



Dear Sir/Madam:

Earlier this year, I formally announced my campaign to represent New York City Council District 2 after 30 years of service to the community as an entrepreneur, activist, and pastor.

Today I invite you to join our growing army of supporters. Although I am a political outsider, I am a community insider; willing to give all for sustainable change from the inside out. Your financial support and volunteer action will propel success.

I envision a Council District 2 that embraces its extraordinary economic, racial, and cultural diversity from the Lower East Side and Gramercy to Kips Bay and Murray Hill.

Our opportunity agenda will unite us around six core justice issues:

1. Responsible Economic Development and Affordable Housing
2. Sustainable Education Reform
3. Intentional Youth Development
4. Fostering Inter-generational Community
5. Community Safety
6. Disaster Preparedness and Modernized Infrastructure

Our adversary is a two-term incumbent seeking a third term bought and paid for by Mayor Bloomberg's temporary repeal of New York City's Term Limit law. Let's tell Rosie Mendez that District 2 is through with Bloomberg and Councilmembers who would attempt to benefit from his term limit takeover. It's time to elect leadership that refuses to sell out on the issues that matter most to us. It's time to reclaim our City Council District for our community.

Over the next few months, this campaign will require significant financial and volunteer resources. It is family, friends, and donors like you that will help us overcome all challenges and meet a victory in September.

Together we can win this race. Thank you for your generous support.

Attached for your convenience is a Campaign Contribution Card. To make a donation, please fill out the card in its entirety. Make checks/money orders payable to: **Friends of Richard Del Rio**, 100 Avenue C New York, NY 10009. You may also donate with a credit or debit card online at richarddelrio.com/donate.

In Continued Service,

Richard Del Rio

Candidate for New York City Council District 2



Committee Use Only Transaction ID: _____
--

FRIENDS OF RICHARD DEL RIO

I/we would like to contribute: \$ _____ **By Check** **By Money Order** **By Cash***

*We cannot accept a cash donation larger than \$100.

Please make checks and money orders payable to **Friends of Richard Del Rio** and mail along with this form to:

Friends of Richard Del Rio
 100 Avenue C • New York, NY 10009

By Credit Card Credit card contributions may be faxed to (212) 837-2933 or mailed to the above address.

Credit Card Number: _____ Type: _____ Exp. Date: _____

For compliance with NYCCFB regulations and campaign guidelines, please complete this contribution form in its entirety.

Important: You **MUST** provide the **complete** address of your permanent residence, including apartment number, if applicable, or your contribution will not be considered valid. If you are unemployed, retired, a student, or homemaker, please list this as your occupation.

Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Optional: Tel. _____ Email _____

Employer: _____

Title/Occupation: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Work Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

I understand that State law requires that a contribution be in my name and be from my own funds. I hereby affirm that this contribution is being made from my personal funds, is not being reimbursed in any manner, and is not being made as a loan; in addition, in the case of a credit card contribution, I also hereby affirm that this contribution is being made from my personal credit card account, billed to and paid by me for my personal use, and has no corporate or business affiliation.

Signature Required: _____ **Date of Contribution** _____

If a contributor has business dealings with the City as defined in the Campaign Finance Act, such contributor may contribute only up to \$250 for city council. Contributions from persons doing business with the City also will not be matched with public funds. The doing business contribution restrictions only apply to contributors listed in the City's doing business database. If you are "doing business" with the City, please complete the following:

City Agency/Agencies	
Name and Address of Doing Business Entity	
Business Category (e.g. Contracts)	
Relation(s) (for example, CEO)	

DEMOCRAT
RICHARD
DEL RIO
CITY COUNCIL ★ DISTRICT 2



BIO

NEW YORKER

Rev. Richard Del Rio and his wife Arlene are New York City originals. Both children of immigrants (his parents from Puerto Rico and hers from Norway), they met in Brooklyn after she graduated from Columbia University and began teaching science at his high school. He was a student with a checkered past and a crush; she wasn't interested. But she helped rehabilitate him and five years later they married. Today, they are the proud parents of four children and seven grandchildren. Despite skeptics who said they'd never last, they will celebrate their 40th anniversary in 2013.

