

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**JOANNA E. McCLINTON**  
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***SERVING THE COMMUNITY***

*Dear Neighbor,*

Happy 250th birthday! I'm sure you are as proud as I am to call Pennsylvania home – where our nation and American democracy were born!

Between America 250 festivities, sporting events like the World Cup and Major League Baseball's All-Star Game, and annual celebrations like the Odunde and Africatown Diaspora festivals, there was plenty to do and opportunities to connect with neighbors and make new friends this summer.

In Harrisburg, we wrapped up the state budget in early July, and I am proud to say that the final plan includes funding for many of the most important programs in our community, including for schools, public safety and affordable housing.

You can learn more about the state budget and other news from Harrisburg, as well as see pictures from some of the events I've hosted this year, in this newsletter. If you haven't made it to one of my events, there are more to come! Don't miss the Save the Date section below for more information.

Remember, you can be the first to know the news from the state House and local events by signing up for my weekly email newsletter and following me on social media.



*Joanna E. McClinton*

***Save the Date***

**SEPT. 18, OCT. 16 & DEC. 18**

Food giveaways

**OCTOBER 2**

Fish fry

**OCTOBER 17**

Shredding event

**OCTOBER 30**

Harvest Festival

**NOVEMBER 12**

Veterans event

**NOVEMBER 20**

Thanksgiving giveaway

**DECEMBER 1**

Celebrate the Season with Seniors

**DID YOU APPLY FOR  
YOUR PROPERTY TAX OR  
RENT REBATE YET?**

More than \$226 million has been returned to seniors across Pennsylvania this year—have you applied for your refund?

If you are 65 or older; a widower 50 or older; or are 18 or older and have a disability and have an income less than \$48,110 you may qualify for a property tax or rent rebate.

**It is free to apply, and my staff can help!**

In 2023, I steered through an expansion of the Property Tax/Rent Rebate (PTRR) Program that allowed 20,000 more Philadelphians to qualify and increased the maximum rebate to \$1,000. Since then, more than 1.4 million refunds have been issued totaling \$860 million.

At a time when mismanagement in Washington is causing prices to rise, extra money in your bank account can help with groceries, medicine or treating yourself to something special. So call or stop by my office to learn more about the PTRR Program and let us help you apply.

# Photos From Our Community

## SAVE YOUR VISION HEALTH FAIR AND BLOCK PARTY



Good vision can help us accomplish daily tasks and protect us from falls, but your eyes are also an indicator of overall health. In May, I partnered with Councilmember Jamie Gauthier, Rep. Rick Krajewski and NV Optical to host a health fair and block party to offer a fun way to focus on our eyes.

## CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIPS



In May, I was proud to help present scholarship funds to Cornerstone Christian Academy and Greater Hope Christian Academy through Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program.

## WORC GRANT PRESENTATION



In February, I was proud to present a \$600,000 state grant to the Women's Opportunities Resource Center, which is an economic development agency that promotes self-sufficiency for economically disadvantaged women and their families. It historically serves 76% women, 90% people of color, 97% low-income people and 30% new Americans.

## JUNETEENTH WELLNESS FAIR



Healthy neighbors build healthy communities. In June, it was great to partner with the Keith Dawson Foundation to host a Juneteenth Wellness Fair and Food Giveaway at Motivation High School to offer free cancer and health screenings, music, family activities and free groceries.

# MORE THAN \$7 MILLION DELIVERED TO SUPPORT LOCAL PROGRAMS AND ORGANIZATIONS

One of the most important parts of my job in Harrisburg is to advocate for community organizations when they apply for state grants. So far in 2026, more than \$7 million has been granted to a variety of organizations doing great work in west and southwest Philadelphia and in Yeadon and Darby.

## HERE IS A LIST OF SOME RECENT GRANT RECIPIENTS:

### PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Community of Compassion Inc.: \$500,000** – for programs to address community violence, including gun, interpersonal, and domestic violence.
- **The Common Place: \$350,000** – for programs to address community violence, including gun, interpersonal, and domestic violence.
- **Rising Hope for Change Inc.: \$119,000** – for programs to address community violence, including gun, interpersonal, and domestic violence.
- **Darby Police Department: \$266,000** – to acquire two drones to assist with police operations, including locating missing persons.
- **Darby Police Department: \$400,000** – to enhance security along the business corridor and main traffic areas to deter crime and enhance community safety.

