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## **Staten Island center, now run by JCC, reopens**

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**ADVANCE STAFF REPORT**  
**Staten Island Advance**

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. -- A new partnership between the city and the Jewish Community Center of Staten Island kicked off yesterday with the inauguration of an after-school program at the Stapleton Community Center.

The new Stapleton Beacon Satellite After-School Program has given new life to the Stapleton Houses' community center, which had been slated to close.

With \$12 million provided by the City Council, Mayor Michael Bloomberg in January announced a plan to keep open all 25 community centers at New York City Housing Authority facilities in the five boroughs. Nineteen of the centers had been slated to close, including the one in Stapleton.

That funding made it possible for the center to reopen as a Beacon Center, operated by the JCC and administered by the city Department of Youth and Community Development.

Beacon programs had their start in 1991 and were designed to provide services to youth and adults through after-school and evening programs. For more than 10 years, the JCC has operated Beacon programs to provide activities not generally available to residents of the communities where they are located.