I hope this newsletter finds you safe and healthy. As the end of 2022 approaches, I have reflected on our community’s strength and resiliency, and the importance of the unity we shared through the difficult times during the COVID-19 pandemic and related economic hardships. I thank each of you for your partnership as we work in the best interest of our communities.

Over the past year, as most businesses and services resumed regular operation, it was my pleasure seeing more constituents out in the community for in-person activities. You continued to do so while adhering to safety protocols, and I thank you.

The Senate also returned to an in-person 2022 Legislative Session, and we enacted a strong State spending plan and addressed many issues important to New Yorkers. Topics included gun violence, reproductive choice, protection for victims and survivors of domestic violence, food insecurity, and more.

The NYS Senate district lines were redrawn earlier this year due to the redistricting process, and the new district boundaries go into effect on January 1, 2023. The lines for Senate District 19 have changed significantly (see next page) and will now include additional Brownsville and East New York areas, plus a portion of Howard Beach in Queens. I look forward to working with all community partners in Senate District 19, many of whom I already have a working relationship with. Sadly, I will no longer represent the areas of Sheepshead Bay, Mill Basin, Bergen Beach, Mill Island, Georgetown, and Flatlands. It has been my pleasure to work with and on behalf of constituents in these neighborhoods.

When the Legislature reconvenes in Albany in January 2023, I will continue to advocate for more resources for Senate District 19. We will also continue to have a very active list of in-person and virtual events across the district. I also love to see constituents when they visit Albany, so please plan a trip and bring children for the experience. My staff and I are looking forward to your participation.

If you ever have a suggestion or concern, please get in touch with my office at (718) 649-7653 or email persaud@nysenate.gov. You can receive more frequent updates on my legislative work and happenings in Senate District 19 by signing up for my weekly e-newsletter by visiting http://persaud.nysenate.gov.

As you celebrate the holidays, I wish you the best for the Season and the New Year.

Sincerely,

Senator Roxanne J. Persaud
State Senator
19th District

**SENATOR PERSAUD’S 2022 LEGISLATIVE VICTORIES**

**Eliminating the "R" Word.** Ch. 477 and Ch. 479 of the Laws of 2022 eliminate hundreds of instances of the degrading “R” word in State laws and replace each with “individual with developmental disability,” or a similar person-first or people-first reference.

**Ending Discrimination Based on Status of Victim of Domestic Violence.** Ch. 202, Laws of 2022, protects victims of domestic violence from discrimination in the areas of apprenticeship training programs; public accommodations; public housing; real estate professionals; educational institutions; private housing; volunteer fire companies; boycotting or blacklisting; credit; and internships.

**Outdoor Dining in Municipal Spaces.** Ch. 165 and Ch. 277, Laws of 2022, respectively, set forth parameters for outdoor dining and consumption of alcoholic beverages in municipal spaces, and extend local authorization through July 2025.

Many thanks to SD 19 community partners and NYPD Precincts 63, 69, 75, PSA-1 and PSA-2 for getting Thanksgiving meals to families in need.
Transitional Earned-Income Disregard. S.6589-A would help mitigate a benefits cliff by allowing individuals having completed a recognized job training program to retain public assistance benefits for 6 months.

Tougher Penalties for Medical Identity Theft. S.209-A would add medical and health insurance information to the existing definition of identity theft.

Underrepresented Teachers of Tomorrow. Education is a powerful equalizer. S.342 would help attract and retain more educators that look like and grew up similarly to their students. However, only twenty percent of NY’s teachers come from Communities of Color and other underrepresented demographics.

Flexible Working Arrangements. S.5065 would provide flexibility to work from home when schools and/or daycare centers are closed due to local or State-declared emergencies. When schools and daycare centers close, parents and legal guardians face obstacles in finding suitable and qualified care for their children.

Clear Jury Instructions. S.482-B would ensure at least one written copy of the "jury charge" is provided to jurors for use in the deliberation room. Making sure jurors have a robust and clear understanding of the laws is vital for fair and accurate justice.

