



# Quick Takes

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

CID-NY

**Manhattan**  
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## August 2018

### Disability Pride Parade Recap

On July 15<sup>th</sup>, 30 CIDNY staff, board members and participants braved the rain to go to Madison Square Park for the Disability Pride Parade. They lined up, shared stories, and formed new friendships while awaiting their turn to join the march. They loudly chanted about the need for elevators for an accessible subway system for all. They proudly marched behind the CIDNY banner and held high posters conveying various messages. When they arrived at Union Square, they visited the information booths, and some stayed for the concert in the Park. Thanks to everyone who joined us.



[Image description: CIDNY staff, board members, and participants in purple t-shirts posing at the disability pride parade.]

### Share Your Experience on Paid Leave

If you have a disability or provide support for someone with a disability we want to hear from you!

Call 929-900-5398 for more info!



[Image description: People smiling and the words: "If you have a disability or provide support for someone with a disability, we want to hear from you! Call 929/900-5398 for more info!"]

The Arc and National Center for Children in Poverty are doing a study on paid leave and want to hear from workers with disabilities in California, New Jersey, New York, or North Carolina.

Visit <https://thearc.org/paidleavestudy> for more information on how you can receive \$20 for participating.

### NY Connects Now in Staten Island



[Image description: Table set up with information about NY Connects.]

NY Connects is the newest addition in available services and supports housed at CIDNY. Since the program's NYC - ILC launch in September of last year, over 2,000 participants were assisted through benefits counseling and learning about their options.

With offices located in each borough (including a new location in Staten Island at 56 Bay Street, 4th Fl.), NY Connects is a one call, one stop service where people with disabilities can learn about local programs and supports to help them remain independent in their daily life.

NY Connects counselors helped Justin (\*name changed) from Wakefield in the Bronx when he called to ask about housing information. Justin's apartment was too small for him and his sister, and he wanted to complete an online application for NYCHA but was experiencing difficulty due to being blind. The Counselor explained the application process for NYCHA and assisted him with his application submission. Upon doing a full benefits assessment with Justin, the Counselor learned that Justin was also experiencing transportation issues and seeking employment. We referred Justin to the Commission for the Blind where he was placed in Work Experience Training and is currently receiving a paid internship. Additionally, the Counselor helped meet Justin's travel needs by assisting with the submission of



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an Access-A-Ride application and he is enjoying the full benefits of the Access-A-Ride and AAR Taxi Program.

This is just one success story among many others where a simple call to 1-844-862-7930 has changed lives.

## CIDNY Receives 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Proclamation from NYC Council

We were honored with a proclamation from NYC Council for our 40th anniversary on July 18th. It was presented by Speaker Corey Johnson, who thanked us for our advocacy by and for people with disabilities. He said that the City “needs to do better” to reduce barriers and make the city more accessible.

We are grateful for the recognition of our efforts and our history as the first independent living center in New York. And we agree that our work is far from over.



[Image description: NYC council members presenting representatives of CIDNY with a proclamation.]

You can see the proclamation in our Manhattan office or read the full text online here:

<https://www.cidny.org/cidny-receives-40th-anniversary-proclamation/>.

## All of Us Includes People with Disabilities

If you missed our special guest presentation on All of Us, you can still watch it on [Facebook Live](#). All of Us seeks to enroll “one million or more” participants in a longitudinal research cohort to improve the 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. Register at All of Us: <https://allofus.nih.gov>.



[Image description: Photos of different people and the words, the future of health begins with you.]

## July MTA Board Meeting Update

We gave testimony at the July 25th MTA board meeting in support of the On-Demand AAR pilot program and in favor of expanding it. We said: “For those who can use [the On-Demand pilot], the ability to schedule a trip when they need to, and not far in advance, has been revolutionary. This program is a much-needed step toward giving users the same freedom to travel as people without disabilities have.

Fathi, an AAR user, said: “Now I have the opportunity to travel anywhere I want and get to any appointment on time. I’m no longer at risk of missing my appointment. For traveling, using the pilot program is one of the greatest services I have ever used.”

