

Aleta LaFargue

Candidate for City Council District 3

I am a mother, community organizer, activist, actress, education advocate and champion of the arts. A lifelong resident of Hell's Kitchen, I've been a fearless advocate for my community who will bring unmatched experience and bold leadership to the NYC Council.

I began my community service as a child in the 1980s alongside my mother who helped to create the Manhattan Plaza AIDS project helping to support so many of their friends and neighbors during the worst crisis of our time. I've since spent my life advocating for people of the 3rd District as a fighter for civil rights and economic justice. Since 2016, I've served as the elected President of the Manhattan Plaza Tenants Association, fearlessly standing up for the members of my community.

As a founding member of the [Hell's Kitchen Democrats](#), I am running for City Council because I know New York City is facing some of the most challenging times in its history. As our government continues to push austerity measures in the face of economic turmoil, job cuts, housing shortages, a continuing mental health crisis and our current civil rights movement, new, better and more committed leadership is necessary now more than ever to ensure our community's voices are heard.

I've witnessed City leaders fail to bring safety to our streets, adequately support small businesses, or effectively allocate funding for better public schools, fundamental social services and more affordable housing. I've seen many of our seniors driven out of the neighborhoods they worked their whole lives to build, and I am committed to ensuring their economic justice now and in the future.

New York City is at a crossroads. Covid-19 has pulled back the veil on so many of our City's problems, starting with an egregious lack of mental health and overall healthcare services. My experience as a person with an ambulatory disability provides me with the unique insight and commitment necessary to bring to the forefront the healthcare needs of those of us who live, work, play and raise our children in the 3rd District.

As a public school parent, my son, Elijah, attends Midtown West PS212, where I've seen the disastrous results of our city's mismanagement of our education system during coronavirus. This is why education will be a top priority when I serve us in the City Council.

I will boldly represent us in City Hall as I've always done in our community, with passion, compassion and the utmost competency. I will stand for us and with us as a fearless leader on the front-lines and in the trenches of our city's government.

As residents of the New York's 3rd City Council District, we deserve a leader who will navigate our communities through the storm we all face together and serve our residents and families with the attention and dignity they deserve.