

LA'TASHA D. MAYES



2023
RECAP

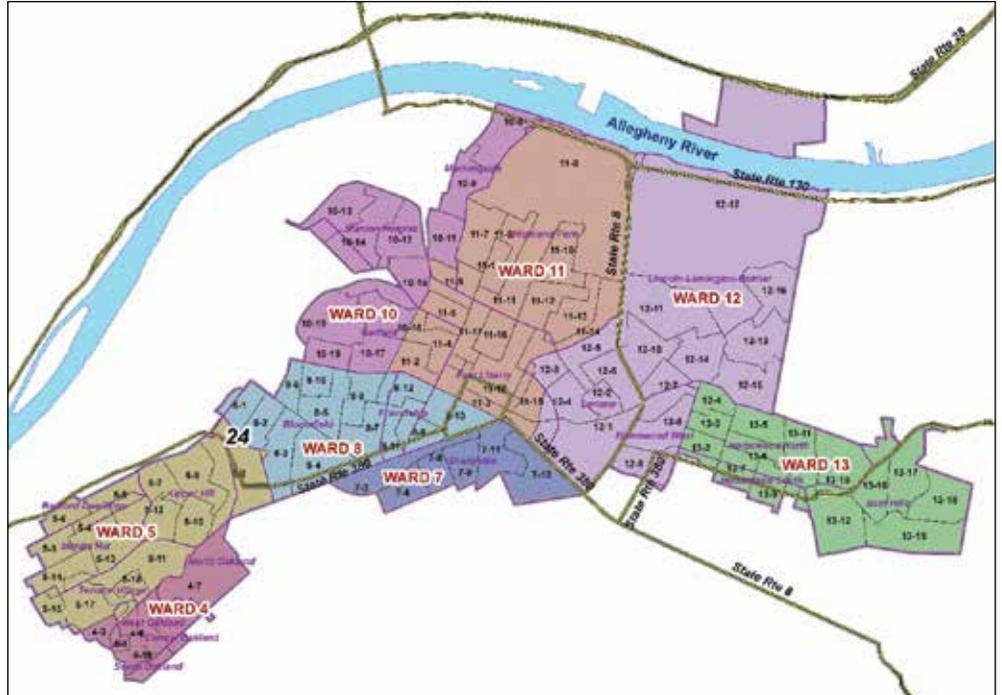
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As your state representative for the 24th Legislative District, I continue to advocate for Pittsburgh's residents. Since I began my term in January 2023, I've helped deliver more than \$24.35 million to support projects in Pittsburgh, launched the Pennsylvania Black Maternal Health Caucus and I serve as its co-chair with state Reps. Morgan Cephas and Gina Curry, have advanced reproductive health rights and access, equal justice for all, and so much more.

In my first few weeks of this year, I secured an additional \$1.22 million for important projects across the district including affordable housing in Homewood, improvements to the Latino Community Center and redevelopment in Larimer. These are projects that invest in Pittsburgh's economy.

If you have any issues or need assistance with any state-related services, please contact me at 412.665.5502 or RepMayes@PAHouse.net so my staff may assist you!



LOOKING BACK ON 2023 AND LOOKING FORWARD TO 2024

With the assistance of my staff, I began to serve the 24th Legislative District by:

- Providing more than 11,000 state-related services to constituents.
- Co-sponsoring 131 bills and prime-sponsoring 3 bills.
- Passing 1 bill – the CROWN Act (H.B. 1394) to prohibit race-based discrimination based on hair type, hair texture or hair style.
- Hosting community-based events, which 949 residents attended.
- Bringing back more than \$24.35 million to date in funding to serve area residents.

Thanks to the work of my District Office staff in Pittsburgh – Twanda Carlisle, my district office director, and Ricardo Worthey and Gloria Coulverson, my constituent service advisors, and Kim Davis, my legislative assistant in Harrisburg – we accomplished all of this work and more! In 2024, my staff and I look forward to continuing to provide even more high-quality constituent services to Pittsburgh residents.