Traffic Stop Protocol Instruction During Pre-licensing Courses. Traffic stops can be overwhelming for new and inexperienced drivers and they should know proper etiquette and instructions on what to do when pulled over for a traffic stop. S.62 would require instruction on driver responsibilities during traffic stops as part of pre-licensing courses.

Retail Food Store Inspections to be Available to the Public. S.3227-B would require the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets to maintain a graded inspections database on its website and provide information on where a customer may file a consumer report.

Additional Screening for Breast Cancer. S.8156 would require certain insurance policies and Medicaid to allow patients to get additional screening for breast cancer. The extension of 120 days to get additional breast cancer screening will help increase the accuracy of breast cancer diagnoses.

Uterine Fibroids Diagnosis and Treatment. S.8549 would require health insurance companies to cover costs related to uterine fibroids, whether or not the patient is in pain.
AROUND THE DISTRICT

ANNUAL SD19 COMMUNITY FUN DAY

On a very hot and sunny August 25, Senator Persaud hosted her annual SD19 Community Fun Day and Backpack Giveaway in Canarsie Park. More than forty organizations, government agencies, health professionals, schools, and small businesses provided free services and giveaways to more than 500 constituents.

环绕的区域

ANNUAL SD19 SENIOR RESOURCE DAY

On September 8, dozens of organizations, government agencies, and service providers joined Senator Persaud at her annual SD19 Senior Resource Day. Several hundred seniors participated in fun activities, enjoyed a complimentary lunch, and received information about services and resources available to them. It was great fun for all.

环绕的区域

Senator Persaud greets constituents at annual SD19 Community Fun Day.


Senator Persaud greeting constituents at annual SD19 Community Fun Day.

Senator Persaud and a delegation of Lions Club volunteers at annual Community Fun Day.

Senator Persaud and youth at annual SD19 Community Fun Day.

Senator Persaud drops by Recreation Rooms & Settlement @Breukelen Houses to distribute Halloween goody bags to the children.

Senator Persaud hosts trick-or-treaters at District Office.

We give thanks every day. But during the Thanksgiving season, we share with others. I am thankful to those individuals and organizations who donated turkeys and fixings to be distributed to constituents of SD19.
POWERS 19 AWARDS CEREMONY

On October 18, Senator Persaud hosted her annual 19th Senatorial District Power 19 Awards Ceremony, honoring 24 exceptional individuals who have contributed to the District's growth through service, socio-economic development, advocacy, academic excellence, and community empowerment.

This year’s honorees are:

- Lauren Au, NYPD Police Officer;
- John Banks, Principal;
- Julia Bove, Superintendent District 22;
- Phyllis Brockett, former resident leader;
- Brenda Cox, freelance journalist;
- Akeem Francis, social services;
- Wanda Gowins, community volunteer;
- Hector Juarbe, social services;
- Lisa Louise Kenner, resident leader;
- Justianna Kubersky, educator;
- Samuel Maria, NYPD Police Officer;
- Barbara McFadden, resident leader;
- Barry McRae, community volunteer;
- Jenise Narvaez, education;
- Heather Newman, Principal;
- Ashmeed Paltoo, NYPD Police Officer;
- Thomas Podd, NYPD Police Officer;
- Evelyn D. Pugh, education;
- Dr. Sandra Scott, healthcare;
- Samuel Shaya, NYPD Detective;
- Dawn Simon, marketing professional;
- Melonie Veras, student;
- Mike Volpe, social services; and
- Dylan Washington, student.

Virtual International Women’s Day Celebration
March 8, 2023

Housing Resource Fair (HPD)
March 2023 (Saturday)

Easter Egg Hunt
April 2023 (Saturday)

SD 19 Pre-Mother’s Day Event
April 2023 (Saturday)

SD 19 Shredding/E-Waste Collection
May 2023 (Sunday)

Be sure to subscribe to Senator Persaud’s e-newsletter for updates about these and other community events.

Save the Dates!