



JCCGI to Honor NYC Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum



Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum watches as Mayor Bloomberg signs the Language Access in Pharmacies Act on September 3, 2008. Introduced by Ms. Gotbaum in 2008, the bill requires New York City chain pharmacies to translate medical instructions into the seven languages most commonly spoken by NYC residents.

The Jewish Community Council of Greater Coney Island will honor Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum at their Surf Solomon Senior Center on Friday, November 13 and present her with an award for her outstanding work.

After leading a distinguished career in both the private and public sectors for thirty years, Betsy Gotbaum was inaugurated as Public Advocate in January 2002. Since then, her leadership has paved the way for municipal reforms in education, school construction, prevention of crime against women, and the fight against hunger. Through her extensive experience in management and through collaboration with non-profits, businesses and government agencies, Public Advocate Gotbaum is reshaping the image of the Office into the primary place where New Yorkers can turn with problems related to city government. Additionally, each week she helps solve hundreds of city service complaints made by New Yorkers who cannot get help in other places.

Gotbaum has exposed major problems in the special education system, prompting the Department of Education to set aside more money for special needs students. She successfully lobbied to stop the administration from cutting preventive services that help families keep their children out of foster care. Her recommendations led to reforms in the food stamp application process that have helped thousands of New York City families put food on their tables. She has launched major studies that shed new light on the City's affordable housing crisis and the provision of government services to survivors of domestic violence.

Throughout her career, Betsy Gotbaum has shown commitment to community service. She has served on the boards of innumerable not-for-profit organizations and successfully raised funds for their meaningful projects.

For more information or to RSVP, email Libby Feldman, Executive Assistant at l.feldman@jccgci.org or call 718-449-5000 ext. 2269.