



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
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CIDNY April 2021 Newsletter

Hello from CIDNY

Hello! Thanks for taking the time to read our April 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 (through 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 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

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/cid_ny/

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI0eMkvGCPLfI3hzvYXZCVg>

A Statement on the Recent Surge of Anti-Asian Racism and Violence

The recent intensification of racially motivated violence targeting Asian Americans and people of Asian descent is unacceptable. Racism against Asian Americans has a long history in this country. Historically, Asian Americans have been excluded from entering the country, found their communities destroyed, were forced to fight to protect themselves and flee, or have been rounded up and placed in so-called "relocation centers." The vigilantism we see today reminds us of the violence that happened in the 19th century. The escalation of hate for Asian Americans this year reminds us of these past wrongs. CIDNY wholeheartedly condemns anti-Asian discrimination.

Our hearts are with the families of those who died and those who were attacked including Xiaojie Tan, Daoyou Feng, Delaina Ashley Yuan González, Paul Andre Michels, Soon Chung Park, Suncha Kim, Yong Ae Yue, Hyun Jung Grant, Maggie Cheng, Crisanna Tang, Mimi Lau, Yen Yen Pong, and others. We honor them.

The attacks on Asian Americans must stop. Concrete actions against anti-Asian racism are needed. Rallies around the nation have brought us together to demonstrate our support for action to prevent further attacks. We support financial help for the families and communities affected. We support teaching the history of Asian Americans in this country, more portrayals of Asian Americans in the media, action, and donations to organizations fighting hate to demonstrate solidarity. We support proposals addressing the rise in hate incidents against Asian Americans during the pandemic and the creation of a position at the Department of Justice to handle hate crimes and offer guidance to state and local lawmakers. We support the call for guidance from the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance and best practices to prevent and condemn statements and actions associating Asian Americans with the pandemic.

We agree. Enough is enough. Stop the hate.

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



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Online Education Workshops and Events

For the month of April 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.

Ranked Choice Voting

Wednesday, April 7, 2021 from 1pm to 3pm

Guests from the NYC Campaign Finance Board and NYC Board of Elections will help us learn more about Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), including: how Ranked Choice Voting works, how it can benefit voters, and how to use a ballot marking device (BMD) on an RCV ballot.

Boost Your Budget

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 10am (English)

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 3pm (Mandarin)

A webinar to educate Medicare beneficiaries about benefits available to them. This webinar will include a presentation on affordable housing options, SNAP, and Medicaid Managed Long-Term Care.

To register for the English presentation at 10am please visit:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OWpO1FnOSsu_Y9DwPsfj-A

To register for the Mandarin presentation at 3pm please visit:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_a2M9hjcMQlew3-ADEbuqda

African Dance-Inspired Movement and Drumming

Thursday, April 22, 2021 from 1pm to 2pm

Dance instructor Tara Murphy will first lead us through some stretching, yoga, and simple dance movements. Afterwards, people will be asked to sit near tabletops or gather kitchen utensils, buckets, or any other item at home they would like to use as an "instrument." We'll join in with Tara while she guides us through a succession of rhythms, and jam out to recorded music together. This is a fun activity and a great way to keep moving and uplift our spirits with dancing and musical expression during the pandemic.

Let's Talk Vegetables with Susie from GrowNYC

Wednesday, April 28, 2021 from 1pm to 2pm

Susie from GrowNYC will give us some background about GrowNYC, the Greenmarkets, and benefits programs that can be used there (e.g., SNAP/EBT, Health Bucks, etc.). She will also provide a little history about this month's featured vegetable, the mushroom: where it originated, how it got to our plates, and other fun facts. She will provide information about other agricultural products in our area as well.

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CIDNY Writers' Group, facilitated by Avra Wing

Thursdays, April 8, 2021 and April 22, 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.

RSVP:

For information on joining the CIDNY Writers' Group, or to RSVP for any of the other events this month (other than the Boost Your Budget events), please send your email address and phone number to Angela Bruen at RSVP@cidny.org, or calling 646-933-0160 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.

