

**RANKING MINORITY MEMBER**

CITIES  
SOCIAL SERVICES

**COMMITTEES**

CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
CIVIL SERVICE & PENSIONS  
COMMERCE, ECONOMICS DEVELOPMENT &  
SMALL BUSINESS  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM, PARKS &  
RECREATION  
HEALTH

**NEW YORK  
STATE  
SENATE**



SENATOR ROXANNE J. PERSAUD  
19<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

**PLEASE RESPOND TO:**

**□ ALBANY OFFICE:**

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ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247  
518-455-2788  
FAX: 518-426-6806

**□ DISTRICT OFFICE:**

1222 EAST 96TH STREET  
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11236  
718-649-7653  
FAX: 718-649-7661

Dear Friend/Neighbor,

January 6th, 2016 marked the start of New York State's 202nd Legislative Session. As your elected official, I am dedicated to sponsoring legislation and securing resources for you during this session.

The following are some of the legislative highlights that are being discussed and considered in this session;

Education

All children are entitled to and have access to quality education. However, the buck should not stop there. Benjamin Franklin said "an investment in knowledge pays the best interest." I am working to ensure that our schools are funded at the highest level.

Ethics Reform

Ethics in government is a critical issue. As your elected official I am working with my colleagues to restore the public's trust in our state government.

Adequate and Affordable Housing

Families are being displaced due to the lack of affordable housing. I will continue to advocate on your behalf to ensure that you can remain in the community you love and support.

Soon we will be adopting a state budget which I am hopeful will include investments in education, affordable housing, child care, health care and an increase in minimum wage.

In this newsletter you will find updates and information that I hope will be useful to you. I will continue to keep you apprised of the on goings in Albany and the District.

Your comments and concerns are important. Please feel free to call or visit the District Office, follow me on Twitter or like my Facebook page.

Happy Spring!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roxanne".

Roxanne

## Constituent Services

### Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM  
Tuesday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Wednesday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Thursday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Friday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM



Senator Persaud greets constituents during her visit to a senior center.

District Office: 1222 East 96th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11236

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Website: [www.Persaud.nysenate.gov](http://www.Persaud.nysenate.gov)



Facebook: [Senator Roxanne Persaud](#)



Twitter: [@SenatorPersaud](#)

# Upcoming Events

**April:** Autism Awareness Month  
Sexual Assault Awareness Month

IDNYC - Pop Up Site  
**April 1st to April 14th**  
Brooklyn Community Services  
East New York Family Center  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri: 9:00am – 5:00pm  
Thu: 11:00am - 7:00pm

Fire Safety Preparedness  
**April 6th, 7:00pm - 8:00pm**  
225 Atkins Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11208

Educators & Parent Coordinators  
Recognition Ceremony  
**April 8th, 8:30am – 10:00am**

**Passover begins (sunset) April 22nd**

Fire Safety Preparedness  
**April 25th, 1:00pm – 4:00pm**  
230 Riverdale Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11212

Fire Safety Preparedness  
**April 26th , 8:00pm – 9:00pm**  
69th Precinct Community Council Meeting  
9502 Seaview Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11236

**Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work  
Day - April 28th**

**Passover ends (nightfall) - April 30th**

**MOBILE OFFICES:**

Sabaoth Group  
Friday, April 22nd, 2016  
475 Riverdale Ave  
Brooklyn, New York 11207  
11:00am - 4:00pm

Sheepshead/Nostrand Houses Community  
Center  
Thursday, May 12th, 2016  
3679 Nostrand Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11235  
9:00am - 2:00pm



Senator Persaud at the District Office's IDNYC Pop Up Site

## East New York Before and After Symposium

On February 6, 2016 East New York (ENY) residents joined my colleagues and I, to discuss current issues affecting the community. The conversation was mainly focused on the ENY rezoning and how it will affect the economic development of the area. Most residents felt that the rezoning would promote gentrification and force working class residents out of their neighborhood. Ensuring adequate and affordable housing is one of my top priorities and I will continue to fight for the residents of East New York because no one should be forced from their home or expensed out of their community.

## Build It Back - Creating Jobs and Economic Development

Build it Back is committed to hiring locally and providing workforce training to Sandy-impacted residents. As part of their commitment, Build it Back and the Department of Small Business Services have launched the Sandy Recovery Workforce1 Program. Workforce1's services prepare and connect candidates to mid- and entry-level jobs with New York City employers. During the month of March Workforce1 was at the District Office on Mondays, from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. I am arranging for Workforce1's services to be available at the District Office in April. I will continue working with agencies and organizations to bring various employment resources to the district and, keep you apprised of prospects as they arise. Please check the events tab online at [Persaud.nysenate.gov](http://Persaud.nysenate.gov) for more updates.

## – IDNYC Pop Up Enrollment Site –

IDNYC hosted a pop up enrollment site at the District office from February 22nd to March 11th. During their visit they serviced approximately 500 enrollees. The IDNYC team has streamlined the identification process. It is beneficial to have an IDNYC card. It is a broadly accepted, official form of identification. The IDNYC card is free for all New Yorkers who apply before December 31, 2016. You can visit an IDNYC enrollment site in the district at Brooklyn Community Services - East New York Family Center at 400 Liberty Avenue. For more information please contact the District office or visit the IDNYC website at [nyc.gov/idnyc](http://nyc.gov/idnyc). Look online to find out about the benefits that are available to cardholders.