WORKING IN HARRISBURG



Launching the Black Maternal Health Caucus

In 2023, I launched the Black Maternal Health Caucus with state Rep. Morgan Cephas and state Rep. Gina Curry. Together, we serve as co-chairs of the caucus and we work together to address the disturbing trends of Black maternal mortality and morbidity through bold legislative action, such as the Pennsylvania MOMNIBUS, a groundbreaking legislative package which would make significant investments to improve maternal health outcomes in Pennsylvania.

Collecting Data on Maternal Morbidity to Address Maternal Health

After we began our work within the caucus, Gov. Josh Shapiro signed Act 5 of 2023, also known as S.B. 262, sponsored by state Sen. Judy Schwank, D-Berks, into law that originated as H.B. 1362 sponsored by state Rep. Morgan Cephas. Act 5 requires the Pennsylvania Department of Health to report maternal morbidity data using hospital discharge data from the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council. It also requires an annual report from the Maternal Mortality Review Committee to include data on maternal morbidity – this report was previously released every few years. As an advocate for Black maternal health and reproductive health, rights, and justice, chair of the Joint Committee on Women and Girls of Color of the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus and Women’s Health Caucus, and co-chair of the Pennsylvania Black Maternal Health Caucus, I am thankful for Sen. Schwank’s leadership, as well as Rep. Cephas for introducing the House version of this bill and Gov. Shapiro for signing the bill into law. This law will provide us with the data to improve maternal health for Pennsylvanians and further help the Black Maternal Health Caucus address Black maternal health care.



GRANTS AWARDED TO THE 24TH DISTRICT

To date, I worked to secure more than \$24.35 million in funding including:



- \$13.7 million to Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority to replace lead service lines.
- \$2.1 million to Pennley Commons Recapitalization for preservation.
- \$1.8 million to the Bloomfield Bridge to improve infrastructure.
- \$1.3 million to the city of Pittsburgh for new signal controllers and updates to signal equipment.
- \$1.1 million to the Larimer-Homewood Multimodal Greenway Extension for pedestrian and streetscape improvements.
- \$900,000 to African Queens Apartments for construction.
- \$500,000 to the city of Pittsburgh to redevelop the corner of Broad Street and Highland Avenue in East Liberty.
- \$500,000 to the Zoological Society of Pittsburgh to repair the Water’s Edge Exhibit.
- \$398,000 to Three Rivers Youth to expand substance use disorder services.
- \$380,000 to Operation Better Block for affordable housing programs and neighborhood assistance.
- \$276,000 to Macedonia F.A.C.E. to expand substance use disorder services.
- \$258,000 to the Latin American Cultural Union to improve infrastructure.
- \$250,000 to New Granada Development for job training.
- \$231,000 to the city of Pittsburgh to construct green stormwater infrastructure.
- \$160,000 to Bloomfield-Garfield Corp. for affordable housing programs and neighborhood assistance.
- \$125,000 to Bloomfield-Garfield Corp. to restore the exterior parapet of the Negley Rotunda to prevent water from leaking into the building.
- \$100,000 to Latino Community Center to renovate its first floor.
- \$100,000 to Rodef Shalom Congregation to replace the roof.
- \$100,000 to the Urban Redevelopment Authority to renovate 501 Larimer St. and relocate the lottery store to 25 Meadow St.
- \$100,000 to Vintage Center for Active Adults to support senior services.

Recognizing Maternal Health Awareness Day in Pennsylvania

The PA Black Maternal Health Caucus uplifted Maternal Health Awareness Day on Jan. 23 with events, activities, and recognitions across the commonwealth. The Caucus co-chairs introduced H.R. 287 to recognize Maternal Health Awareness Day in Pennsylvania and hosted a screening of the film “Aftershock” produced by filmmakers Tonya Lewis Lee and Paula Eiselt at the Pennsylvania State Museum. This event was organized in partnership with the Governor’s Commissions on African American Affairs and Women.

Making Donor Breast Milk More Accessible

I spoke with Second Lady Blayre Davis and my colleagues in both the House and Senate at the Mid-Atlantic Milk Bank in Pittsburgh to celebrate the signing of Act 32 of 2023, also known as S.B. 500. I spoke about the importance and challenges of breastfeeding for moms and postpartum parents and how, for sick babies who need a specific type of breastmilk, we are going to change lives by expanding coverage of human donor breastmilk through Medicaid.



