

State Representative ■ 179th Legislative District

JASON DAWKINS



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‘MY HOUSE TO YOUR BLOCK’

This summer I got the chance to keep a promise I made to my neighbors during my campaign – to meet with residents on their block to discuss the issues and challenges facing their community. I partnered with community leaders from across the 179th Legislative District to ensure that constituents could learn more about the services my office offers, and access them right in their neighborhood. While we’re wrapping up the last of our “My House to Your Block” events for this year, I look forward to bringing this series back next year. If you’re interested in hosting my staff and I on your block next year, please contact my office.



LIHEAP PROGRAM OPENS NOV. 2

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps low-income families pay their heating bills. LIHEAP offers assistance in the form of a cash grant, sent directly to the utility company, or a crisis grant for households in immediate danger of being without heat. The application period for 2015-16 runs Nov. 2 through April 1. Please contact my office if you have any questions or want free help applying for this program.



MOSS EAGLES HOMECOMING GAME IN WISSINOMING

As a passionate supporter of youth programs and sports, I was happy to join the Moss Eagles at their Homecoming game in Wissinoming. The Moss Athletic Association has provided a positive outlet for young people to showcase their talents and learn new skills. Organizations like these need our support, so I was proud to donate much needed helmets to ensure that these young athletes have the equipment they need to compete and stay safe.



FRANKFORD COMMUNITY DAY

When I set out to run for State Representative, I knew one of the things I wanted to accomplish was to host a large event to entertain and inform residents of the 179th Legislative District. That’s why my staff and I worked for months to make Frankford Community Day a reality, and we could not have been happier with the result. With the generous support of our sponsors, we were able to provide a Gospel Concert, moon bounces and water slides, carnival games, free food, and more to thousands of residents across the district.

Our resource fair was packed with vendors from nonprofit organizations, as well as city, state and federal agencies. These vendors provided attendees with invaluable information about everything from health insurance to how to get a pothole fixed. We’re already getting ready for next year’s event, and looking forward to building on this summer’s success.



REP. DAWKINS RECOGNIZES SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, and to bring awareness to this serious issue, the Donovan Williams Memorial Foundation and I hosted a ceremony to recognize the victims of suicide and promote positive conversations about mental health. The foundation has worked to educate teens about depression and suicide ideation in an effort to combat the third leading cause of death among young people. At this powerful event, we heard from the parents of Donovan Williams, a young man from my district who was the victim of teen suicide. Following their remarks, attendees released balloons to honor the memory of those who have lost their lives.



REP. DAWKINS SUPPORTS GET READY FEST IN OXFORD CIRCLE

In July, I partnered with the Malcolm Jenkins Foundation and Feed the Children for Get Ready Fest, which provided 25-pound boxes of food to families in need. They generously provided my office with vouchers to distribute to needy residents of the 179th District. They provided 20,000 pounds of food to 800 Philadelphia families! This type of outstanding work is why one of my biggest priorities has been to connect my constituents to the services of great organizations like these.



OLNEY YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT



I was honored to be invited to the Olney Youth Empowerment Summit this year. This event, hosted at Olney Charter High School, included speakers, workshops and performances to inspire and motivate young people.

Supporting programs that provide our teens the tools to learn, grow and achieve their goals is something that I've always been passionate about.

2015 PHILLY SPRING CLEAN UP

One of my favorite days of the year is the annual Philly Spring Clean Up. When residents all over the city come together to clean up their blocks and public spaces, we not only get a cleaner city, but we build a stronger community. This year I started my day with the great folks at the Frankford CDC who were hard at work cleaning up neighborhood parks. I then joined the North 5th Street Revitalization Project and the over 50 volunteers who cleaned five sites in Olney. Days like these demonstrate our neighborhoods' most powerful asset: caring, involved and dedicated citizens who give back to their community.



REGISTER TO VOTE ONLINE

I am pleased to announce that Pennsylvanians are now able to register to vote online. You can complete an online voter registration form by visiting www.pavoterservices.state.pa.us.

Online voter registration services are available in both English and Spanish. You can also make updates to your voter record, including change of name, address or party affiliation. In addition, you can ask for assistance at a polling place.



The site is directly linked to the state Department of Transportation's Motor Voter systems, so if you have a driver's license or PennDOT ID card, your signature already on file can be linked to your voter record.

If you do not have a driver's license or ID card, you can print, sign and mail the completed online application to your county voter registration office. If you are unable to print the application, you may request the Department of State to mail you a signature card to complete and send back.

PHILADELPHIA CAREERLINK OFFERS SERVICES TO HELP YOU LAND YOUR DREAM JOB

PA CareerLink centers across Pennsylvania are available to residents who are having trouble finding gainful employment. Philadelphia locations include 990 Spring Garden St., 3210 Red Lion Road and 1617 John F. Kennedy Blvd. For more information, call the Spring Garden Street office at (215) 560-5465, and they can help you with every step of the job hunt process, from resume development to personalized job search assistance.

CareerLink can also help you gain skills needed to be more competitive in this modern job market. Workshops are available to help you improve your math, language and reading skills while also enhancing your computer competency. Those who qualify can also receive advanced computer training and other skills training specific to industry segments.



GPASS COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

As a member of the state House Health Committee, I'm always excited to hear about groups in my district that are working to improve the well-being of residents of the 179th District. This year, I was proud to sponsor the Greater Philadelphia Asian Social Service Center's (GPASS) 15th Annual Community Health Fair. The event highlighted the importance of seeking wellness in all aspects of one's life, which included physical health, but also addressed mental, emotional, social and environmental concerns.



I thought this was an interesting approach to a health fair, and one that shows the impact of an organization that has been working in the community for over two decades.

REP. DAWKINS CELEBRATES GREAT AWAKENINGS' 1ST ANNIVERSARY IN WISSINOMING

Small businesses are one of the most important components of a strong and vibrant community. Starting and running a business takes hard work and dedication, and that's why I was proud to join the owners of Great Awakenings Café for their one-year anniversary in August. The folks at Great Awakenings not only provide a great space to gather and enjoy a cup of coffee, they also graciously host my staff during our satellite office hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Supporting local entrepreneurs is key to moving our communities forward, and my staff is always on hand to connect future business owners to information and resources that can help them succeed. Great Awakenings Café is located at 1466 E. Cheltenham Ave., and my staff is there to assist residents on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



3RD ANNUAL OLNEY YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL

The Olney Youth Arts Festival is an annual showcase of youth dance troupes from across the city, and one that highlights the diversity and creativity that make Philadelphia great. The festival allows young people to express themselves, and connect with their historical and cultural traditions. I was so impressed by the passion on display, and thankful for the hardworking folks who volunteered their time to put on such an entertaining and informative event. In addition to the fantastic performances on the stage, the Festival also invited community organizations, businesses, and nonprofits to connect residents to important resources. I was happy to sponsor this event this year, and look forward to supporting it as it continues to build off its tremendous success in years to come.





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MY OFFICE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications
 - Information on financial assistance for higher education
 - Assistance in obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
 - Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
 - Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
 - Birth and death certificates
 - Issues with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
 - Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
 - Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
 - Inquiries about utilities and the Public Utility Commission
 - Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
 - Issues with insurance companies
 - Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
 - Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
 - Questions about the state lottery
 - PACE prescription-drug cards for senior citizens
 - Consumer complaints
 - Liquor Control Board concerns or questions
 - Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups
 - Information about federal, state and local government agencies
- Any state government-related matters!***