### HOUSING, COMMUNITY SPACES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Yeadon: \$250,000** – Darnell Avenue Storm Sewer improvements.
- **Yeadon: \$500,000** – Bullock Avenue Sanitary Sewer improvements.
- **Yeadon: \$665,000** – for transportation improvements at the intersections of Church Lane and Whitbey Avenue and Church Lane and Guenther Avenue.
- **Darby Rec Center: \$200,000** – for projects to improve the space including HVAC, bathrooms and kitchen.
- **Yeadon: \$125,000** – to support Phase 2 improvements to the Yeadon Community Park.
- **Greater Hope Ministries: \$50,000** – to upgrade the playground for community use.
- **New Fellowship Baptist Church: \$135,000** – to renovate the gym to host community events.
- **Walnut Park Plaza: \$500,000** – to modernize the building's operating systems for energy efficiency and achieve modern accessibility standards.
- **Cobbs Creek Stream Restoration: \$2 million** – to restore and reimagine the historic site as a hub for community, education, and recreation.

### EDUCATION AND SERVICES

- **Sharing Excess: \$350,000** – to expand the Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market, launch a statewide agricultural transportation program connecting farms to food banks, and develop inedible food diversion infrastructure.
- **Cradles to Crayons: \$400,000** – to supply diapers, hygiene kits, and clothing to families.
- **Cobbs Creek Community Environmental Education Center: \$100,000** – to offer We The People civic education programming.
- **A Home is a Right, Inc. (AHARI): \$50,000** – for veterans programming.
- **Celebrating 1776! \$150,000** – for operational support for student performances of *1776: the Musical*.
- **Mercy Catholic Patient Area: \$300,000** – to refresh patient care rooms and support spaces, including improvements to the lighting, HVAC system and plumbing, to enhance patient comfort and staff efficiency.
- **Cornerstone Christian Academy: \$1 million** – to renovate a recently acquired building in Rep. Rick Krajewski's legislative district, including painting, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical work.

## A STATE BUDGET THAT PRIORITIZES YOU

This summer, I was proud to guide a state budget through the legislature that saves your family money while investing in our schools and communities.

Everyone is concerned about rising costs because of shortsighted policies put in place in Washington. But here in Pennsylvania, we're helping to make life more affordable by preserving tax cuts for working people, families, seniors and small businesses.

This year, we're driving more funding to our local schools. Every child deserves access to a quality education that supports them and prepares them for the jobs of the future. I secured an additional \$157 million for Philadelphia schools

– that is a 7.6% increase over last year. There is also funding to repair aging school buildings, combat bullying and offer free breakfast to every student.

When schools thrive, communities thrive. The budget delivers on public safety by investing in proven community violence prevention programs, mental health access, support for law enforcement, and resources for our first responders, including more than \$62 million in Violence Intervention and Prevention programs.

Plus, this year, Pennsylvania will start the transition to chip-enabled EBT cards to keep your benefits secure.



State Representative 191st Legislative District  
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**THERE IS AN IMPORTANT ELECTION ON NOV. 3.**

Our future is in your hands. Make your plan to vote now!

**OCT. 19**

Last day to REGISTER to vote before the November election

**OCT. 27**

Last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot

**NOV. 3 – ELECTION DAY**

Polls are open on election day from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.; The county election office must receive your completed ballot by 8 p.m.



*Protecting Children*

I've been working closely with State Attorney General Dave Sunday to protect Pennsylvania's children from the misuse of AI deepfakes in our schools. Deepfakes are images, videos and audio that are generated by AI to depict both real and fake people. Using an app, students can now easily create deepfake nude images of their classmates, which can cause long-term trauma, anxiety and shame for those violated.

It is an issue impacting schools across Pennsylvania.

We've passed laws to give schools and law enforcement the tools they need to combat this issue. I'm proud that our most recent budget added a requirement for schools to report instances of cyberbullying, including AI deepfakes, to the Department of Education so we can learn the scope of the problem.

To find resources to protect children from dangerous online content, visit [protectyoungeyes.com](https://protectyoungeyes.com).



**2026-2027 PA Budget Wins**

**School Funding Increases**

**School District of Philadelphia**

**\$157 Million (7.6% ↑)**

