



# 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  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415  
646/442-1520 Tel  
347/561-4883 Fax  
347/905-5088 VP

## October 2019

### Right to Know Act

The interactions that people with disabilities have with police are too often potentially dangerous. If you are stopped by the police, it is important to know your rights. This blog post will explain the law and what your rights are when you are stopped by a police officer. It is the police officer's job to protect you, but unfortunately, for people with disabilities, police do not always act in a way that respects your rights. The best thing you can do when you are stopped by the police is to stay calm and not get angry with the police officer. Below are some important things to remember if you are ever stopped by a police officer.

#### What You Need to Know:

The Right to Know Act has been in effect as of October 18, 2019, and applies to everyone living in New York City. You have rights including but not limited to:

- Police officers must tell you who they are at the beginning of certain interactions by providing their name, rank, command, and shield number.
- If English is not your preferred language or you are Deaf or hard of hearing, you have a right to ask for appropriate interpretation services.

Read more on our blog at <https://www.cidny.org/right-to-know/>. \*\*If you have questions about how you may be affected by the Know Your Rights Act, please reach out to us at 212-674-2300. \*\*

### Time to Weigh-in on Mount Sinai/Beth Israel's Hospital Closure Effort

Mount Sinai Beth Israel (MSBI) filed an application with the state to close their full-service hospital at First Avenue and 16th Street and replace it with a dramatically scaled back version of a hospital.

It would have only a multi-specialty ambulatory surgery center, cardiac catheterization, renal dialysis, "a comprehensive psychiatric emergency program," and an Emergency Department that could accommodate 70,000 ER visits annually. Their current ER gets 87,880 visits annually and the square feet included in their architectural plan supports 40,467 visits, not 70,000, visits per year.

Some of our questions are:

- Where would patients be transported if they go to the ER and need inpatient care that is not provided at the new facility? How would they get there and who would pay?
- Will there be any surge capacity, in the event of an outbreak of flu or other infectious disease, a flood, or a terrorist attack?
- If local residents need non-emergency acute care no longer provided at MSBI, how would they travel to other sites?
- Where have all the maternity patients been going since MSBI closed their maternity ward?

Perhaps you have other questions, especially if you use MSBI for care now.

MSBI asked to have their application considered at the November and December meetings of New York State's Public Health and Health Planning Council (PHHPC) meetings. CIDNY joined other consumer health advocacy groups to urge that these meetings be moved from Albany to New York City so that patients and community residents could speak directly to the PHHPC members who would be voting on these proposals. At press time, it appears that they will agree to this. So get ready to raise your concerns and ask your questions on November 21st at 90 Church Street in New York City. Contact Heidi, CIDNY's Health Policy Director, at 646-442-4147 or [hsiegfried@cidny.org](mailto:hsiegfried@cidny.org) if you can attend. They will also be accepting written comments.

### District Visits Matter

Through the summer, CIDNY organized District visits with advocates to meet with their State legislators about CIDNY's Policy agenda and how it impacts their lives. The legislators got a better understanding of our work and we got an insight into the budgeting process and the reasons why there are delays in funding some items. The advocates were able to share their stories and explain how certain bills affected them, such as the straw bill and complex rehab technology. We met with Assembly members Michael Benedetto and Harvey Epstein, and Senators Robert C. Carroll, Zellnor Myrie, and Gustavo Rivera. Six advocates attended and spoke on issues relating to housing, transportation, health, employment, and education.

On September 24th, CIDNY and constituents of Assembly member Harvey Epstein met for a district visit. He fully supported our points on ILC funding, supportive housing, MTA bills, employment, and education. He



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asked his staff to draft a bill to require the creation of an entity to educate tenants about their rights as tenants and a place where supportive housing tenants could file complaints since HPD is not the appropriate venue. He would like to testify at October's MTA meeting about the importance of On-Demand and changes to Enhanced E-Hail that have caused the program to falter. He also stated he supported the bill to make all subways accessible. Finally, he agreed to draft a bill that would ensure that there are riders with disabilities on the MTA Board who are not selected by the State or City entities that have oversight. District visits keep politicians accountable to their constituents.

If you are interested in visiting your legislator, please call Monica Bartley at 646-442-4152 or email [mbartley@cidny.org](mailto:mbartley@cidny.org).

## Your Vote is Important

### Early voting

For the first time in history, New Yorkers have a choice: to vote early from **Saturday October 26 – Sunday November 3** or to vote on **Election Day, November 5**.

### Voter Registration Deadlines

October 11 - Mail Registration for General Election: Last day to postmark application for registration for general election. The last day it must be received by Board of Elections is Oct. 16, 2019.

