Advocacy Wins!

[Image description: Advocates at an Albany Lobby Day.]

We’ve had a very productive budget and advocacy season in New York State and saw some gains for people with disabilities on a variety of legislative issues and litigation. Your voice matters! Join us in Albany for Lobby Day.

1. Settlement agreement implementation results in 17 more evacuation centers/shelters made accessible;
2. Continued protection for kids with disabilities seeking school services;
3. New protections for student loan borrowers;
4. Preservation of doctor’s ability to prescribe the drug an individual needs;
5. Protection for married individuals who have disabilities and parents of children with disabilities access to Medicaid without impoverishing their spouse or the child’s parents;
6. An Executive proposal to make drastic changes to the Fiscal Intermediaries in the Consumer Directed Personal Care Program was mitigated by creating a workgroup that will include ILC representation and will make recommendations to inform an RFP and by adding consumer protections around transition rights if a Fiscal Intermediary closes or a consumer wants to change Fiscal Intermediaries.
7. The Department of Health committed to explore ways to make adequate payments to Managed Long-Term Care Companies who are serving higher needs patients in the community while not addressing it directly in the budget.
8. Settlement agreement reached that creates a schedule for installing curb cuts that are compliant with the ADA, correcting existing ones that are not in compliance, repairing curb cuts that are broken, independent monitoring.
9. Statewide "source of income" law provides protection in State Human Rights law for people with disabilities and other groups from discrimination based on source of income.
10. Defeated proposal to raise para transit fees;
11. Continued protection for kids with disabilities seeking school services;
12. Continuation of the popular e-hail program for Access-a-Ride users;
13. Continuation of the popular on-demand program for Access-a-Ride users;
14. Settlement agreement reached that requires the NYS Board of Elections and the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles to make their web sites accessible, particularly voter registration and non-driver ID areas of the sites;
15. Crime Victims Act passes;
16. Early voting passes.

Call to Action to Promote the All of Us Research Program to People with Disabilities

We’re partnering with AAHD to challenge the disability community to learn about the All of Us Research Program and consider participation with a Call to Action. The All of Us Research Program is seeking to improve precision medicine and the future of health. AAHD has issued this Call to Action to highlight the importance and impact that All of Us can have on the disability community. We are working to encourage people with disabilities to get involved in this research program that includes historically under-represented populations in biomedical research, including people with disabilities.

Precision medicine is an emerging approach to disease treatment and prevention that considers differences in people's lifestyles, environments and biological makeup, including genes. By partnering with one million or more diverse participants, who share information about themselves over many years, the All of Us Research Program will enable research to more precisely prevent and treat a variety of health conditions.

The Call to Action challenges the disability community to embrace “nothing about us without us.” If we truly believe in the concept of “nothing about us without us,”
then we must answer the call when asked to participate in this type of program. To learn more about this call to action, please click here. If you are interested in enrolling in the All of Us Research program, please visit https://www.JoinAllofUs.org/together.

**We’re Hiring!**
CIDNY is hiring for multiple positions. Please check our website at https://www.cidny.org/jobs/ for the latest postings.

**An Afternoon at the Queens Botanical Garden**

![Cherry blossoms in bloom.]

June 18 at 1 pm – 2:30 pm

**Meet CIDNY Staff at the Main Garden Entrance**
43-50 Main Street, Flushing, NY 11355

Join us for a walk/roll through at the Queens Botanical Garden. We’ll meet at the Main Entrance and enjoy exploring the garden together. For information on the Garden, you can go to https://queensbotanical.org or contact us at 212-674-2300 and we’ll send more information to your email.

You must RSVP by Friday, June 7th by calling 212-674-2300. Please let the receptionist know if you are a wheelchair user – the Garden staff requested that information to ensure they can accommodate everyone. If you need another type of accommodations, like ASL interpretation, please let us know as soon as possible.

**BY BUS**
Take Q44SBs or Q20A/B from the Bronx or Jamaica, or in Flushing.

**BY TRAIN**
Take the no. 7 subway or Long Island Rail Road (Port Washington line) to Main Street/Flushing. Then, take the Q44SBs or Q20A/B bus, or walk eight blocks south to QBG along Main Street.

**In Memorium**
We are deeply saddened to announce that Paula Wolff, who was a board member and staff member at CIDNY for nearly three decades, as well as a longtime disability rights advocate, passed away this month.

Paula joined with other disability rights activists in the 1970s in acts of civil disobedience in order to make NYC buses accessible. Her encyclopedic knowledge of disability-related benefits and resources was legendary in our community.

