



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins Delivers \$130,000 for Jawonio Essentials Distribution Program

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS October 4, 2024

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Organization recognizes Sen. Stewart-Cousins' vital assistance for program with plaque presentation Friday at Yonkers location

(Yonkers, NY) – New York State Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins delivered \$130,000 in state funding to Jawonio, providing vital support for the organization's Yonkers-based "Essentials Distribution Program."

The Senator stopped by Jawonio on Friday to see the program in action, and was presented with a plaque in recognition of the additional funding, which enables Jawonio to purchase supplies for the program.

“The Essentials Distribution Program is a shining example of how our community can come together to lift up those in need. I am pleased to have secured funding that helps provide families in Yonkers with the essential items they need to live with dignity and security. Jawonio’s dedication to our most vulnerable neighbors, including its leadership in supporting adults with disabilities, is an inspiration, and I look forward to continuing our partnership,” **said Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins.**

The Jawonio Essentials Distribution Program was launched in July and operates every other Friday, providing free food, diapers, cleaning supplies, toiletries, and self-care items to those in need. Run by Jawonio’s Day Program team, the initiative serves as both a critical resource for the community and an opportunity for individuals with disabilities to learn job skills and give back.

“With the \$130,000 we got through the grant, we’ve been able to help countless people through the Essentials Distribution Program,” **said Jawonio CEO Randi Rios-Castro.** “We’re happy to welcome you here to Jawonio and to thank you for your advocacy and your unwavering support for the people that we are supporting.”

For residents of Yonkers in need of assistance, the Essentials Distribution Program provides essential resources at no cost, offering a lifeline for many facing food insecurity and other challenges. For more information, **[visit the Jawonio website’s Essentials Distribution Program page.](#)**