



Winter
2023

State Representative | 192nd Legislative District

MORGAN CEPHAS



District Office:

7538 Haverford Ave. | Philadelphia, PA 19151 | (215) 879-6625

Capitol Office:

324 Main Capitol Building | P.O. Box 202192 | Harrisburg, PA 17120-2192 | (717) 783-2192

RepCephas.com | /RepCephas | @RepCephas | RepCephas@pahouse.net

MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Dear Neighbor,

I want to start by wishing you a Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were safe, healthy, and joyous.

As we enter a new year and a new session, I want to stay connected to inform you about the work I'm doing in the Capitol and here at home to move our community forward. Starting my fourth term in the Pennsylvania House,

I am focused on building on the progress that we've made and strengthening the foundation of the District to ensure that the 192nd District is a place for all to live, work, play, and thrive – today, tomorrow, and for years to come.

My team and I are committed to doing all we can to ensure our community is moving in the right direction! Do not hesitate to contact my office if you have questions about anything in this newsletter or for assistance with state services.

Swearing-In Day *Honored to serve my community*

On January 3rd, I had the honor to be sworn in once again as State Representative for the 192nd Legislative District. This is the 207th Legislative Session, the largest and most diverse class of freshmen legislators in over a decade, with 26 new Democratic members. In the Democratic Caucus, there are 35 women and 34 people of color.

I am looking forward to this session and working to advance legislation to improve the lives of hard-working families, improve access to high-quality care and services, strengthen public safety, and reduce crime.

Philadelphia Delegation Chair

After the Thanksgiving holiday, the General Assembly got together in Harrisburg to select our leadership team for the 2023-24 legislative session. I am honored to have been elected Chairwoman of the Philadelphia House Delegation.

While this new role comes with its challenges, I look forward to working with the members of the delegation to advance a strategic agenda for the city of Philadelphia. My colleagues and I are aware of the complex issues impacting our communities and the crucial time we are in. We will keep fighting for our great city to further commonsense policy that can generate lasting change.

My priorities for the delegation include the following:

- Gun Violence Reduction
- Investing in Neighborhood Infrastructure
- Building an Economy for All
- Expanding Education and Workforce Development Opportunities
- Increasing Access to Care



Look out for updates from the Philadelphia Delegation and be sure to connect with us online at www.pahouse.com/PCD and on Instagram @PhillyDelPAHouse.

Policy Highlight – Wins of the Women’s Health Caucus

At the start of the 2020 session, I was appointed to serve as the House Democratic Co-Chair of the Women’s Health Caucus (WHC). The WHC is a bipartisan, bicameral caucus committed to addressing women’s health issues.

Still unsure of what the COVID-19 pandemic meant for us, my colleagues and I hit the ground running, attempting to reframe the purpose of the caucus. We strongly believe that there’s much more to women’s health than abortion.

We were able to take a closer look at all the issues women and families face and identify a platform based on maternal health, childcare access, reproductive healthcare, and justice. At the height of the pandemic, we looked at how “the great resignation” impacted women and their families. We upheld transparent relationships with stakeholders, held meetings and hearings, and worked closely with Governor Tom Wolf and his Administration. Here’s what we were able to accomplish:

- Expand Medical Assistance from 6 weeks to 1 year postpartum (as of 4/1/22)
- Form the PA Doula Advisory Commission (PADAC)
- Implement a pathway to certification for doulas in the Commonwealth - PA Perinatal Doula Certification launched February 2022
- Bring doula care into state correctional institutions Muncy and Cambridge Springs in a strategic partnership between the PA Department of Corrections and the Department of Human Services – Doula Pilot Program, launched February 2022
- Allocate \$25 million in ARP State Fiscal Recovery Funds to improving maternal health in PA through programs such as:
 - \$5 million for Maternal Care Innovation Grants
 - \$200K for Grants for Maternal Mortality Review Committees
 - \$700K to expanding access to doula care with funds for Doula Certification & Training and PADOC Doula Services



2023 Budget & Policy Priorities

- Gun Violence Reduction, Anti-Violence & Public Safety
- Target Neighborhood and Quality-of Life-Investments
- Advancing Working Families
- Education & Workforce Development



#DaysInTheDistrict



Whole Home Repair Press Event with Governor Aug. 12 | Wynnefield

I hosted Governor Tom Wolf in the Wynnefield community to announce historic investments for housing in Pennsylvania. We were able to secure \$430 million to launch the nation's first statewide home repair program, expand affordable housing, and provide resources for mom-and-pop landlords.