October 12 - In person registration for General Election: Last day application for registration must be received by Board of Elections to be eligible to vote in General Election. If honorably discharged from the military or have become a naturalized citizen since October 12th, you may register in person at the Board of Elections up until October 26th.

October 11 - Last day for change of party enrollment to vote in the 2020 Primaries.

October 11 - Last day for change of address.

You MUST update information such as a change in name, address, or party enrollment in order to stay registered to vote.

[MyDMV](#) service allows you to update the information you have on file with the Board of Elections online. To use the DMV site, you must have a driver's license or a non-

driver ID. You may also update your information by mail, using a new voter registration form.

We encourage everyone to get out and vote. We need to be seen and heard so that our concerns are taken seriously. Let them know we are active, we vote, and we are watching what they say and do.

If you need help registering to vote or changing your address, please contact Monica Bartley - [mbartley@cidny.org](mailto:mbartley@cidny.org) or 646-442-4152. You can also contact your CIDNY benefits counselor who can help you.



**Did you know that you can enroll in Medicaid anytime of the year?**

Medicaid programs cover 1 in 5 Americans.

In all states, Medicaid provides coverage for some low-income people, families and children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

If you qualify, you can enroll immediately.

Visit [healthcare.gov/screener](https://www.healthcare.gov/screener) to learn more.

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## 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.



### Walk-In Days—Manhattan

Every Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



### Walk-In Day—Queens

Every Monday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Important Dates

**October 1 – Rosh Hashana ends**

**October 8 – Yom Kippur begins**

**October 13 – Sukkot begins**

**October 14 – Columbus Day (Indigenous People’s Day) – Office closed**

**October 31 – Halloween**

## CIDNY’s Writer’s Group

**Thursdays from 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

Please join us for writing and sharing work in a supportive and respectful environment. Writers of all genres and levels of experience are welcome. No prior writing experience is necessary. Participants should sign up in advance. Call 674-2300 and ask to be placed on the list. Please let the receptionist know if you need an accommodation like ASL interpretation; CIDNY has a hearing loop. Please bring pen/pencil and paper (CIDNY will supply if you don’t have). Led by Avra Wing, writer and writing workshop leader certified to lead creative writing workshops by the NY Writers Coalition.

## Housing Workshops

**Wednesday, October 9, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Manhattan**

**Wednesday, October 23, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Queens**

**Manhattan –specifically for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community**



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.

## CIDNY Action Network (CAN) Meeting

**Wednesday, October 16, 2019  
1 – 4 pm**

### Come Join Us to Hear About:

How a bill is created and becomes law.

Through the summer CIDNY organized its advocates to meet with their State legislators about CIDNY’s agenda and how it raises the advocates concerns. This is the first step, of many, to prepare for Albany visits to our legislators.

Come and hear about next steps that will affect the legislative process and how you fit in.

**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](mailto:lhamilton@cidny.org). For events in Queens or if you 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 as soon as possible.**

# OCTOBER 2019 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1 <b>Rosh Hashana ends</b></p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p> <p> <b>Writer's Workshop</b> 3:30-5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day - Queens</b> 10 a.m.-3 p.m.</p>	<p>8 <b>Yom Kippur begins</b></p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p> <p> <b>Housing Workshop – Manhattan</b> 10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p> <p><b>Building a Better Budget - Manhattan</b> 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p> <p> <b>Writer's Workshop</b> 3:30-5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 <b>Sukkot begins</b></p>	<p>14 <b>Columbus Day (Indigenous People's Day) – Office closed</b></p>	<p>15</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</p>	<p>16 <b>CIDNY Action Network Meeting – Queens</b> 1-4 p.m.</p> <p></p>	<p>17</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p> <p> <b>Writer's Workshop</b> 3:30-5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day - Queens</b> 10 a.m.-3 p.m.</p>	<p>22</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</p>	<p>23</p> <p> <b>Housing Workshop – Queens</b></p> <p> <b>Housing Workshop for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community – Manhattan</b> 10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p> <p><b>Dealing with Debt – Manhattan</b> 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>24</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</p> <p> <b>Writer's Workshop</b> 3:30-5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day – Manhattan and Queens</b> 10 a.m.-2 p.m.</p>	<p>29</p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 <b>Halloween</b></p> <p></p> <p> <b>Walk-in Day</b> 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</p> <p> <b>Writer's Workshop</b> 3:30-5:30 p.m.</p>		<p></p> <p><b>CID-NY</b> Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY</p>