



October 28, 2014

His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York
Cardinal's Office
1011 First Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Cardinal Dolan:

In light of reports that Father Walter Tonelotto of Our Lady of Pompeii Church, located at 25 Carmine Street, has indicated he may not renew the lease for the senior center located in the church's basement, we ask that you take immediate steps to ensure that the center can remain in its current location.

The senior center at Our Lady of Pompeii Church has been a crucial resource for some of our most vulnerable senior constituents for decades. The center has its roots in the Golden Age Club started in 1971 at the behest of the church's pastor by late parishioner Lucy Cecere (see *Catholic New York* story enclosed). It provides 1,400 lunches monthly, as well as vital social, cultural and educational activities and access to health and social services, such as flu immunizations and legal services.

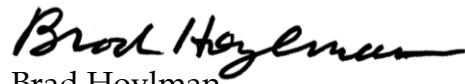
Greenwich House, the not-for-profit organization that operates the senior center, has assured us it is extremely willing to address any concerns that the church may have in order to renew the lease, including an increase in rent. However, it is our understanding that Father Walter has instructed the senior center to begin looking immediately for alternative space, which suggests he doubts the senior center will be allowed to remain.

We have heard from many constituents who rely upon the center and are confused and upset that the church would suggest evicting such a treasured and longstanding community institution. We respectfully urge you to work with Father Walter to ensure that the senior center operated by Greenwich House remains at Our Lady of Pompeii Church and that the specter of eviction be removed entirely from these negotiations.

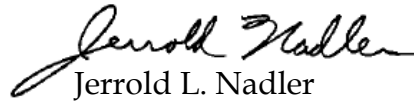
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Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please contact Senator Hoylman at 212-633-8052.

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman
New York State Senator



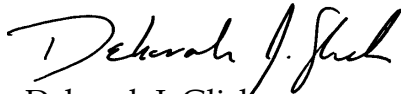
Jerrold L. Nadler
Member of Congress



Gale Brewer
Manhattan Borough President



Daniel Squadron
New York State Senator



Deborah J. Glick
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Corey Johnson
New York City Council Member



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Encl.