVE BRONX, NY 10452

For more information, please call Assemblywoman Joyner's District Office at 212-312-1498.

Free Civil Legal Services Coming to Your Neighborhood




Courtesy of
NYS Assembly Member
Latoya Joyner

The Mobile Legal Help Center is a partnership between the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) and the New York State Courts' Access to Justice Program that provides free civil legal services to New Yorkers in need.

Private meeting rooms and technology inside the vehicle enable it to function as a full-service office.

The vehicle will be stationed at:

Highbridge Gardens Senior Center
1145 University Ave, Bronx, NY
March 18, 2015
10am to 3pm

To Make an Appointment please visit:
<https://mobilelegalhelpcenter.acuityscheduling.com/>

For more information, please call:
Office of Assembly Member Joyner
(212) 312-1498

Staff onboard the Mobile Legal Help Center will provide FREE legal assistance on issues related to:

- HOUSING
- PUBLIC BENEFITS
- DISABILITY BENEFITS
- HEALTHCARE BENEFITS
- IDENTITY THEFT
- DEBT MANAGEMENT
- CONSUMER CREDIT
- IMMIGRATION
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- DIVORCE
- CUSTODY
- EMPLOYMENT
- ADVANCE PLANNING
- SUPERSTORM SANDY

Everyone is eligible to receive free legal services, regardless of immigration status.




Reinforcing her support for assisting constituents and Bronx families, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner invites the community to obtain free civil legal services on March 18 from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM at 1145 University Avenue.

The event, which is held in conjunction with the Mobile Legal Help Center, a partnership with the New York Legal Assistance Group and the New York State Courts' Access to Justice Program, includes free legal assistance on issues related to housing and public/disability/health care benefits, immigration, domestic violence, and many more.

Everyone is eligible to receive free legal services, regardless of immigration status.

For more information, please call Assemblywoman Joyner's District Office at 212-312-1498.