- \$95,000 to the Pittsburgh Zoological Society for operations.
- \$84,000 to Macedonia F.A.C.E. to support senior services.
- \$75,000 to Pennsylvania Affordable Housing Corp. to provide 37 more affordable housing units.
- \$75,000 to Pittsburgh Opera Inc. for expenses.
- \$75,000 to the Pittsburgh School District to expand dual credit enrollment for high school students.
- \$63,000 to the Citizen Science Lab to build the site.
- \$56,414 to Pittsburgh Glass Center for operations.
- \$50,000 to Grow Pittsburgh to educate the community about urban agriculture and food policy.
- \$50,000 to the Jubilee Association to renovate the facility.
- \$46,750 to 412 Food Rescue for community services.
- \$45,000 to the Neighborhood Academy to improve digital literacy and career readiness for high school students.
- \$41,250 to East End Cooperative Ministry for community services.
- \$40,000 for the Veterans Place of Washington Boulevard to support services to homeless veterans.
- \$37,500 to Bloomfield Develop Corp. for neighborhood assistance.
- \$37,500 to Pennsylvania Women Work for job training.
- \$36,466 to Kelly Strayhorn Theater for programs and marketing.
- \$35,000 to Center of Life to develop the facility.
- \$27,500 to Kingsley Association for community services.
- \$27,186 to Legacy Arts Project for operations.
- \$23,000 to the Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum for operations.
- \$21,180 to Union Project for operations and marketing.
- \$20,000 to No Hero Left Behind to support services to veterans.
- \$20,000 to Pittsburghers for Public Transit based in Garfield for educating low-income residents about the Pittsburgh Regional Transit Discount Bus Fare program.
- \$20,000 to YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh to expand access to early childhood education.
- \$18,750 to Negley Commons for community services.
- \$10,948 to Autumn House Press for operations.
- \$10,000 to Balafon West African Dance Ensemble for programs and marketing.
- \$10,000 to Guardians of Sound for general operations.

With this funding, we will improve Pittsburgh, making it better for all residents through investments in housing, infrastructure, substance use disorder services, job training, senior services, education, urban agriculture, veteran services, and so many more community services.



Working to Recognize Maternal Health Awareness Day in Pittsburgh

I participated in the local honoring of Maternal Health Awareness Day, and I received a proclamation from Pittsburgh City Council introduced by City Council Member Barb Warwick. Council Member Warwick also introduced a Will of Council calling on the Pennsylvania General Assembly and Congress to pass any legislation that would advance maternal health measures and address race-based maternal health outcomes and disparities. I was happy to offer remarks and call on my colleagues in City Council to work together on Black maternal health specifically so we can stop the 92% of preventable maternal deaths in our commonwealth. Thank you to the many organizations and Black maternal health agencies that joined us in City Council, especially Healthy Start Pittsburgh, which is a long-time partner from previous work leading New Voices for Reproductive Justice.

Contact the caucus at PBMHC@PAHouse.net if you have any comments or feedback, ideas on legislative proposals on Black maternal health care in Pennsylvania, and to get connected to our caucus! Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at [@pablackmaternalhealth](#) and on X [@pablackmhc](#).

Abortion Access in Pennsylvania

I began serving as the state representative for the 24th District to fight for reproductive justice and ensure abortion access in Pennsylvania. While the U.S. Supreme Court advanced its right-wing agenda by overturning Roe v. Wade in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization in June 2022, the PA House of Representatives took a stance to advocate for reproductive health, rights, and justice. In late 2023, the House focused on two bills, which would:



- Prohibit states from using the resources of Pennsylvania’s legal system to prosecute people in civil and criminal lawsuits from other states if they access reproductive health care services in the commonwealth.
 - The House passed H.B. 1786, sponsored by state Rep. Mary Jo Daley, D-Montgomery. It now awaits a vote in the Senate.
- Propose an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to provide for access to reproductive health care in Pennsylvania, thereby enshrining access to abortion into law.
 - I testified before the House Judiciary Committee, of which I am a member, and our committee reported H.B. 1888, sponsored by state Rep. Danielle Friel Otten, D-Chester, out of committee. It awaits a vote in the House.

