

Dear Neighbor,

I've had a busy two weeks in Palm Beach County celebrating Black history, pushing back on the DeSantis Administration's harmful education policies, announcing new federal funding for local organizations that are doing good work, and meeting with community members.

Before I head back to Washington D.C. next week, I wanted to share some of my updates with you. Check them out below:

Celebrating Black History

Black history is American history. Our children need to learn about our past because they are our future.



That's why I hosted a great roundtable celebrating Black history with local community leaders, professors, and students. We talked about the importance of having access to books on figures such as Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman—books that are now at risk of being removed from schools across the state due to the DeSantis Administration's harmful education policies. We had the opportunity to hear from a bright young student who told us about her experiences being in classes with students and teachers that share her background. Her story showed us just how important it is that our students get the opportunity to learn our history and get exposure to role models that look like them.

Watch our important conversation <u>here.</u>

I also had the opportunity to join the Palm Beach County Hispanic and Black Caucuses in their ongoing fight against Governor Ron DeSantis' efforts to ban African American history in our schools. From his efforts purging thinkers from our colleges and kicking out school board members from their elected positions, to his attempts to eliminate Black history from our classrooms, Governor DeSantis' actions have been a terrible tragedy for our education system.

I will continue to speak out against these authoritarian actions here in Palm Beach County and in Washington where I'm <u>supporting</u> <u>legislation</u> to ensure our children can learn about all history, including Black history.

Supporting Local Organizations

Through the Community Project Funding process in Congress, I was able to submit 15 local nonprofit or governmental programs to include in this year's federal funding bill. Last week, I was proud to visit Wayside House, one of this year's recipients. Wayside House is a safe and supportive facility in Delray Beach for women who are grappling with addictions.

Addiction is very costly to our society and for the people who are affected, especially women. It affects their families, their relationships with people, and of course, their children and jobs.



With this new \$1 million federal grant, Wayside House will continue to help women rebuild their lives, through new renovations that will add more space for residents. Watch the press conference here.

Meeting with You

I was pleased to attend multiple community events over the past few weeks, including visits with the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) and the Rotary Club of Lake Worth Beach, where I had the opportunity to talk about issues affecting our neighbors.



Finally, I want to thank all the seniors that came out to my townhall in The Abbey North in Delray Beach. We got to discuss so many

important issues that matter to the community, including Social Security, Medicare, abortion, education, gun violence, and more.

I am always grateful for the opportunity to listen to your concerns, answer your questions, and update you on the work we do in Congress for you.

Sincerely,

Congresswoman Lois Frankel

Lois Frankel

