

CONGRESSMAN
JOSEPH CROWLEY

NEW YORK-7TH DISTRICT
SPRING 2004



Fighting to create jobs and rebuild our economy

Congressman Joseph Crowley is working to jump-start the economy and reform economic policy, designing it to address the needs of working families. It will reverse the negative effects caused by the Bush tax cuts which have failed to create good-paying jobs here at home, and have left minority families behind. Congressman Crowley's plan will help provide every American with the opportunity to find a good-paying job that allows them to care for their family, buy a house, save for the future, and enjoy a secure retirement.

The Crowley plan to create jobs includes:

- **Middle-class tax cuts**
The Crowley plan calls for tax cuts for the hard-working middle-class. These targeted tax cuts will put spending money back where it belongs – in the pockets of average Americans – and boost consumer demand and create the business investment necessary to meet it.
- **New tax cuts to encourage businesses to hire the unemployed** Congressman Crowley's plan will give businesses that hire people who have been out of work for at least six months a tax credit worth \$2,400. The credit will put people back to work and reward the companies that are hiring new workers.
- **Support for states and localities to create jobs**
Fiscal crises in the states are forcing tax increases and cuts in critical programs, cutting jobs and holding back our economic recovery. The Crowley plan will lend a helping hand to states by providing funds to avoid these cuts and to address critical needs in areas including education, health care and homeland security.

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This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

Congressman Crowley Honors Black History Month
Congressman Gregory Meeks Joins as Keynote Speaker

On February 23, 2004, Congressman Joseph Crowley honored the 78th Anniversary of Black History Month at his Fifth Annual Seventh Congressional District Black History Month Commemoration. Joining Congressman Crowley to deliver the keynote address was Congressman Gregory Meeks (D-Queens). Congressman Crowley was also joined by community leaders from the Bronx and recognized the major contributions made by African Americans to New York City and throughout the country.

Congressman Crowley honored those who take it upon themselves to be a positive force for their communities and world. He emphasized the real greatness of rising up as individuals to collectively serve our community. Congressman Crowley invoked Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s quote, "Anyone can be great because anyone can serve."

In keeping with the theme of greatness through service, Congressman Crowley honored three individuals who serve their communities, and exemplify Dr. King's quote. Lou Brown, President of the NAACP Parkchester Chapter, who serves on Congressman Crowley's Congressional Military Advisory Committee, and is the First-Vice President of the Tremont Day Care Center. Raine Semaj is a Teacher at the Walt Disney School in Co-op City and serves as a Region 2 Literacy Coach. Joseph Thompson is the President of the 49th Precinct Community Council and is President of the Allerton/Pelham Parkway Mobil Community Patrol.



At an event Congressman Crowley hosted to commemorate 2004 Black History Month, he met with constituents to discuss the achievements of African-Americans both locally in the Bronx and nationally. Joining him to discuss these issues in Co-Op City are from left to right: Louis Brown, President of NAACP, Parkchester Chapter (honoree); Joseph Thompson, President 49th Precinct Community Council (honoree); Congressman Crowley; Raine Semaj, Teacher at P.S. 160 in Co-op City (honoree); Robert Johnson, Bronx District Attorney; and Assemblyman Stephen Kaufman.

M.C.
Pre-sorted Standard

Congressman Crowley is fighting for a budget that creates jobs and strengthens the economy for Bronx families

Investing in Small Businesses

Congressman Joseph Crowley knows small businesses are responsible for employing nearly half of all workers and creating three out of four new jobs. Their growth is critical to the prosperity of Bronx families and its neighborhoods. Congressman Crowley's plan to promote small businesses includes fully funding the Small Business Administration (SBA) and creating targeted tax cuts for small businesses.

The Bush Administration has proposed cutting funding for the SBA by \$79 million and eliminating the Microloan program, which last year provided \$26.5 million to growing and newly established small businesses. Congressman Crowley objects to these proposed cuts and will fight to ensure these important programs are fully funded.

In addition, Congressman Crowley and his Democratic colleagues proposed \$32 billion in tax relief for small businesses, now enacted into law, that will expand and create jobs by encouraging investment in new plants and equipment. Democrats are now proposing small business tax credits that encourage offering health coverage to employees and hiring those who have been out of work at least 6 months. The Bush Administration has created 75,600 pages of new regulations for small businesses – more than any other President. Congressman Crowley and the Minority in Congress are working to help small firms cut through the red tape and paperwork as they struggle to build their business and our economy.

THE PRESIDENT'S ECONOMIC PLAN

While many Bronx working families are finding it harder today to achieve financial security, the President is working to pass a budget that creates a record deficit instead of jobs. Since 2001, nearly 2.9 million jobs have been lost and unemployment rates, particularly for Latinos (7.4%) and African Americans (9.8%), are higher than before 2001. The President's budget shortchanges working families by giving tax breaks to those who need them the least and includes billions of dollars in revenues to HMOs and other wealthy corporate interest groups.

Ensuring good job training for workers

Congressman Crowley wants to make sure that people can move quickly to new jobs, higher incomes, and successful futures. Part of that is providing American workers with the training they need to move from one job to another in today's increasingly complex workforce. But Republicans have proposed cutting job training funding by seven percent over the past two years in the midst of an economic downturn with prolonged high unemployment rates.



Congressman Joseph Crowley recently announced the securing of over \$9.3 million in Federal funding for transportation projects in Co-op City/East Bronx. Not only will the funding help alleviate the constant congestion on I-95, but more importantly it will help create hundreds of jobs in the Bronx and improve the quality of life for all Co-op City residents.

Congressman Crowley's plan to promote job training includes:

- **Full funding for job training programs**
Congressman Crowley wants to fully fund existing job training programs. The Majority in Congress has proposed to eliminate job training and education opportunities for more than 45,000 dislocated workers who need help finding their way back into our nation's workforce.
- **Create the YES to WORK program**
Democrats have proposed to create the YES to WORK program, which provides funds for summer and after-school employment opportunities, workforce preparation, and career awareness activities for youth who are in school.

CONGRESSMAN CROWLEY WINS BATTLE TO EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

This past February Congressman Joseph Crowley voted to extend federal unemployment benefits to millions of workers across the country, bringing relief to over 150,000 workers in the state of New York who would not otherwise receive additional aid.

This extension is critical given that 8.4 million Americans are now unemployed and it is taking longer and longer for them to find work. With nearly three million jobs lost nationwide and over 280,000 in New York, this extension was long overdue. This victory for millions of workers will also help promote economic growth by pumping additional dollars into the economy.



Congressman Joseph Crowley, Assemblyman Steve Kaufman and Riverbay Corporation recently joined together to honor Randy Brown for his bravery and heroism for pulling to safety Leah Bianco, a fellow citizen who was pushed onto the subway tracks on February 4, 2004, moments before a train rushed into the station. Randy Brown, a Co-op City resident and hero, is a testament to the character and compassion of the hardworking people of Co-op City. (From left to right: Assemblyman Steve Kaufman; Leah Graham, Randy Brown's fiancé; Leah Bianco; Randy Brown; Congressman Joseph Crowley; and Marie Heath of Riverbay Corporation.)