



# State Senator **KATIE MUTH**

Winter 2019

*Representing the 44th Senatorial District*

*Thank You*  
**VETERANS!**



Veteran Malcom Chandler at the Tel Hai Retirement Community

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# THANK YOU VETERANS!



It was truly an honor to join in recognizing the service of local veterans at the Tel Hai Retirement Community Veterans Day Event and the Owen J. Roberts Veterans Luncheon.



*Veteran Wilbert Gaul at the Tel Hai Retirement Community*



*Our SD44 District Office intern Maddie Friel at the Owen J. Roberts High Schools Veterans' Day Ceremony.*

## Veterans Expo Recap

On November 7, the SD44 Team hosted our first Veterans Expo! We would like to thank our partners at the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, the Disabled American Veterans Norristown Chapter 25, and all of the vendors and service organizations who participated in providing informative and helpful resources to our veterans.

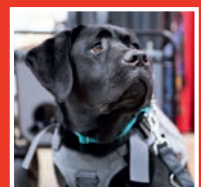


*Thank you to the Owen J. Roberts High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp.*

## SD44 Veterans Expo Recap



*Thank you to State Representatives Danielle Friel-Otten and Melissa Shusterman for joining us at our Veterans Expo!*



*A special shout out to Mission BBQ who provided and served lunch to our veterans!*

See more photos from the Veterans Expo on my website, [SenatorMuth.com](http://SenatorMuth.com) in the **GALLERY** section.

# CHESTER COUNTY FOOD BANK

Visiting the Chester County Food Bank ranks at the top of my favorite experiences since being elected! Their mission is to mobilize our community to ensure access to real, healthy food.

Chester County Food Bank is the central provider for hunger relief, serving more than 120 partner agencies across the county. They distribute over 2.7 million pounds of food to our neighbors with limited or uncertain access to adequate food through their food cupboard, hot meal sites, shelters, and other social service organizations.

My favorite part of the visit was meeting the members of the FRESHstart kitchen program! FRESH is an acronym for Focusing Resources on Employment, Self-Sufficiency and Health, directly aligned with strategic planning and programming for the Food Bank. The program provides life skills training to successfully reenter the workforce, with a focus on teamwork, organizational development, job readiness, and internship/ job placement support.

## DID YOU KNOW???!!!

- Children are 16.9% and senior citizens comprise 14.9% of the food insecure population in Pennsylvania.
- State programs like the State Food Purchase Program (SFPP), and the Pennsylvania Agricultural Surplus System (PASS), assist food banks across the Commonwealth, including the Chester County Food Bank, feed families by assisting in the purchase of food for pantries and giving farmers funding to harvest surplus crops.
- Other programs like Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) helps to provide medical attention and bring food to the table of lower-income families. In Chester County, 24,141 residents received SNAP benefits in 2018 and 66% of those recipients were children, seniors, or those living with disabilities.

***Thank you to all the staff and volunteers of Chester County Food Bank for all your hard work and efforts in making sure everyone has access to nutritious food and nourishment!***



## Senate District 44 Gives Back



*Thank you the local Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh chapter for making a group donation to our school supplies drive.*

Our team worked with various human service and community advocacy organizations to host numerous food, clothing, and supplies drives to ensure our neighbors have access to what they and their families need. Thank you to everyone who donated to our collection drives this year! We are proud to represent a community that cares for each other.

**Thank you for supporting donation drive efforts:**

**AUGUST**  
Back to School Supplies Drive  
**OCTOBER**  
Menstrual Products Drive  
**NOVEMBER**  
Sewa Diwali Food Drive



*Dropping off donated supplies with Montgomery County Commissioner Val Arkoosh.*

Our Back to School Supplies Drive held in August was a huge success and allowed us to donate school supplies to children heading back to school in Bucks, Chester and Montgomery Counties.



## TOWN HALLS

*Hosting town halls is the best way for me to interact one-on-one with residents of the 44th and discuss the issues that matter most to our community. Our Fall town halls included important discussions on:*

- Property tax relief and the need for a Fair Share Tax plan
- Roadworks projects to improve travel in our area
- Pipeline safety and holding companies accountable for damage caused in our communities
- Education issues, such as charter schools and ensuring that students of all learning styles can receive a high-quality education
- The shortcomings of our “wealthcare” system and how we can improve health care access for all.



