

The New York City Region Report

07/13/22

Press Conference in Front of Senator Schumer's Office

Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

The press conference was organized in collaboration with **A Better Balance**, **The March of Dimes** and other reproductive health leaders across the state to call U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer to pass the bipartisan Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) H.R. 1065. The PWFA combats pregnancy discrimination and safeguards the health, safety, and economic security of pregnant and postpartum workers. During the press conference, I shared research and my midwifery perspective on the clinical manifestations of mild to moderate stress on gestating people and their babies. I also FIRMLY called Senator Schumer to act NOW! The event was picked up by PIX 11 and possibly some other news outlets.

Aug 12, 2022 at 5:00 am

Op-ed

What pregnant Black women need from the Senate

By Odessa Fyn

New York Daily News

<https://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/ny-oped-black-mothers-need-america-20220812-or7grybtkfbjtjgen2ogk6pg4u-story.html>

Published an op-ed in the **NY Daily News** outlining the imperative nature with which Senator Schumer needs to move on the PWFA. I described in a very human way what it looks like when a pregnant worker does not receive reasonable workplace accommodations. I discussed the legacy of *Black Women* being disproportionately impacted as well as the potential consequences to pregnant women and people nationally if Senator Schumer does not act NOW!

09/17/22

Daniel's Day Program

Assembly District 58 Mental Health Taskforce

NYS Assemblywoman Monque Chandler-Waterman

In collaboration with Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, NYC Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams

Senator Zellnor Myrie, Assemblymember Brian Cunningham, Assemblymember Mathlyde Frontus, City Councilmember Crystal Hudson

Daniel's Day was a state-wide community mental health awareness event developed in memory of Daniel Prude. [Daniel Prude was a Black man experiencing a crisis who died of suffocation after Rochester police covered his head with a spit hood.](#) The event also honored the lives of Dwayne June, Saheed Vassell and other individuals directly impacted by the harm our current police response to mental health and substance use crisis in the community can cause. The Assemblymember and her team engaged in a community conversation about a Holistic community response to these types of crises should they occur.

Activities

- In collaboration with the **NYC Midwives (NYM's) Executive Board** we created an eBlast invitation to midwives across the city to support the event and the bill [Daniel's Law](#)
- Created social media content promoting the event and educating the public on a de-escalated response to mental health and substance use crisis in the community
 - A part of that response is encouraging the public to dial 988 instead of 911 for these types of emergencies
 - **Did you know that you can dial 9-8-8 for mental health crises instead of dialing 911?**

[988 , the New Mental health support hotline](#)

- Collaborated with ***NYM Co-Vice President Sherrie Hunter Kelly*** on developing a community educational tool entitled "What is a Midwife?":
- Developed a t-shirt linking the educational
- Engaged in dialogue with community members about midwifery care and mental Well Being
- Collaboratively NYCM's and NYM have drafted a memorandum of support for [Daniel's Law](#) that will collaboratively be submitted

August 14, 2022

Campaign Rally for NYS Senator Gustavo River

Attended in support of the reelection of NYS Senator Gustavo River

August 21, 2022

Phone Banking with Team Gustavo!

Phone banked with Team Gustavo to reach members of the 33rd Senate District

November 15, 2022

PRESS RELEASE

Social Justice Advocates, Business Leaders, and Political Leaders Across New York and the Nation Accelerate Push for Pregnant Worker Rights Before Time Runs Out. *Election Results Spell Doom for the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act Unless Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (NY) Takes Action and Supporters Urge Him Not to Let the Bill Die on His Watch.*

- Supported the passing of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act H.R. 1065 by providing content for the press release

Brooklyn Assembly District 58 - The "Vital Voice" Community Meeting

Assemblywomen Monique Chandler-Waterman's office extended an invitation to join the monthly ***"The Vital Voice" Community Meeting***. The forum was developed to address civic concerns, provide updates and share resources to improve the quality of life in the community. At the November meeting, there were several giveaways and a community Thanksgiving Celebration Dinner. The following task forces presented on their work

- Mental Health Taskforce
- Small Business Taskforce
- Education Taskforce
- Faith Leaders Task force
- Quality of Life/ Community Taskforce
- Public Safety Taskforce

 Odessa Fynn
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 NYC Midwives Co-Chair
 NYCM NYC Rep