CIDNY's Action Network Meeting

Join us on April 21, 2021 at 1pm for our monthly CAN meeting to hear the outcome of our efforts to protect people with disabilities in the Governor's Budget that was scheduled to be passed on April 1.

We will discuss the items passed in the budget, the items on which we had an impact, allocation of funding, and the next steps regarding advocacy for the other items.

Please RSVP by calling Shohana at 212 674-2300 or by sending an email to sjoati@cidny.org.

For Spanish please RSVP by calling Jose at 646-442-1520 or by sending an email to 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

NOTE: We will send you a link to the Zoom meeting closer to the date. Closed captioning will be provided. If you need an accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know by April 14, 2021.

Navigator Network: Get Affordable Health Care Plan Help

Good news! Open enrollment for health care coverage has been extended through the end of 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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Medical Billing Focus Group



Have you received medical bills that seem unfair or confusing? Help make medical billing fairer for everyone in New York! Most of us who have had any contact with the health care system have at one point received medical bills that seem unfair and confusing, and may even drive people into debt. We need your help to learn more about your experiences to help advocate for new legislation to help make the medical billing process more transparent and better protect patients against medical debt.

Join our discussion and take part in our focus group on Thursday, April 15 from 6:30pm to 8pm and you may receive \$50. Spaces are limited.

Sign up here for consideration: <https://www.cidny.org/medical-billing-focus-group-2021-form/>.

We will share our findings with lawmakers to advance consumer protections in New York State.

COVID-19 Vaccine Update

NYC is providing in-home COVID-19 vaccinations (Johnson & Johnson) to eligible NYC residents who are fully homebound, have not already been vaccinated, and do not already have access to a vaccination program. If interested, fill out the form at <https://forms.cityofnewyork.us/f/homebound>.

Eligibility for the vaccine has also been expanded so that New Yorkers age 30+ are now eligible. On April 6, New Yorkers age 16+ will become eligible.

You can schedule an appointment at <https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/>. If you need help, please contact us.

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Are You in Need of Face Masks? Request a Mask From CIDNY

CIDNY hopes to have free face masks to distribute to our community members in late April or early May. If you're interested in receiving masks, please complete our online form. Masks will be delivered via postal mail. There is no cost to you for a mask. The number of masks each person receives will depend on how many people express interest in receiving them. You can request a mask at <https://www.cidny.org/mask-request-form/>.

Eviction Moratorium Extended

The CDC has signed an order extending eviction moratorium protections through June 30, 2021. Full details can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-eviction-declaration.html>.

Able Newspaper: Dear NYC Mayoral Candidates

Our latest column for Able Newspaper – an open letter to the NYC Mayoral candidates - is now available. It focuses on the importance of focusing on home-based care. To read our monthly column, you can sign up for free online access at <http://ableneews.com/new-york-city-edition/>.

CIDNY in the News

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

[HECTOR Imagines a Monumental Party Ramp for a Disability Activist's Birthday](#) (Curbed)

[Mission of CIDNY](#) (Disability Matters)

[Transit access crisis remains key issue in City Council District 11 special election](#) (Politics NY)

[Advocates for People with Disabilities Urge Repeal of Medicaid Cap](#) (Public News Service)

[Advocates Call Out Cuomo For Creating "COVID-Only" Nursing Homes And Not Telling Residents Or Families](#) (Gothamist)

['I Really Loved My Job': Why the Pandemic Has Hit These Workers Harder](#) (NY Times)

[MTA New York ADA Class Action Lawsuit Updates – More Than 500K Class Members Eligible](#) (Consider The Consumer)

[The COVID-19 Vaccine Rollout Fails to Prioritize People With Disabilities](#) (SheKnows)

[NEW YORK, NY: Suit Over Accessibility Attains Class-Action Status](#) (Class Action Reporter)

[Wheelchair Users Win Protections From DOH](#) (Able News)

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[CIDNY Says: Living At Home, Not In A Home \(Able News\)](#)