On Monday, February 29th, Borough President Adams teamed up with Council Member Jumaane D. Williams to co-host the City Council’s first over-sight hearing in seven years on Mitchell-Lama housing, a statewide program created in 1935 that supported the construction of 105,000 units of affordable housing — of which 18,000 are located in Brooklyn — for middle-income residents. More than 30 Brooklynites attended the hearing, held in the community room of Brooklyn Borough Hall, to testify on their experiences with the program and concerns with maintaining the affordability of their housing.

We are the champions! On Thursday, March 3rd, Borough President Adams hosted his second annual “A Night Honoring Brooklyn Champions,” an event that celebrated the success of the borough’s recent athletic and scholarship championship teams. Students and coaches from 12 local elementary, junior high, high school, and college squads accepted trophies and words of praise during the ceremony.

Borough President Adams is committed to expanding access to early childhood education, one Brooklynite at a time. On Friday, March 4th, he joined Deputy Mayor Richard Buery on a walking tour of Brownsville to share information with residents about free pre-kindergarten programs available for all four-year-old children in New York City. Recent statistics have shown that Brooklyn is increasing its enrollment numbers compared to the rest of the city, showing the effectiveness of this direct outreach strategy.

Connecting small business owners in Brooklyn with the resources to succeed, Borough President Adams hosted a Regional Economic Development Council information session at Brooklyn Borough Hall on Wednesday, March 9th about the Empire State Development Corporation’s (ESDC) Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) process for businesses and nonprofits in advance of the summer deadline. The program offers grants to support a variety of initiatives that contribute to economic development in New York State.

Alzheimer’s disease, the most common form of dementia, afflicted an estimated 5.3 million Americans in 2015. In support of local caregivers, Borough President Adams spoke with residents about universal pre-kindergarten programs as he strolled along Fulton Avenue in Brownsville.

Photo Credit: Erica Shimon/Brooklyn BP’s Office

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In remembrance of the Easter terror attack in Lahore, Pakistan, Borough President Adams spoke at a interfaith candlelight vigil that he organized with the local Pakistani community outside the Makki Masjid Muslim Community Center in Flatbush.

Borough President Adams cut the ribbon on a new small business mentoring center at Brooklyn Borough Hall, managed by non-profit association SCORE NYC.

In recent weeks, a series of crimes have targeted elderly residents across Brooklyn. On Friday, March 4th, Borough President Adams offered a $1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of a man who violently robbed a 91-year-old woman at her home in Park Slope, only a few weeks after an attacker pistol-whipped a 71-year-old woman in her home nearby. To promote the safety of older adults in Brooklyn, he followed up by visiting the Park Slope Center for Successful Aging on Tuesday, March 8th, to discuss advice on staying safe and how to avoid becoming the victim of a crime. Borough President Adams explained that awareness of potential risks will often prevent a crime from occurring and provided information about the types of crimes — such as mortgage fraud and banking scams — that threaten older adults. A list of safety tips are available at brooklyn-usa.org/seniors, and anyone with information about the aforementioned attacks should contact the New York City Police Department (NYPD)’s Crime Stoppers hotline at (800) 577-TIPS.

COMMUNITY ALERTS

On Wednesday, March 30th, Borough President Adams launched his “All-in-One Resource Clinic,” a project from his Constituent Assistance Center (CAC) at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Participating organizations include Catholic Migration Services, which will provide citizenship eligibility testing; INCLUDEny, which will offer help for families of people with disabilities; Metropolitan Transit Authority (NYC) which will offer help for families of people with disabilities; HOPE, which will make free credit scores and reports available. Anyone wishing to schedule an appointment can contact CAC at (718) 802-3700.

Creating additional opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs, Borough President Adams held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Wednesday, March 30th for a new small business mentoring center at Brooklyn Borough Hall, managed by the non-profit association SCORE NYC. The hub will expand services available to the startup and small business community in Brooklyn, where the majority of businesses are companies with fewer than five employees and where the increase in the number of startups dramatically exceeds other parts of New York City. For more information, please call (212) 264-4507 or visit newyorkcity.score.org.

Our Constituent Assistance Center is here to serve all of Brooklyn. If you or someone you know are having any issues, or if you have questions about issues like alternate side parking, sidewalk pickup or other community matters, such as the matters in this month’s update, call the Center at (718) 802-3777.