# Legislation



Fight for \$15 Rally in Albany: Senator Persaud and George Gresham, President of 1199.

## Increasing the Minimum Wage

How can anyone support themselves let alone, their families on \$360 a week? The current minimum wage needs to be raised so thousands of New Yorkers will be able to sustain themselves and their households. I will continue to rally with my colleagues, the unions and other advocates in the fight for \$15 per hour.



Fight for \$15 Rally: Senator Persaud and Héctor J. Figueroa, President of 32BJ SEIU

## Paid Family Leave

I support the Paid Family Leave initiative put forth in the New York State Senate. The purpose of this legislation is to “allow workers to remain in the workforce and still receive some income while taking leave to care for their family.” No one should have to make the choice between their livelihood and the well-being of a family member.

## Public Safety

Safety and security are important issues in our neighborhoods. The rise in gun violence requires a community effort to address this dilemma; that is why I have collaborated with my colleague in the State Assembly and introduced legislation to limit the purchase of ammunition for use in assault weapons and prevents sale of ammunition to any person not authorized to possess such a weapon. I will continue to work with law enforcement and other governmental officials to create a safer environment for all New Yorkers.

For more information, please visit my website at: [www.Persaud.nysenate.gov](http://www.Persaud.nysenate.gov)

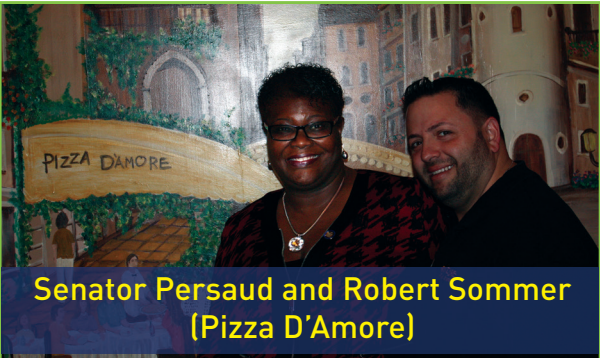
# Community Spotlight

## Distinguished Youth

Brooklyn native Cedric Small was awarded a special recognition for receiving the Metropolitan Regions Youth Advocate of the Year (YaYa) at a ceremony held in Albany by the state Department of Health, Bureau of Tobacco Control. Small is a resident of East New York and is a senior high school student at the School for Human Rights. He is an active member of NYC Smoke-Free Reality Check. Upon high school graduation, Small plans to attend college and become an entrepreneur. The YaYa Award, sponsored by Reality Check of New York State, honors the outstanding work of youth advocates who have taken the lead using education to reduce tobacco use. It was an honor to present a proclamation on behalf of members of the 19th Senatorial District. Cedric has done our district proud, and I congratulate him on the work he has been doing.



Senator Persaud presents Cedric Small with a proclamation for his outstanding accomplishment during his visit to Albany.



Senator Persaud and Robert Sommer (Pizza D'Amore)

## Benevolent Business

I commend Frank Scollo (owner) and Robert Sommer (manager) for their consistent display of community service. Pizza D'Amore is located at 3003 Avenue U Brooklyn, N.Y. and gives back to the community by employing local residents, donating pizza parties, and hosting fundraising events for special needs children and local schools. The District appreciates your charitable acts Pizza D'Amore.



Senator Persaud with colleagues and The Codester's Team

## Hackathon

On Saturday, February 20th my colleagues and I joined Codesters to host a Youth Achievement Hackathon at Brookdale Hospital. Who are Codesters? Codesters is an organization dedicated to teaching computer programming to youth.



Students engaged in a codefest at the Hackathon

What is a Hackathon? A Hackathon is an event at which computer programmers and others involved in software and hardware development collaborate intensively on software projects. These tech workshops expose our youth to future career opportunities available in the fields of information technology and computer science.

Thirty tech savvy male students from across the district took part in this day-long event. I look forward to further collaborations which will bring more technology based events to our youth.



New York State Senator  
Roxanne J. Persaud  
122 East 96th St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11236

## Community Update Spring Edition

PRSRT-STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
NEW YORK SENATE

Bergen Beach • Canarsie • East New York • Flatlands • Georgetown • Marine Park  
Mill Basin • Ocean Hill/Brownsville • Sheepshead Bay • Starrett City



New York State Senator  
**Roxanne J. Persaud**  
19th Senate District

## Interfaith Breakfast

On March 3rd, New York City's Public Advocate, Letitia James and New York State Assemblywoman Latrice Walker and I held an interfaith leaders breakfast at Brookdale Hospital, to share in a real discussion about government and faith based organizations. Representatives from the Department of Finance were also in attendance to provide information regarding financial incentives for faith based organizations. We welcomed over 150 faith leaders representing various congregations throughout the District.



Senator Persaud, Mark Toney and NYC Public Advocate Letitia James



Faith based leaders assembled for Senator Persaud's Interfaith Breakfast