



NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

MAJORITY LEADER

226 WEST STATE STREET

TRENTON, NJ 08608

(609) 292-0500

FAX (609) 633-2179

email: AswWatsonColeman@njleg.org

Dear Friends:

I recently had the pleasure of meeting with Melissa A. Gertz, Esq., the executive director of the Community Justice Center, a new voice for persons with disabilities in New Jersey. Ms. Gertz and her colleagues have both personal and professional experience in addressing the challenges faced by disabled residents. The Center is a wonderful addition to the City of Trenton and is a welcomed presence on West State Street.

New Jersey's disabled residents and disabled veterans face numerous challenges on a daily basis; obtaining their benefits should not be one of them. Whether they served in World War II or Iraq, today's veterans are at the mercy of an aging U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs health system and often have difficulty finding a lawyer to take their disabilities claims through specialized courts.

The staff at the Center combines legal expertise in navigating the system of public benefits with the desire to offer assistance to people who have traditionally lacked access to legal services.

I am pleased to share the newest neighbor, the Community Justice Center, a caring and competent resource for the many disabled individuals in New Jersey. The Community Justice Center promises to be a dynamic force for advocating for people with disabilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bonnie Watson Coleman".

Bonnie Watson Coleman
Assembly Majority Leader