

On Monday December 5th, The New York City Council's LGBT Caucus and the Black, Latino and Asian Caucus celebrated World AIDS Day at City Hall. The program included remarks from Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, and Council Members Rosie Mendez, and Corey Johnson, as well as several wonderful performances from students of various schools in New York City and presentations of proclamation to deserving honorees who have had a significant impact on people living with HIV/AIDS. One particular honoree, Debra Fraser-Howze , Founder & former President & CEO of the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, as well as an advisor on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS from 1995-2001, delivered a particularly moving speech. Howze addressed the group noting the obvious fear that comes with uncertain times. Fraser- Howze's inspiring words echoed our pledge to continue to be here for those in our communities who so desperately need us, now and into the future. The celebration was a beautiful commemoration to a day in which we recalled our roots as offering a compassionate response to the AIDS pandemic and reaffirmed our commitment to people living with HIV.

