



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
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CIDNY January 2022 Newsletter

Hello from CIDNY

Hello! Thanks for taking the time to read our January 2022 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: 347-474-7076). 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 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/UCI0eMkvGCPLfI3hzyYXZCVg>

COVID-19 Community Vaccine Navigators and COVID-19 Liaisons

The COVID-19 pandemic is not over, especially with the recent rise of the Omicron variant. We know you may have some questions, concerns, and needs, and CIDNY is here to help. Please see below for some quick reminders and updates on how to stay safe and the COVID-19 vaccine. We have Community Vaccine Navigators available to answer any questions you might have.

How can I protect myself from getting COVID-19?

- The most important thing you can do to protect yourself against COVID-19 is to get vaccinated.
- In addition, wearing a mask over your nose and mouth, staying 6 feet away from others, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, and washing your hands often can help protect you from getting COVID-19.

Where can I get vaccinated?

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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- Visit [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) and enter your zip code and search radius and whether you are interested in the Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson and Johnson vaccine to find vaccine sites near you.
- If you get vaccinated at a NYC site, you can receive \$100 for your first dose (while the program is still available). You can make an appointment at a city site by going to: <https://vax4nyc.nyc.gov/patient/s/>.
- If you mention that you were referred by the Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York when registering online, CIDNY will also get \$100 to put towards helping people with disabilities.

If you have more questions regarding COVID-19 or COVID-19 vaccination, you may call us at 646-442-4186 and ask to speak to a Community Vaccine Navigator. We can also help you schedule appointments.

For assistance with other COVID-19 related needs such as transportation to or from vaccine appointments or questions about benefits that may be available, you can contact a COVID-19 Liaison at 917-810-2565.

Open Enrollment Health Care

Open enrollment for health care insurance is still open. If you're looking for health insurance you can compare your options and eligibility at [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) or call 1-800-318-2596.

Online Education Workshops and Events

Join us and learn more! For the month of January 2022, 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, 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.

CIDNY Writers' Group, facilitated by Avra Wing

Thursdays, January 13, 2022 and January 27, 2022 from 3:30pm to 5:30pm

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

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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Human Trafficking 101

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

As January 2022 is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, CIDNY will host a guest speaker from [Safe Horizon](#), who will help us learn more about Human Trafficking. Our speaker will define what Human Trafficking is, with a focus on labor and sex trafficking in particular. We will learn to recognize who may be trafficker and the recruitment tactics they may use; how to identify and assist a suspected victim; labor and sex trafficking settings; how to make referrals to the Safe Horizon Anti-Trafficking Program; other available resources; and more.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tduihrD4sGNItXLY8j1RmfYEOWWzOS2Zq>

Emergency and Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities in New York City

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

CIDNY will host guests from [New York City Emergency Management \(NYCEM\)](#), who will help us learn more about emergency planning and storm recovery. This discussion will include steps that the whole community, and particularly people with disabilities, should consider in preparing for emergencies, such as: making a plan for different types of emergencies or disasters, gathering supplies pertaining to one's disability, how power outages might affect your decision to shelter in place or evacuate, and staying informed both during and after an emergency or disaster. Our speakers will also talk to us about new responsibilities in the NYC Fire Code, requiring residential buildings owners and managers to inform residents of their buildings' emergency plans.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpf-mprzsoHtNfejaI-V4skPmvZjcJQ55B>

Preparing Your 2021 Taxes

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 from 12:30pm to 2:00pm

CIDNY will host a guest speaker from the Financial Planning Association (FPA) who will help us learn more about how to prepare our 2021 taxes; topics will include the basics of tax law and terminology; federal tax laws created to benefit people with disabilities; New York State and New York City tax laws that may affect you; and more.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvdv-hqjMoG9EuaQG65LBUgYLNQLcbk0R7>

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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).

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, or if you want to call in for the meeting, you will be provided with the dial-in information.

CIDNY's Action Network Meeting

Join us on January 19, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. for our monthly CAN meeting to prepare for Lobby Day 2022.

Help CIDNY to develop its 2022 Policy Agenda re:

- Health
- Housing
- Transportation
- Education
- Voting Rights

Be ready to tell us your stories to support the issues you raised. REMEMBER: Your experiences help our advocacy efforts.

Please RSVP by calling Matthew at 212 674-2300 or by sending an email to mperez@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

For Mandarin or Cantonese please RSVP by calling Ying at (646) 442-4149 or by sending an email to yyu@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 January 12, 2022.

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Voting Update: January Special Election

A Special Election will be held on Tuesday, January 18th in the Bronx to fill a vacancy for New York State Assembly District 68 in East Harlem. This includes East Harlem and Randall's Island. It also includes parts of Central Harlem and the Upper East Side. You can visit <https://nyassembly.gov/mem/search/> and input your address to see map of your district and current elected official.

The last day to register in person at the Board of Elections to be eligible to vote in this Special Election is January 8, 2022.

Absentee Ballot: The deadline to request an Absentee Ballot in person is January 17, 2021. Mail in your Absentee Ballot postmarked no later than election day and received by the board of elections no later than seven days after the Election.

Early Voting Period: January 8 to January 16, 2022. Hours may vary so please check online at the link to find your voting location. That can be found at <https://findmypollsite.vote.nyc/>.

Election Day: Tuesday, January 18, 2022. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

If you plan to vote in person, please wear a mask and practice social distancing.

CIDNY In The News

Take a look at recent media coverage linked below.

- [Goodbye 2021, Hello 2022](#) (Able News)
- [A Lot of Employees Prefer Remote Work, But for Many People With Disabilities, Having the Option Is Crucial](#) (Well + Good)
- [New York improves wheelchair accessibility](#) (CTGN America)
- [MTA's Late in Making OMNY Subway and Bus System Reduced-Fare Friendly](#) (THE CITY)
- [Reinstate The State Office Of The Advocate For People With Disabilities](#) (Bronx.com)



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- Bird and Scootaround partner to make e-scooters available for people with disabilities (Focus Technica)
- WIP Collaborative Designs All for One and One for All (Cultured)
- Ask What You Want From Your Education (Able News)