



Quick Takes

Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY
www.CIDNY.org

CID-NY

Manhattan
841 Broadway, #301
New York, NY 10003
212/674-2300 Tel
212/254-5953 Fax
646/350-2681 VP

Queens
80-02 Kew Gardens Rd, #400
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June 2018

Campaign for New Leaders



[Image description: Crowd of marchers at disability pride parade.]

Our goal is to raise \$40,000 and we're halfway there. We need support to continue our individual and systems advocacy work:

- developing new organizers to work on reducing barriers for people with disabilities
- providing accessible transit and meals for lobby days in Albany
- media training and creating peer videos on transportation, health care, and other advocacy issues
- getting people to rallies and events and supporting our participants in telling their own stories
- building awareness on how independent living centers (ILCs) work for you and your community

We can't do it without your support! Please donate here, every bit counts: www.cidny.org/donation/

Transportation Advocacy Update

At the most recent meeting of the MTA board, CIDNY's outreach drew many people with disabilities from both CIDNY and partner organizations, including AHRC and Rise & Resist. Transit President Andy Byford presented a new plan, "Fast Forward: The Plan to Modernize New York City Transit." It discusses improving bus and subway service for people with disabilities. Improving Access-A-Ride was also discussed.

Read a quick overview of the plan as it relates to accessibility here: <https://fastforward.mta.info/accelerate-accessibility>. To

download the entire plan, scroll down to the bottom of the page and click "download the plan." Please share any reactions or comments you have with us.

The next MTA board meeting will be **June 20th** from **9am-12pm** at MTA Headquarters, 2 Broadway. It is between Beaver and Stone streets, in lower Manhattan. We hope to see you there. If you want to join us, please RSVP with Laurette Hamilton at 212-674-2300 or lhamilton@cidny.org.

CIDNY, a member of AARRG!, was pleased co-sponsor an Access-A-Ride forum with NYC Councilwoman Carlina Rivera on May 15th, in which 23 of her constituents participated. Users and advocates spoke about the importance of Access-A-Ride to their lives, but also the need to improve the service. Many were concerned about the eligibility review. Some experienced denials based on Access-A-Ride overriding their doctors' letters that stated how their disability affected their ability use public transit.



[Image description: Councilwoman Rivera and participants discussing AAR issues.]

CIDNY also participated in NY State Senator Brian Kavanagh's Community Convention. Hundreds of his constituents attended. The issues presented mirrored many of the concerns you raise to us. For example: rights in transportation (subways and Access-A-Ride), tenant and public housing rights, the importance of affordable and accessible health care, and the lack of elevators in the subways. If you are interested in working with us to address these and other issues, contact Monica Bartley, Community Outreach Organizer at 646-442-4152 or mbartley@cidny.org.



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Advocacy and community pressure has led to real changes at the MTA, including more awareness of our concerns, plans for subway elevator accessibility construction at more stations, and more flexible Access-A-Ride booking through an app. Join us to help make a difference!

Important Voting Information to Note

Federal Primary Election - June 26, 2018

- June 1: Last day to register to vote in the primary (by mail and in person)
- June 6: Last day to submit change of address
- June 19: Last day to postmark absentee ballot application
- June 25: Last day to apply in person for absentee ballot
- June 25: Last day to postmark absentee ballot

National Voter registration Day – July 16-20, 2018

State Primary Elections -September 13, 2018

General Election – November 6, 2018

If need help to register to vote, please contact Monica Bartley at 646-442-4152 or mbartley@cidny.org. Learn more about our voting rights and access advocacy here: <https://www.cidny.org/poll-site-accessibility/>.

Go Paperless



[Image description: Go paperless with an image of the earth.]

If you're not getting our emails, you're missing out on links to other posts, action alerts, and other timely materials. If you'd like to switch to email, let us know at info@cidny.org. You can help us save on postage, too.

Legislative Disability Awareness Day

On May 30, 2018, 25 CIDNY participants and staff went to Albany to participate in New York State Assembly Legislative Disability Awareness Day to advance our policy priorities. CIDNY consumers shared their stories and discussed policy issues with staff of Assembly Members Steve Englebright, Dean Murray, Harvey Epstein, Charles Lavine, Jaime Williams, David Gottfried, Edward Ra and Senators Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr., John Flanagan, Brian Benjamin, Andrew Lanza, Brian Kavanagh, Jeff Klein, John Brooks Jamaal T. Bailey, and Chris Jacobs.

While we were there, the Assembly passed a legislative package that includes some of the policy issues that CIDNY advocates have lobbied on, including:

- Re-establishing the Office of the Advocate for People with Disabilities;
- A waiver of the state's sovereign immunity to claims under the ADA, the Age Discrimination Act of 1967, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 as they apply to the protection of state employees - restoring the right of state employees to sue the state for damages due to violations of these federal laws;
- Clarification regarding reasonable accommodation to enable a person with a disability to use and enjoy a dwelling - includes the use of an animal to alleviate the symptoms or effects of a disability;
- Emergency Preparedness legislation that requires every high-rise building owner to establish, maintain, and update an emergency evacuation plan for disabled occupants and visitors;
- Medical Equipment - requiring the Commissioner of Health to maintain specific reimbursement and billing procedures within Medicaid for these complex rehabilitation products and services;
- Tax Credits - Small Business Tax Credit for Employing People with Disabilities.



