



**Quick Takes**

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

**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, #100  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415  
646/442-1520 Tel  
347/561-4883 Fax  
347/905-5088 VP

## **CIDNY February 2021 Newsletter**

### **Hello from CIDNY**

Hello! Thanks for taking the time to read our February 2021 newsletter.

If you know someone who would like to also receive our email newsletter, please feel free to forward this or have them sign up here: <https://www.cidny.org/join-us/>.

As a reminder, due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) our offices are closed to in-person meetings until further notice. However, our programs remain available remotely (though phone and email). If you have a benefits counselor you can reach out to them directly or contact us through email at [info@cidny.org](mailto:info@cidny.org) or phone (Manhattan: 212-674-2300 or Video Phone: 646-350-2681 | Queens: 646-442-1520 or Video Phone: 347-905-5088). We'll be sure to let you know when anything changes.

Information in this newsletter can always change so if you have any questions please call or email us.

If you haven't already, please take a moment to Like/Follow CIDNY on social media.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CIDNYInc/>

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/CID\\_NY](https://twitter.com/CID_NY)

Join the conversation: online at [www.cidny.org](http://www.cidny.org); on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/CIDNYInc](http://www.facebook.com/CIDNYInc)), on Twitter (@CID\_NY) and IG (@cid\_ny)



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Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/cid\\_ny/](https://www.instagram.com/cid_ny/)

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI0eMkvGCPLfI3hzyYXZCVg>

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## Navigator Network: Get Health Care Plan Help

Open enrollment for health care coverage has been extended through March 31, 2021.

Our Navigator program helps people enroll in health insurance on the NY State of Health Marketplace. If you need help with NY State of Health insurance (the Marketplace), CIDNY has six Navigators in Manhattan and Queens who can help you. Please call us at 917-810-2566.

CIDNY Navigators have been helping people get insurance since the Affordable Care Act began in 2014, so you have access to the best expertise available.

You can also fill out our form below with your name and phone number and someone will call you with information.

<https://www.cidny.org/navigator-network-request-form/>.

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## Online Education Workshops

Join us and learn more!

For the month of February 2021, the Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY (CIDNY) will be presenting the workshops and events below. All workshops for the time being will be presented online, with captioning. They may also be recorded for future use in communications materials, websites, and for other purposes by CIDNY.

### CIDNY Writers' Group, facilitated by Avra Wing

Thursdays, February 11, 2021 and February 25, 2021 from 3:30pm to 5:30pm

Since 2009, CIDNY and the New York Writers Coalition (NYWC) have teamed to produce a Writers' Workshop for people with disabilities. The workshop provides a safe space for people with disabilities to express their thoughts and stretch their creativity through writing.

### Housing Law Basics

Thursday, February 18, 2021 from 1pm to 3pm

This workshop will focus on basic housing laws and protections under them, including the Fair Housing Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), New York City and New York State Human Rights Laws, and more.



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Share this event on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/3192224434210528/>

### Let's Talk Vegetables with Susie from GrowNYC

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 from 12pm to 1pm

Susie will give us some background about GrowNYC, the Greenmarkets, and benefits programs that can be used there (e.g. using SNAP/EBT in the markets). She will also provide a little history about the month's featured vegetable (the sweet potato): where it originated, how it got to our plates, and other fun facts. She'll discuss where and how it grows in New York, how to store it, and information about other agricultural products in our area.

### Know Your Rights: New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA)

Thursday, February 25, 2021 from 2pm to 4pm

We will discuss NYCHA's duty to accommodate tenants with a wide range of disabilities, how to request a reasonable accommodation, and what to do if NYCHA denies, ignores, or mishandles a reasonable accommodation request.

RSVP:

For information on joining the CIDNY Writers' Group, or to RSVP for any of the other events this month, please send your email address and phone number to Shohana Joati at



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sjoati@cidny.org, or call 212-674-2300 at least two (2) days before the day of the event(s).

If you need an accommodation like large print, American Sign Language (ASL), or materials in other languages, please let us know at least two (2) weeks before the date of the event(s).

The link to the meeting will be sent to you via email the day before the event.

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## **Mark your calendars! NYAIL's Virtual Budget Advocacy Week - Monday, February 8 - 12, 2021**

Due to the pandemic, we will not be traveling to Albany for lobby day to meet with our legislators, instead we will be meeting virtually during the week of February 8-12.

Join us in our virtual meetings with our legislators. This will give us an opportunity to come together as a community and educate the legislature about our issues and share our stories.

Join us for a training to prepare for these meetings on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 1pm.



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Please RSVP by calling Shohana at 212-674-2300 or by sending an email to [sjoati@cidny.org](mailto:sjoati@cidny.org) and we will send you further details and a registration link to join the event live on Zoom.

For Spanish please RSVP by calling Jose at 646-442-1520 or by sending an email to [jlmera@cidny.org](mailto:jlmera@cidny.org).

For Mandarin or Cantonese please RSVP by calling Ying at (646) 442-4149 or by sending an email to [yyu@cidny.org](mailto:yyu@cidny.org).

If you need an accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know ASAP.

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## **Able Newspaper: In Celebration of Black History Month**

Our latest column for Able Newspaper is now available. It focuses on a salute to Black History Month. To read our columns, you can sign up for free online access at <http://ablenews.com/new-york-city-edition/>.



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## **CIDNY's Action Network Meeting - WHAT IS HAPPENING OUT THERE?!**

Join us on February 17, 2020 at 1pm for our monthly CAN meeting to hear about how our Virtual Lobby meetings went.

Let's discuss:

- The issues we presented to the legislators
- How the legislators we met with responded
- Strategize on next steps for future meetings

Please RSVP by calling Shohana at 212-674-2300 or by sending an email to [sjoati@cidny.org](mailto:sjoati@cidny.org) and we will send you a link to the Zoom meeting closer to the date.

For Spanish please RSVP by calling Jose at 646-442-1520 or by sending an email to [jlmera@cidny.org](mailto:jlmera@cidny.org)

For Mandarin or Cantonese please RSVP by calling Ying at (646) 442-4149 or by sending an email to [yyu@cidny.org](mailto:yyu@cidny.org).

Closed captioning will be provided. If you need an accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know by February 10, 2021.





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## Support CIDNY with Amazon Smile

Do you shop with Amazon.com? Did you know that you can support CIDNY when you do?

With AmazonSmile all you have to do is shop through [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) online or activate AmazonSmile in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS (Apple) and Android phones. Using AmazonSmile is exactly the same with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice (at no cost to you)! Just go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select CIDNY (search for Center For Independence Of The Disabled In New York Inc) as your organization to support. It's that easy. Be sure to tell your friends and family about this easy way to support CIDNY!

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## CIDNY in the News

Take a look at our most recent media coverage from last month below.

- [AG Report: COVID-19 Deaths In NY Nursing Homes Are Dramatically Undercounted](#) (Gothamist)
- [Union Square Curves Add Accessibility Challenge to \\$100M Makeover](#) (THE CITY, amNY, and Patch)





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- Legislators & Advocates Want Subway Access (Able News)
- CIDNY Says: Happy New Year (Able News)