With these two bills, we have the opportunity to protect abortion access, as well as reproductive health, rights, and justice in our commonwealth.

Passing the CROWN Act

As a Black woman, I faced discrimination for my hair, which is why Speaker of the House Joanna McClinton, D-Phila., and I introduced the CROWN Act, or H.B. 1394, which would prohibit race-based discrimination based on hair type, hair texture, or hair style.

Together, we worked to pass the CROWN Act in the House by a vote of 182-21 in July, but the Senate has yet to consider the bill. This bill is currently in the Senate State Government Committee and is awaiting consideration.

Take action at my CROWN Action Center online and write to your Pennsylvania Senator today to ask for a vote on the CROWN Act: <https://pahouse.com/Mayes/ActionCenter>.



DIGNITY for INCARCERATED WOMEN ACT

What's included

- ✓ BANS shackling pregnant people + enhances restraint documentation
- ✓ BANS solitary confinement of pregnant people
- ✓ FREE period + incontinence products
- ✓ Trauma-informed training for all employees who work with pregnant + postpartum incarcerates
- ✓ 3 days of post-delivery bonding time between mother and new born child

Ensuring Incarcerated Women Receive Dignified Treatment

Our caucus also had another legislative win with the Dignity for Incarcerated Women Act.

WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY



In August of 2023, I received an award from Gwen's Girls for protecting the health and well-being of Black girls in Pittsburgh. As your state representative, I will always support Black girls and gender-expansive youth in Pennsylvania in my work as chair of the Joint Subcommittee on Women and Girls of Color within both the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus and Pennsylvania Women's Health Caucus.



I hosted my first town hall focused on health insurance, where I spoke to constituents about the state health insurance marketplace, known as Pennie, as well as my work in Harrisburg to increase healthcare access for all Pennsylvanians.

State Rep. Aerion A. Abney, D-Allegheny, and I hosted a joint town hall in the Hill District, portions of which we both represent. While there at the Thelma Lovette YMCA, we spoke about investing in our community through state grants, as well as state services such as the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, the state's health insurance marketplace, Pennie, and county services such as Pittsburgh Regional Transit's Senior Citizen ConnectCard.



My district office staff joined local legal and prisoners' rights organizations to host a Pathways to Pardon: Re-Entry Resource Fair to provide resources on pardons and expungements to assist formerly incarcerated Pennsylvanians with re-entry into society and the Greater Pittsburgh community.



State Representative

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SERVICES AVAILABLE TO YOU

Apply for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program

Thanks to Act 7 of 2023, we expanded the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program to allow 42% more residents in our community to benefit. In 2024, Pennsylvanians 65 and older, widows and widowers 50 and older, and people with disabilities with an income of \$45,000 or less are eligible for a rebate. Learn more about PTRR: <https://www.revenue.pa.gov/IncentivesCreditsPrograms/PropertyTaxRentRebateProgram/Pages/default.aspx>. Check if you're eligible for PTRR by calling my district office at 412.665.5502.

Apply for Pittsburgh Regional Transit's Senior Citizen ConnectCard

Allegheny County residents 65 or older qualify for Pittsburgh Regional Transit's Senior Citizen ConnectCard, which allows seniors to ride public transit vehicles for free across Pennsylvania. To apply, or renew your Senior Citizen ConnectCard, please visit my district office at 2015-2017 Centre Avenue, Floor 1, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit

We tripled Pennsylvania's Child and Dependent Care Enhancement Tax Credit to help working families pay for affordable child and dependent care. Now, when working families file their taxes, they may receive a state tax credit equal to 100% of the federal credit for child and dependent care, alleviating one of the biggest burdens on working families. This will benefit more than 17,000 families in Allegheny County. Call my office at 412.665.5502 to learn more!

Scan the QR code to subscribe to my e-newsletter for weekly updates on my work in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg or online at <https://pahouse.com/mayes/emailsignup>.