Listening Session w/SDP Superintendent, Oct. 5

Ensuring residents of the 192nd have a seat at the table to discuss issues that impact all Philadelphians is essential to me. I partnered with the School District of Philadelphia to host a listening session for area residents to meet and greet superintendent Dr. Tony Wallington. We heard directly from teachers, administrators, and families about their priorities for our students and schools.



Lady B Street Renaming Aug. 13 | Wynnefield

I was ecstatic to stand with Councilmember Curtis Jones Jr. and other City officials to honor Wynnefield's living legend, Lady B, at the street renaming of Wyndale Avenue.



54th Street Food Truck Festival Aug. 20 | Wynnefield

I joined Councilmember Curtis Jones Jr. and the Wynnefield Overbrook Revitalization Corporation to host the 54th Street Food Truck Festival. We welcomed some of Philly's favorite eateries to West Philadelphia for a day of festivities and resources to prepare students and families for the school year.



Cassidy Elementary Groundbreaking Oct. 16 | Overbrook

It was an exciting moment to join Senator Vincent Hughes and Councilmember Curtis Jones Jr., along with members of the School District of Philadelphia, students, and families of Cassidy Elementary School to break ground for a brand-new school building. This project is several years in the making, and I can't wait for what's to come!



Absalom Jones Street Renaming Sept. 17 | Overbrook Park

I stood with city and state officials, including Councilmember Curtis Jones Jr., Senator Vincent Hughes and Senator Anthony Williams to unveil the renaming of a portion of Lancaster Avenue to 'Absalom Jones Way' to honor the history and legacy of the prominent abolitionist and clergyman.



Thanksgiving Giveaway w/ Tyrese Maxey Foundation | Nov.21 Overbrook

I joined Philadelphia 76ers' own Tyrese Maxey, the Tyrese Maxey Foundation, and Overbrook West Neighbors at Tustin Recreation Center to provide holiday meals for over 300 families to kick-off the holiday season.



Chick-fil-A Opening Oct. 21 | City Avenue

I joined local leaders in welcoming Philadelphia's newest Chick-Fil-A to City Avenue, brought to us by a West Philadelphia native and the first black woman owner-operator in the region.

Good Shepherd Check Presentation Mar. 18 | Overbrook

I was excited to stand with local officials and community faith leaders to announce funding for affordable housing and revitalization at the grounds of the former Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church after a tragic fire broke out at the century-old site back in 2016.

By the Numbers

State Rep **Morgan Cephas**

Constituent Services
2022

2,319
Cases Completed



848
Senior Services



394
Housing
Assistance



309
Property Tax/
Rent Rebates



5,541
Total Services Provided



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Rep. Morgan Cephas

\$6.75 Million
In state grant dollars brought back to the
192nd District

\$3.5M Cobbs Creek Foundation Aquatic Resource Revitalization

\$1.4M Shepard Recreation Center Rebuild Project

\$1M Pennrose Management Co. Good Shepherd Senior Housing Project

\$500,000 Overbrook High School Safety & Technology Upgrades

\$200,000 Local Green Spaces and Urban Agriculture

\$150,000 JaxTech Development Services, INC



The Overbrook Night Market Recap & Impact

#DaysInTheDistrict

After two years of the pandemic and almost three years since the 2019 Night Market event, I partnered with Overbrook West Neighbors (OWN) for the return of *The Overbrook Night Market* on Thursday, May 12, 2022. The night was filled with community, music and most anticipated – food trucks! Nearly 20,000 people came out for a night of family-friendly fun on Lancaster Avenue. A special thank you to our partners, vendors, local businesses, and neighbors!

Event Highlights

- Nearly 20,000 Attendees
- 25 Food Trucks
- 40% Black-Owned Vendors
- 27% Women-Owned Vendors
- Average of \$20,000 Spent
- 30+ Community Volunteers





State Representative
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lpo.km.0123



\$500,000 grant for Overbrook High School

In light of recent shootings impacting schools in our areas, it is critical that we focus on the safety of our students. I am glad I was able to bring these much-needed funds and clear the way for safety and technology upgrades at Overbrook High

School. I helped secure \$500,000 in state funding awarded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. "The safety at the school campus is top priority on my agenda," Cephas said.

What's to Come?

Look out for more info on these upcoming events in the 192nd. Contact my office for more details.

- **State of the 192nd**
Thursday, February 16th
- **Youth Employment Workshop**
March 2023
- **Spring Shredding**
Saturday, April 8th | Pinn Memorial Baptist Church
- **The Overbrook Night Market 2023**
Save the Date:
Thursday, May 11th
- **Mobile Office Hours**
Coming Soon

Be the first to know! Contact us to sign-up for event updates.