COMMUNITY LEADER

The Del Rios co-founded Abounding Grace Ministries together in 1982 as a community outreach ministry that partnered with neighborhood churches and non-profits throughout New York City. The Lower East Side became home base, largely because the NYPD identified it as the heroin capital of the city, "where they kill people, sell their drugs and sell their bodies."

Ten years later, in 1992, they birthed Abounding Grace Christian Center as a neighborhood church built from the community for the community. Programs and services AGM provides include homeless outreach; substance abuse recovery; leadership development; youth, children, and family services; innovative music and arts programs; and local and international community development work. Abounding Grace's pastors and leaders teach at multiple colleges and graduate schools and are sought after conference speakers and trainers.

In 1996, Richard Del Rio co-founded the Generation Xcel youth center in the Jacob Riis Houses on Avenue D with his son and thirteen young people ages 13-22, and in 2008, inspired the launch of 20/20 Vision for Schools, an education reform initiative that to date has resulted in over 100 public-private partnerships in schools across New York City. AGM's partner school P.S. 34 received its first overall "A" score on the 2012 Progress Report after steady, incremental improvements since 2006. In October 2000, the Fund for the City of New York awarded Rev. Del Rio the Union Square Award for his work with Generation Xcel.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZER

Following Mayor Bloomberg's attempt in 2011 to evict faith-based groups alone from renting vacant spaces in public school buildings during off hours, Rev. Del Rio became one of the champions of the Right to Worship movement on behalf of sixty-plus neighborhood congregations Bloomberg sought to displace.

When Superstorm Sandy flooded the Con Edison power plant on East Fourteenth Street and darkened lower Manhattan, New York City failed to provide relief supplies to the directly affected Alphabet City neighborhood for more than four days. But within twenty-four hours of the storm, Rev. Del Rio collaborated with other faith and community leaders to organize “Grace in the Storm,” the largest relief site in Manhattan, serving more than 20,000 people hot meals, water, and other emergency supplies.

Rev. Del Rio has served as an NYPD Police-Clergy Liaison for almost two decades, and is a member of the NYC Clergy for Justice and Ministers Fellowship International. He and his wife have provided a home to as many as seven neighborhood children at a time, and his children and their families work alongside him in ministry. The Del Rios have been featured in numerous media reports, including CBS, NBC, Fox, NY1, Daily News, Christianity Today, and others.

“FATHER HARLEY,” GROUND ZERO PASTOR

On September 11, 2001, Rev. Del Rio was one of the first clergy responders to the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center – arriving ten minutes after the second tower collapsed – and is widely believed to be the only identifiable clergyman onsite after FDNY Chaplain Father Mychal Judge perished. The next day, Rev. Del Rio co-convened the Northeast Clergy Group / Ground Zero Clergy Task Force (NEC) as an interdenominational coalition of regional ministers committed to ongoing relief and recovery. Firefighters began calling him “Father Harley” for his habit at arriving at firehouses and at Ground Zero on his Harley Davidson motorcycle. Immediately following 9/11, the NEC initiated onsite clergy counseling at Ground Zero and disaster relief locations throughout the City; bilingual clergy counseling trainings; clergy support networks; faith-based political advocacy; the Ground Zero Relief Fund; and various collaborative efforts with national and international aid organizations like World Vision, Samaritan’s Purse, Billy Graham Association, and more. NEC also co-produced the Tribute to Grace and Hope on the anniversary of 9/11 at Madison Square Garden, for which Rev. Del Rio served as pastoral co-chair. The United States Senate commended Rev. Del Rio’s heroic response to 9/11 in the Congressional Record in October 2001.

