

#### **Dear Neighbor:**

As the summer comes to an end, we look forward to new beginnings while also reflecting upon the past. That's why I would like to take this opportunity to update you on some of the progress we have been making on issues that concern our neighborhoods.

Serving as your Assemblyman for the last nine months has been an honor. It certainly has been an exciting and rewarding experience. It has also been productive and we have made tremendous progress on matters that are important to the residents of Borough Park and Midwood. However, there is much more to accomplish and I look forward to continue serving as your representative in Albany to advocate on your behalf and to promote legislation that benefits the common good.

My dedicated staff and I are here to serve you and are always willing to help you. Feel free to reach out to us with any concerns or comments. **Our office is located at 1310 48th Street, 2nd Floor**, we can be reached at **district48@ nyassembly.gov**, or you can always feel free to call us at **(718) 853-9616**.

I look forward to continuing to serve you with integrity and honor. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein, 48th District

# Assemblyman Eichenstein Joins Community Leaders at NYPD's National Night Out Against Crime



The NYPD National Night Out Against Crime is an annual community-building event that promotes relationships between the police and the community, and helps make our neighborhoods a safer place to live. Assemblyman Eichenstein attended the events held at the 70th, 66th, and 62nd precincts which included entertainment and refreshments for children, as well as important information on crime prevention. Assemblyman Eichenstein expressed his appreciation to our local police officers for their dedication to keeping our communities safe.

66th Precinct.



62nd Precinct.



70th Precinct.

#### **Nursery at Maimonides Medical Center Remains Open**

Expectant mothers in the community contacted Assemblyman Eichenstein expressing their concerns that Maimonides Medical Center was no longer allowing patients to use its newborn baby nursery services. Assemblyman Eichenstein immediately recognized this as an important issue to many of his constituents and contacted Mr. Kenneth Gibbs, President and CEO of Maimonides Medical Center. After communication with Mr. Gibbs and coordination with hospital administration, Assemblyman Eichenstein can confirm that the hospital's newborn nursery is indeed open and available to any mother who wishes to utilize its services.

New moms who decide to deliver at Maimonides can rest easy knowing that the nursery ward will be open, along with the new option of sleeping in. Assemblyman Eichenstein expressed his appreciation to Mr. Gibbs for his immediate attention and prompt response to this pertinent matter and for his commitment to serving the needs of the community.



Assemblyman Eichenstein meeting with Kenneth Gibbs, President & CEO, Maimonides Medical Center.

### **Religious Garb Discrimination is Now Prohibited by Law**



Assemblyman Eichenstein speaking in support of the bill on the Assembly floor.

Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein is proud to have been a co-sponsor of a new law that prohibits employers from discriminating against individuals based on their religious garb or facial hair. The legislation, which was introduced by Assemblyman David Weprin and State Senator John C. Liu, was recently signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo. This new



Assemblyman Eichenstein joins bill sponsors and his Assembly colleagues calling for the passage of the bill.

law will ensure that no employee will be punished due to an employer's discriminatory beliefs.

Assemblyman Eichenstein believes that no one should be forced to choose between their employment and their religion. He is honored to co-sponsor this historic and significant legislation.

### Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Honored at Shema Kolainu Legislative Breakfast

Shema Kolainu, a school and center for children with autism, honored Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein with the State Leadership Award, at its recent Legislative Breakfast which was held on August 6th.

"Thank you Assemblyman Eichenstein for your support over the last number of years," said Dr. Josh Weinstein, founder and CEO of Shema Kolainu. "Your commitment to advocacy and action on behalf of special children sets an example for community leaders and elected officials. Thank you for helping us enhance autism services and continue our groundbreaking research, and helping us now to raise three more floors, so that Shema Kolainu can serve more individuals and their families, and develop more programs that can service the needs of our community and our nation."



## Are you frustrated with a bureaucratic agency? Our district office is here to help you.

Here are a couple of the ways we recently helped constituents overcome the bureaucratic red tape:

### Summer Camp Opens On Schedule!

The 2019 camp season was scheduled to start, but the administration at Camp V in Swan Lake wasn't ready to begin. Due to an impasse between Verizon and NYSEG, the camp's communications company, Spectrum, was unable to set up service. And how could they possibly start the camp season without properly functioning phones and computer systems?

Camp Directors reached out to Assemblyman Eichenstein's office for help. We quickly sprung into action, contacted both NYSEG and Verizon, explained the predicament and demanded an immediate resolution. Within days, work permits were issued, Spectrum stepped in to connect service, and communications were properly set up so the camp could open on schedule.

### Traffic Light Adjusted, Summons Dismissed

A traffic ticket may be a common occurrence in New York City, but when Mr. M was ticketed for making an illegal left turn on Coney Island Avenue, he was frustrated and angry. He called our office to explain that the traffic light was tilted in the wrong direction and thus it was impossible for motorists to clearly see the red no-turn signal.

We contacted the DOT who subsequently investigated the matter only to confirm that indeed the traffic light was not hanging properly. The light signal was promptly adjusted and with the confirmation that we obtained from DOT, the ticket was dismissed.

### Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Secures 1,500 Additional Summer Youth Employment Slots for Constituents

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) connects young people with summer jobs, enabling them to earn money while gaining valuable skills and work experience. Leading up to the summer months, Assemblyman Eichenstein was successful in securing an additional 1,500 SYEP slots for the youth in his district. That means 1,500 more kids in our communities were gainfully employed, received a stipend, and experienced a productive and meaningful summer.

"Thank you Assemblyman Eichenstein for utilizing your skills to deliver to the community an additional 1,500 SYEP slots this summer," said Dov Oustatcher, Director of Summer Youth Employment at Council of Jewish Organizations of Flatbush. "We are thankful for 1,500 additional young adults we were able to serve with this program this summer due to your efforts."



For more information on these free events or any other community concern, please contact the office of **Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein** at **718-853-9616**.

### Assemblyman Simcha Eichenstein Fights to Ease the Burden on Parents of Special Needs Children

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) assures that parents who place their child in a private school may seek tuition reimbursement from their local school district. In New York City, this has been an ongoing struggle for decades. Parents



Mayor Bill de Blasio 🤣 @NYCMayor

Parents whose children have special needs have some fierce advocates in Assembly Members @HeleneWeinstein and @SEichenstein. Glad to have spent some time with them in Albany.



of children with special needs shouldn't have to be put through a grueling process in order to obtain the necessary funding for their children's education. Access to a quality education, including for our most vulnerable special needs population, is a right, not a privilege. In 2014 Mayor Bill de Blasio unveiled a series of changes to make it easier for special needs students. The Mayor revealed how he would streamline the process for thousands of parents each year. Yet, obtaining reimbursement has remained a long and arduous process, with many frustrated parents reporting that the system is backlogged as far back as two years. In some cases, special needs schools are owed millions, barely surviving under the financial burden.

Assemblyman Eichenstein, along with Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein, are currently working with Mayor de Blasio and his senior City Hall staff on collaborative improvements on how to ease the process. Now thousands of parents of children with autism, dyslexia, Down syndrome, and learning and developmental disabilities, can rest assured that help will soon be on the way.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248



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Assemblyman Eichenstein, along with his colleagues State Senator Simcha Felder and NYC Councilman Kalman Yeger, visited Camp HASC and Camp Kaylie during the summer to show support for special needs children and the institutions that provide them with care.