*In September, I teamed up with Representative Danielle Friel Otten for joint town halls for our shared constituents from SD44 and HD155.*

### *Our October Town Hall at Daniel Boone Middle School.*



### *Our November Town Hall at the Upper Providence Township Building*



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



My first year in Harrisburg has been a learning experience, as well as a great motivator. I am grateful for our team in the SD44 office, as well as the staff in Harrisburg, who work hard to ensure we have thorough research on policy to create gold-standard legislation. I was elected to serve the people of the 44th, but the issues impacting our communities are the same across the Commonwealth.

One of my frustrations with government is the slow pace of the legislative process. Many of the bills passed not only should've been passed long ago, but also lack substance to allow for true change. I worked hard to add 21 amendments to many bills to improve mediocre, or sometimes harmful bills, but all of them were voted down and failed to pass, on party line votes.

Another frustration is the legislative calendar. A legislator could introduce the most impactful, helpful bill that could change the lives of many for the better, and that bill will never be voted out of committee to be brought to the floor for a vote because the majority party of both the House and Senate decide which bills are added to the legislative calendar in each chamber. I am hopeful

to work with some of my colleagues to change the Senate rules to allow for a true democratic process.

While some legislation passed this past year that will help some, most of these bills will not be implemented into law for quite some time. For example, the minimum wage bill SB 79, will not result in its full increase of \$9.50 until 2022, and even then, the bill failed to raise the wage to an impactful amount that is anywhere near a livable wage. It costs \$59,340 for a family of four to afford basic needs in Pennsylvania. Low wage jobs are harmful and limit our economic progress.

Another example, statute of limitations reform was passed in the form of a constitutional amendment, which takes at least another three years to become law, instead of a statutory change which could've become law immediately, after signed by the Governor. The constitutional amendment route will delay justice and healing for survivors of sexual abuse. Further, this bill did not apply to adult victims of sexual violence, but I will continue to fight for true justice and healing for ALL survivors with a full elimination of the statute of limitations for all victims and protections to help prevent people from becoming victims in the future.

As we head into 2020, I plan to introduce legislation to require transparency with judicial appointments, use of tax dollars within the Senate, and additional oversight that eliminates internal policing. Also, stay tuned for some new plans to implement tax justice initiatives! If you have any other ideas, please contact my office to submit feedback! Working together is the most effective way to make real change.

We will continue to fight for fairness and a level playing field in Pennsylvania. We need real, meaningful reform that creates and advances progress and economic security. We need to make government work for the people, not special interests or the well-connected. It's an honor to represent you and thank you for supporting me.

Sincerely,

### OFFICES TO SERVE YOU

@SenatorMuth

@SenatorMuth

@SenatorMuth

#### DISTRICT OFFICE

338 Main Street • Royersford, PA 19468  
(610) 792-2137 • Fax: (610) 948-3037

Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri.: 8:30AM – 4:30PM • Thurs.: 8:30AM – 7PM  
First Sat. of the month: 9AM – noon, also available by appointment

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Wheelchair accessible entrance and handicap parking located in rear of building

#### HARRISBURG OFFICE

Senate Box 203044  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3044  
(717) 787-1398 • Fax: (717) 783-4587

**E-MAIL:** [senatormuth@pasenate.com](mailto:senatormuth@pasenate.com)

#### MOBILE OFFICES

**Amity Township Building**  
Second Friday of the month:  
1PM – 3PM

**Sanatoga Ridge Community**  
Fourth Friday of the month:  
10AM – Noon

**Wallace Township Building**  
Fourth Friday of the month:  
1PM – 3PM



Senate Box 203044  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3044

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State Senator Katie Muth • 44th Senatorial District

Winter 2019

## CONSTITUENT OUTREACH AND FUNDING FOR THE 44TH

So far in our first year in office, the SD44 team has completed 8,220 constituent requests and the number keeps on growing! Thank you to my team for your hard work to make sure members of our communities are getting the assistance and answers they need.

### SERVING THE CONSTITUENTS OF THE 44TH

COMMUNITY  
EVENTS  
ATTENDED



284



36

EVENTS  
HOSTED



GRANT MONEY  
AWARDED TO  
THE DISTRICT

\$17.3  
MILLION



8,220

CONSTITUENT  
CORRESPONDENCES

### FUNDING FOR THE 44TH

- In 2019, the 44th District received approximately \$17.3 million in funding to assist with projects, programs, and initiatives to improve our communities.
- Funding was granted for:
  - School safety and security initiatives
  - Land conversation and public park improvement
  - Multimodal transportation and traffic safety