ENTREPRENEUR

In addition to thirty years of community development and neighborhood activism, Richard Del Rio has formed and led businesses as an entrepreneur since his next door neighbor hired him to paint his stoop as a seven year old in Williamsburg. At seventeen, he became the youngest member of the Tapers and Painters Union, and by nineteen he formed his first construction company. For more than four decades since then, Richard Del Rio has created hundreds of jobs, training and employing neighborhood young people as a contractor and real estate investor.

DEMOCRAT

RICHARD DEL RIO

CITY COUNCIL ★ DISTRICT 2



ISSUES

A VISIONARY YOU CAN TRUST

Richard Del Rio envisions a Manhattan Community District 2 that embraces its extraordinary economic, racial, cultural, and religious diversity while uniting around the core issues listed below. As your City Councilmember, Richard Del Rio will represent the entire district while pursuing an agenda of opportunity and justice for all.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND RESPONSIBLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Richard Del Rio believes in economic development that grows and strengthens community, not displaces it.

Under Richard Del Rio's leadership, District 2 will celebrate economic development and housing initiatives that:

- Preserve and expand essential businesses and community organizations such as locally owned grocers and vendors, non-profits, and houses of worship.
- Balance market rate and affordable housing options.
- Create living-wage jobs and economic opportunities for the underemployed.



INTENTIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Richard Del Rio believes empowered youth can and will change the world. As your City Councilmember, Richard Del Rio will mobilize community assets through public-private partnerships that :

- Promote educational enrichment, art, and athletic opportunities for all of our students, regardless of economic status.
- Prioritize student leadership development and activism.
- Empower so-called "disconnected youth" – those not in school or employed – with vocational and life-skills training and apprenticeships.

SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION REFORM

Richard Del Rio believes the promise of public education can be realized in our most distressed communities and sustained for generations when students and community stakeholders join educators to address the challenges holistically. Richard Del Rio's Community District 2 will pioneer and expand school and community partnerships that:

- Unleash the potential of 1.1 million public school students to change the culture of their classrooms through positive peer pressure.
- Fill gaps for our neediest students so that they can focus on academics in the classroom and not the stresses of poverty.

COMMUNITY SAFETY



Richard Del Rio believes that the safest neighborhoods combine effective policing with community responsibility. As your City Councilmember, Richard Del Rio will work to foster peace and prosperity of our streets through partnerships with the NYPD, government agencies, after school and summer programs, local businesses and community stakeholders, and jobs and business incubators. Richard Del Rio's Community District 2 will support public safety policies and programs that:

- Expand the NYPD Clergy Liaison program to empower grassroots peacemakers.
- Reduce recidivism by expanding transitional programs and job options for ex-offenders.
- Empower gang intervention specialists and programs to create viable gang alternatives for disconnected youth.

INTER-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITY

Richard Del Rio believes that healthy communities embrace generational distinctions, and create safe spaces for all ages to thrive. Richard Del Rio's Community District 2 will nurture programs and services that:

- Provide safe spaces for children, families, and senior populations to gather and thrive.
- Protect community centers and heritage centers, and foster operational and programmatic efficiencies among them.
- Strengthen the social safety net for children, seniors, and other vulnerable populations by combating fraud and waste in Medicare, Medicaid, and other social entitlement programs.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND MODERNIZED INFRASTRUCTURE

Richard Del Rio believes that mitigating the effects of natural and man-made disasters requires deepening our emergency preparedness, expanding grassroots partnerships where people actually live and work everyday, and modernizing our City's infrastructure to reflect changing demographic, economic, and environmental realities. Richard Del Rio's Community District 2 will improve our City's emergency responsiveness and create community partnerships that:

- Ensure that our residents are connected with jobs improving their own communities.
- Mobilize communities to lead rebuilding efforts on their own behalf with supports from governmental and non-governmental aid partners.
- Expedite disaster relief and rebuilding assistance.