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NEED HELP?

Walk in to get the help you need. Staff will be available during these times for housing and benefits-related help.

Important Dates in June

Father's Day – June 17
LGBTQ Pride – June 24

CIDNY Action Network (CAN) Meeting

Wednesday, June 20th, 1-3pm

All of Us Includes Disability

Please join us for a presentation on the *All of Us* Research Program, which is a program from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). *All of Us* seeks to enroll "one million or more" participants in a longitudinal research cohort to improve our ability to prevent and treat disease based on individual differences in lifestyle, environment, and biological makeup, including genetics. The program aims to oversample communities that have been underrepresented in research to make it the largest, most diverse resource of its kind. People ages 18 and older, regardless of health status, are eligible to enroll, including people with disabilities. Come to our workshop to learn more about how you can be part of the program. The workshop will be held on June 20 from 1-3 pm at our Manhattan office.

All of Us Incluye la Discapacidad

Por favor únete a nosotros para una presentación sobre el programa de investigación *All of Us*, que es un programa de los Institutos Nacionales de Salud (NIH). *All of Us* busca a inscribir a "un millón o más" participantes en una cohorte de investigación longitudinal para mejorar nuestra capacidad de prevenir y tratar enfermedades basadas en las diferencias individuales en el estilo de vida, el medio ambiente y la composición biológica, incluyendo la genética. El programa tiene como objetivo aumentar la inclusión de comunidades que han estado representados en un nivel bajo en la investigación para hacer que el programa sea el más grande y diverso de su tipo. Las personas de 18 años o más, independientemente de su estado de salud, son elegibles para inscribirse, incluyendo las personas con discapacidades. Ven a nuestro taller para aprender más sobre cómo puedes ser parte del programa. El taller se llevará a cabo el 20 de junio de 1 a 3 pm en Manhattan.

RSVP needed. Refreshments will be served.

Taxes 101 with Jeff Birnbaum

Friday, June 8, 1pm-3pm - CIDNY Manhattan or online.

Please RSVP to 212/674-2300 by Friday June 1. If you are participating online, a link will be sent to you on Friday June 8 in the morning. This workshop includes information on:

- When Social Security benefits are taxed;

- When you need to (or may want to) file taxes;
- What tax laws are geared towards helping people with disabilities;
- How the TCJA may affect you;
- Where you can get free help filing your taxes;
- What documents you should bring to your tax preparer; and
- What tax records from prior years you should keep.

Housing Workshop - Queens

Wednesday, June 27th, 10 am to 12 pm

CIDNY's housing workshop covers housing options: NYCHA, HPD, HUD listings; NYC Housing Connect and other programs; what you qualify for; in-come and family size; and how to get and go over your credit report. CIDNY is a full-service center and other benefits will be discussed; we don't offer housing, but can provide information and assist with applications.

Space is limited. You must call John Rivera at 646/442-1520 to reserve a spot and to let us know if you need an accommodation.

CIDNY's Writers' Group

This group meets every Thursday at CIDNY's Manhattan office, 841 Broadway. The writers' group is a facilitated, non-judgmental writing group that promotes individual expression and creativity in a supportive atmosphere. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact CIDNY at 212/674-2300.

Movie Night!

Wednesday, June 27th, THE GREATEST SNOWMAN, 3:30 pm to 5:30pm



Celebrates the birth of show business, and tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide phenomenon.

Starring Hugh Jackman, Michele Williams, and Zac Efron.

The screening will start promptly at 3:30pm. Snacks will be served.

All events are at CIDNY, 841 Broadway, Suite 301, New York, NY 10003 unless otherwise stated. To RSVP for events, contact Laurette Hamilton at 212/674-2300 or info@cidny.org. Or if you only speak Spanish, RSVP to Jose at 646/442-1520 or jmera@cidny.org. If you need an accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know by Wednesday, June 6, 2018.

JUNE 2018 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-1:30 pm</p> <p> Walk-in Day - Queens 10 am-3 pm</p>	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-1:30 pm</p>	6	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-3 pm</p> <p> Writer's Workshop 3:30-5:30 pm</p>	<p>Taxes 101 1-3pm or online – see description</p>	9
10	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-1:30 pm</p> <p> Walk-in Day - Queens 10 am-3 pm</p>	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-1:30 pm</p>	13	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-3 pm</p> <p> Writer's Workshop 3:30-5:30 pm</p>	15	16
<p>17 Father's Day</p> 	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-1:30 pm</p> <p> Walk-in Day - Queens 10 am-3 pm</p>	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-1:30 pm</p>	<p>20 MTA Board Meeting 9am-12 noon – see newsletter</p> <p>CAN–Manhattan 1-3pm</p>	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-3 pm</p> <p> Writer's Workshop 3:30-5:30 pm</p>	22	23
<p>24 LGBTQ Pride</p> 	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-1:30 pm</p> <p> Walk-in Day - Queens 10 am-3 pm</p>	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-1:30 pm</p>	<p>27 Queens Housing Workshop 10 am-12 pm</p> <p>Movie Night 3:30-5:30pm</p>	<p> Walk-in Day 10 am-3 pm</p> <p> Writer's Workshop 3:30-5:30 pm</p>	29	<p>30</p>  <p>CID-NY Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY</p>