



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Michael Gianaris

## Claudia Coger

MICHAEL GIANARIS May 11, 2016

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*Claudia Coger*

Caudia Coger was born in Sumter County, Florida. In 1955, she relocated to Astoria, New York, to start what would be a tremendous life of public service. A resident of Astoria Houses for more than 60 years, Ms. Coger raised six children, and is affectionately known as “Mama Coger,” a name given to her by local residents as a tribute to her nurturing spirit and caring nature.

For more than 25 years, Ms. Coger worked as an assistant train dispatcher with the New York City Transit Authority before retiring in 1993. After retirement, she decided that she could

best serve her community and advocate for quality of life improvements in Astoria by working with local leadership. She was elected and continues to serve as President of the Astoria Houses Residents' Association.

Ms. Coger also serves on the Executive Board of the Citywide Council of Tenant Association Presidents. This vital position has given Ms. Coger a powerful voice in her community; she is an integral proponent for social welfare, education, and tenants' rights. Ms. Coger is a tireless advocate for residents, and has effectively worked in partnership with elected officials in all levels of government.

Ms. Coger's inspiration comes from her spirituality, which has served as a vehicle for her life in public service. Its principles have served as a guiding light to improve the lives of others. Highlighting her leadership role in her community, Ms. Coger was appointed as an Elder of the New Covenant Life Christian Center in New York City, undoubtedly one of the proudest moments in a career driven by selflessness.