



Quick Takes

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

Manhattan

841 Broadway, #301
New York, NY 10003
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CIDNY July 2021 Newsletter

Hello from CIDNY

Hello! Thanks for taking the time to read our July 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: 646-846-6875). 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/UCI0eMkvGCPLf13hzyXZCVg>

Introducing CIDNY's New Executive Director Dr. Sharon McLennon-Wier

After nearly 20 years of serving as the Executive Director of CIDNY, Susan Dooha has retired. We thank Susan for her service and accomplishments.

Dr. Sharon McLennon-Wier has joined CIDNY as our new Executive Director! Dr. Sharon is a Black woman who is totally blind and has more than twenty-five years of experience in education, non-profits, and disability advocacy. She earned a Ph.D. degree in Counseling Psychology from Seton Hall University, a master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Hunter College, a U.S. Law and Methodology Certificate from New York University, a bachelor's degree in Biology from Syracuse University, is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor, a New York State Licensed Mental Health Counselor, and an adjunct professor.

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You can read about the news on our website at [HERE](#) and can expect to hear more from Dr. Sharon in the future.

More People Eligible For COVID-19 At Home Vaccinations

NYC's homebound COVID-19 vaccine program is now open to all New Yorkers age 12 years or older. You can register at <https://forms.cityofnewyork.us/f/home> or call 877-829-4692. As always, if you need any assistance, please reach out to us.

CIDNY's Action Network Meeting – Virtual Roundtable

Join us on July 21, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. for our monthly CAN meeting to hear about our new projects. We want your input and collaboration for the successful implementation of these projects.

REMEMBER: Your experiences help our advocacy efforts.

Please RSVP by calling Monica at 347-922-1358 or by sending an email to mbartley@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.

CAN call in number: 1-929-436-2866
Meeting ID: 875 1463 5512
Password: 986956

Closed captioning will be provided. If you need an accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know by July 14, 2021.

Online Education Workshops and Events

For the month of July 2021, CIDNY will be presenting the workshops and events below. All workshops for the time being will be presented online, with captioning, as well as other accommodations upon request. The workshops may also be recorded for future use in communications materials, websites, and for other purposes by CIDNY.

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Combating Housing Discrimination During COVID-19

Thursday, July 8, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Guest speakers from the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) will talk to us about how to combat housing discrimination and preserve equal access during the COVID-19 pandemic. Topics will include protecting and asserting your rights as a disabled tenant; the technical aspects of reasonable accommodations; and legal entitlements, requirements, strategies and processes for filing complaints, and housing court case outcomes.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtd-iuqD8rH9cFyVmbKGMNu3fU6l_CcYYD

CIDNY Writers' Group, facilitated by Avra Wing

Thursdays, July 1, 2021, July 15, 2021 and July 29, 2021 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Since 2009, CIDNY and the [New York Writers Coalition \(NYWC\)](#) have teamed up 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. Contact Angela Bruen directly at RSVP@cidny.org or (347) 241-2150 if you are interested in joining the Writers' Group.

Dealing With Source of Income Discrimination in Housing

Thursday, July 15, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

A guest speaker from New York City Department of Social Services (DSS) will come talk to us about Source of Income Discrimination: what it is; what vouchers, subsidies, and other forms of public assistance are considered "lawful source of income" and cannot be refused by landlords, building owners, or real estate brokers; and what you can do if you think you are being discriminated against because of how you pay for your housing.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tce2hqzqsGdEmLxhRCpwRVAZQrtLHFjsS>

The Family Homelessness and Eviction Protection Supplement (FHEPS)

Thursday, July 22, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Guest speakers from the Legal Aid Society will talk to us about the Family Homelessness and Eviction Protection Supplement (FHEPS). We will discuss the 7 eligibility rules for FHEPS, which include having an open cash assistance case and a minor child in the home. Our presenters will also cover the 4 ways to apply for cash assistance and FHEPS through the City's Human Resources Administration (HRA) since

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the pandemic started, and the waiver of the lawsuit rule through the end of the eviction moratorium in New York on August 31, 2021.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZYucuisqDwuEtVwk1ApMRyW9KHHFPx_sMu4

