

# Boscola Announces \$190,188 In Grant Funding For Northampton County Senior Centers

By Kurt Derr

BETHLEHEM (May 17, 2023) – State Senator Lisa M. Boscola announced today that two Northampton County Senior Centers, the Nazareth Senior Center and the Silver Connection at Easton Area Community Center, were awarded a total of \$190,188 in grant funding through the Pennsylvania Department of Aging's 2022-23 Senior Community Center grant program.

"Senior centers in Northampton County provide a place for seniors to come together to engage in social activities and to get a nutritious meal," Senator Boscola stated. "The Nazareth Senior Center and the Silver Connection at Easton Area Community Center operate terrific centers that have a positive impact on seniors in both communities and these state dollars will allow them to make important capital renovations to improve their programs."

The Nazareth Senior Center was awarded a \$119,250 grant that will allow the Center to make renovations to its kitchen area and the Easton Area Community Center was awarded a \$70,938 grant to allow it to expand programming for its Silver Connection program and renovate its facilities.

"Northampton County Senior Centers are a tremendous asset to our communities and the fact that two centers received grant funding in this incredibly competitive grant process is proof of the great work being done by Northampton County's Area Agency on Aging," Boscola added.

Statewide only 48 centers were approved for the \$2 million in grant funding that was available. The total grant requests statewide was over \$7 million for the \$2 million available.

## Rep. Susan Wild Co-Sponsors Invest to Protect Act: Bipartisan Bill to Support Small, Local Police Departments

By Olivia Taylor-Puckett

WASHINGTON, D.C. – During National Police Week, Congresswoman Susan Wild is reaffirming her support and advocacy for local police departments in PA-07 as a co-sponsor of the recently re-introduced Invest to Protect Act. This bipartisan legislation will make critical investments in small and midsize police departments with fewer than 200 officers to support recruitment, training, retention, and mental health – a crucial step to meeting the needs of departments across Pennsylvania's 7th district.

"In conversations with law enforcement officers across Pennsylvania Seven, one thing is clear: our small local departments need more resources to recruit, train, and retain staff," said Congresswoman Susan Wild. "That's why I'm co-sponsoring the Invest to Protect Act, to provide much-needed support to small and midsize police departments so they have the resources and training to protect and serve our neighborhoods."

Rep. Wild has heard from police chiefs across PA-07 about the challenges facing their departments, a key one of those being personnel: recruiting, training, and retaining police officers to serve. Staff shortages cost departments extra in overtime pay, presenting budgetary challenges for small departments with personnel shortages that cost burden them in other areas of needed safety and technology improvements.

The Invest to Protect Act takes key steps to solve these recruitment, training, and retention issues to ensure small and midsize police departments have the resources to protect and serve their communities.

## SBCC Continued from page 1

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