To learn more and share a memory of Paula, visit: https://www.cidny.org/in-memorium-paula-wolff/.

**Spring Funding Appeal**
Warren, a wheelchair user after losing his leg in a motorcycle accident, was having trouble finding an accessible apartment so he could move out of a nursing home.

He credits our tireless advocate, Fred, with helping him find his own place on Staten Island. When his friends at the nursing home asked how he was able to leave on his own terms, Warren gave them Fred’s number. And when the New York Times asked us about affordable and accessible housing, Warren was happy to share his success story.

Without Fred’s help, Warren would have continued to be stuck in a nursing home. Now he’s happier, healthier, and living the life he imagined for himself.

We are able to help because of supporters like you. Last year we reached 52,310 people with disabilities who needed help with finding housing, accessible transportation, moving out of a nursing home, figuring out health insurance, and other issues that affect our lives. We saved low income people with disabilities over $11.6 million by connecting them to the supports they need to be independent.

Your dollars make a huge difference for people with disabilities. If you can help, go to: https://www.cidny.org/donation/.

Join the conversation online at www.cidny.org; on Facebook (www.facebook.com/CIDNYInc), on Twitter (@CID_NY) and IG (@cid_ny)
NEED HELP?

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

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<th>Walk-In Days—Manhattan</th>
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<td>Every Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.</td>
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**Important Dates**

- May 1 – Lobby Day
- May 5 – Cinco de Mayo
- May 6 – Ramadan Starts
- May 12 – Mother’s Day
- May 27 – Memorial Day – office closed
- May 29 – Legislative Disability Awareness Day - Albany

**CIDNY’s Writer’s Group**

Thursdays from 3:30-5:30 p.m.
A facilitated, non-judgmental writing group that promotes individual expression and creativity in a supportive atmosphere.

**Visit the National Museum of the American Indian**

**Wednesday, May 8, 2019 1:00-2:30 pm**
Tour “Infinity of Nations”
One Bowling Green (corner of Whitehall & Bowling Green)
Meet CIDNY staff at the Ground Floor Entrance to the museum at 12:45.

**Accessibility:** The museum is accessible to people with disabilities. It is located on the south side of Bowling Green, in lower Manhattan, near to the northeast corner of Battery Park.

**By Subway** 4 & 5 trains to Bowling Green. 1 train to Rector Street or South Ferry. R (& W on weekdays) trains to Whitehall Street. J & Z trains to Broad Street, 2 & 3 trains to Wall Street

**By Bus** M5, M15, M20

Please RSVP by May 6 at 212/674-2300 and notify us of any accommodations needed.

**Housing Workshops**

**Wednesday, May 10, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Manhattan**
CIDNY’s housing workshop covers housing options: NYCHA, HPD, HUD listings; NYC Housing Connect and other programs; what you qualify for; income 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.

**Movie Night**

**Tuesday, May 21, 3:30pm – 5:30pm.**
Join us for Movies, Popcorn and fun!

**CIDNY Action Network (CAN) Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 1, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. – Albany**

**Wednesday, May 29, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. – Albany**

Lobby Days are Wednesday, May 1st and May 29th. We had a remarkable showing in Albany on February 11th. Let’s try to do the same this time. We will meet with our legislators, discuss what bills they have proposed, why we support or oppose them by sharing our experiences.

You must attend a training to go to Albany.

Los Días Legislativos son el lunes 1 de mayo y 29 de mayo. Tuvimos una atendencia notable en Albany el 11 de febrero. Intentemos hacer lo mismo esta vez. Nos reuniremos con nuestros legisladores, discutiremos los proyectos de ley que han propuesto, por qué los apoyamos o nos oponemos, compartiendo nuestras experiencias. Hay que atender un entrenamiento para ir.

**Speak Out about Public Transit**

**NYCT & MTA Bus Committee Meeting**

**Monday, May 20, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.**

**MTA Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 22, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at MTA Headquarters, 2 Broadway.**
Please arrive 45 minutes early and bring a photo ID.
Upon arrival, people can choose to sign up to speak during the meeting. There is a two-minute limit for speakers. Join with us and other advocates as we make our voices heard. RSVP required.

All events are at CIDNY, 841 Broadway, Suite 301, New York, NY 10003, unless otherwise noted. To RSVP, contact Laurette at 212/674-2300 or Lhamilton@cidny.org. For events in Queens or if you 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, let us know as soon as possible.

Join the conversation: online at www.cidny.org; on Facebook (www.facebook.com/CIDNYInc), on Twitter (@CID_NY) and IG (@cid_ny)
## MAY 2019 CALENDAR

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