Building a Better Personal Budget

Tuesday, July 27, 2021 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

A guest from the Financial Planning Association (FPA) will help us understand the basics of budgeting and how to plan your personal budget. We will learn more about why you need a budget; how to build your budget based on your values, goals, and priorities; how to plan for irregular expenses; and what to do if your expenses aren't what you expected.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZ0tfu6rgDgtH9cGw7MgNThyNHHRzEm84haW>

Chair Yoga with Lana

Thursday, July 29, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Lana will lead us through a one-hour Chair Yoga class. Chair yoga is a gentle form of yoga that can be done sitting on a chair or standing on the ground while using the chair for support. It is beneficial if you have limited mobility or if you want to practice yoga while at work. Join us for some simple and effective exercise!

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZEvd-qprjktHtMB8groD4yMwszlm0HFvGnI>

The New York City Fighting Homelessness and Eviction Protection Supplement (CityFHEPS)

Tuesday, August 3, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Guests from the Legal Aid Society will give an overview of the NYC Fighting Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Supplement (CityFHEPS). Our presenters will discuss the 4 types of households who are eligible for CityFHEPS in the community to stay or move, how CityFHEPS applications are submitted, and the waiver of the lawsuit rule through the end of the eviction moratorium in New York on August 31, 2021.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZErfuirzorzGtyumF6VzLxt2v7QI_Qv1XZI



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Various Types of Housing Benefits Available in New York City

Thursday, August 12, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

A guest speaker from the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) will provide an overview of various housing benefits. Topics will include information about the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Mitchell-Lama housing, and Section 8; we will also discuss how a tenant's rent is calculated, tenants' obligations in income and recertification, and common issues with various benefits as well as how to resolve these issues.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAsd-6vqT8iE9Iqv873sBzTA1MVPiZ0sHDw>

RSVP:

If you are unable to use the registration links provided above, you can still register for a workshop by sending your email address and phone number to Angela Bruen at RSVP@cidny.org, or calling (347) 241-2150 at least two (2) days before the day of the event(s). The link to the meeting will be sent to you via email the day before the event.

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).

2021 Primary Election Voter Survey

We would like to hear about your voting experience during the 2021 Primary Election that was held on June 22, 2021, with early voting from June 12 – 20. The survey should take just a few minutes.

Please complete CIDNY's Individual Voter Survey online here: <https://forms.gle/mQbHieLiWQFwFfJx7>

Your help in the past has identified problems at polling sites we have not been able to get to. With your help this election, we can continue to let the City Council and the Board of Elections know about problems that still need to be fixed.

Every voter experience that we can document – including the good ones – makes a difference in our efforts to improve our election process!

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If you need assistance completing the survey, please call Monica Bartley at 347-922-1358.

Homecare Incident Reporting

Our friends at NY Caring Majority are seeking incident reports for consumers going without some or all of their home care due to staffing shortages. These reports will be sent to legislators and used for advocacy purposes. If you are going without home care services for some reason, please take a look at this link:

<https://www.nycaringmajority.org/incident-report>

CIDNY In The News

Take a look at recent media coverage linked below.

[Sidewalk seating is good for restaurants. It's a challenge for disabled people.](#) (Washington Post)

[For Disabled Users, the 'Open Streets' of the Pandemic Remain Closed](#) (Bloomberg CityLab)

[Renting Apartments and Homes for People With Disabilities](#) (MoneyGeek)

[COVID wards are filled with unvaccinated patients, many homebound seniors](#) (PBS Newshour)

[New York City Has Been Slow To Vaccinate Homebound Elderly, Causing More Sickness](#) (NPR)

[New York City Workers with Disabilities Fight for Inclusion in Pandemic Recovery, Mayoral Race](#) (Labor Notes)

[Kavanagh And Rosenthal Announce Passage Of Bill Expanding Homelessness Prevention Program](#) (Harlem World Magazine)

[Assembly Fate Unclear For NY Bill Giving Abuse Survivors Chance to Sue Perpetrators](#) (NBC)

[Unclear fate for bill to give abuse survivors chance to sue](#) (Associated Press)

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[New York Senate Passes Adult Survivors Act Sponsored By Senate Brad Hoylman](#) (Harlem World Magazine)

[CIDNY Says: We Must Make Our Votes Count](#) (Able News)