Many Access-A-Ride users like Alan are unable to use On-Demand and are eager for the program to be opened to all AAR users. “I need the freedom to call when I need to be picked up and when I need to go home,” he says. “I demand the same rights and privileges as any New Yorker, no more, no less. I refuse to be treated differently because I have a disability.”

Many others have enrolled and are waiting to be part of the pilot.

Access-A-Ride users have been clear: expand the pilot program. Make it permanent. Open it to all users. People with disabilities must have the flexibility to travel on-demand like everyone else.”



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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.



### Walk-In Days—Manhattan

Every Monday and Tuesday, 10 am to 1:30 pm Every Thursday from 10 am to 3 pm



### Walk-In Day—Queens

Every Monday 10 am to 3 pm

## CIDNY Action Network (CAN) Meeting Wednesday, August 15th, 1-3pm – Manhattan Office

### Disability Stories: Take part in a local art project!

Friends of the High Line invites you to work with artist [Shannon Finnegan](#). Shannon will create street signs based on your personal and neighborhood stories. The street signs aim to create a more inclusive understanding of NYC. This project takes place before the opening of the Spur, the newest section of the High Line to open in 2019.

### Come Join Us to Prepare for our visits to the District Offices:

Your participation will help us prepare our State legislative agenda for the next session. You can:

- tell us what your issues are; and
- let us know if you would like to visit your legislator in your borough.

We can help you find out who your legislator is.

Please RSVP to Laurette at (212) 674-2300. If you need an accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know by Wednesday, July 11, 2018. Refreshments will be served.

## Reunión de CIDNY Network (CAN)

### Miércoles, 15 de agosto, 1-3pm - Oficina de Manhattan

### Historias de Discapacidad: ¡Participe en un proyecto de arte local!

Friends of the High Line les invitan a trabajar con la artista Shannon Finnegan. Shannon creará señales de calle basadas en sus historias personales y de barrio. Las señales de la calle desean crear una comprensión más inclusiva de NYC. Este proyecto tendrá lugar antes de la apertura del Spur, la sección más nueva de High Line que abrirá en 2019.

Ven y únete a nosotros para preparar para nuestras visitas a las oficinas del distrito:

Su participación nos ayudará a preparar nuestra agenda legislativa estatal para la próxima sesión. Usted puede:

- decirnos cuáles son tus problemas; y
- decirnos si desea visitar a su legislador en su municipio.

Podemos ayudarle a descubrir quién es su legislador.

Por favor confirme su asistencia a José al (646) 442-1520. Si necesita una acomodación, como letra grande o servicios de interpretación, háganoslo saber antes del miércoles 11 de julio de 2018.

## Housing Workshop

### Wednesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 12 pm - Manhattan

### Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10 am to 12 pm - Queens

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.

**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](mailto:info@cidny.org). Or if you only speak Spanish, RSVP to Jose at 646/442-1520 or [jmera@cidny.org](mailto:jmera@cidny.org). If you need an accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know by Wednesday, August 8th, 2018.**

# AUGUST 2018 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-3 pm   <b>Writer's Workshop</b> 3:30-5:30 pm	3	4
5	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-1:30 pm   <b>Walk-in Day - Queens</b> 10 am-3 pm	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-1:30 pm	8 <b>Housing Workshop – Manhattan</b> 10am-12noon	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-3 pm   <b>Writer's Workshop</b> 3:30-5:30 pm	10	11
12	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-1:30 pm   <b>Walk-in Day - Queens</b> 10 am-3 pm	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-1:30 pm	15 <b>CIDNY Action Network Meeting – Manhattan</b> 1-3pm	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-3 pm   <b>Writer's Workshop</b> 3:30-5:30 pm	17	18
19	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-1:30 pm   <b>Walk-in Day - Queens</b> 10 am-3 pm	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-1:30 pm	22 <b>Housing Workshop – Queens</b> 10am-12noon	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-3 pm   <b>Writer's Workshop</b> 3:30-5:30 pm	24	25
26	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-1:30 pm   <b>Walk-in Day - Queens</b> 10 am-3 pm	 <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 am-1:30 pm	29	30	31	 <b>CID-NY</b> <small>Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY</small>