



## Osborn Elliott, Citizens Committee Founder, (1924-2008)

Citizens Committee for New York City founder Osborn “Oz” Elliott died on September 28th at his home in Manhattan, surrounded by his family. Oz was 83, and was best known as the Editor-in-Chief of Newsweek, Deputy Mayor under Mayor Beame, and Dean Emeritus of the Columbia School of Journalism.

Oz, along with the late Senator Jacob K. Javits, founded Citizens Committee for New York City in 1975 during the city’s budget crisis. As the city was forced to cut back on services, Oz created Citizens Committee to encourage ordinary New Yorkers to fill these gaps. Thirty-four years later, Oz was still working with Citizens Committee. His spirit of community service and volunteerism continues to drive our work.

The board and staff will miss him terribly. He will also be remembered by the many New Yorkers, many in the city’s poorest neighborhoods, whose community groups and organizations we continue to support.

Oz’s family welcomes donations to Citizens Committee in his memory. Donations can be made at our website [www.citizensnyc.org](http://www.citizensnyc.org) or via post to the above address. Citizens Committee will also pay tribute to Oz at our annual New Yorker for New York Awards gala on February 24th. Reservations are available on our website, or by contacting Tasnim Shaheryar at the benefit office (212) 675-9474 x 18 or [tasnim@sualtd.com](mailto:tasnim@sualtd.com).

## Citizens Committee Volunteers and Staff Meet with Council Member Letitia James



Council Member Letitia James met with Citizens Committee staff and volunteers at Hollenback Community Garden in Brooklyn. She met with volunteers from Hollenback Community Garden as well as volunteers from Olympus Garden Club. Both groups are resident-led volunteer groups supported by Citizens Committee.

Volunteers spoke with James about how their projects made an impact in their communities. Hollenback Community Garden in Clinton Hill recently received a grant from Citizens Committee to build a permanent composting system to accommodate the huge amount of green waste it receives from their neighbors. Olympus Garden Club in Bed-Stuy recently received a grant to work with students at Prospect Heights Campus High School to clean and beautify the area around a historic time capsule.