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CIDNY May 2022 Newsletter

Hello from CIDNY

Hello! Thanks for taking the time to read our May 2022 newsletter.

If you know someone who would like to receive our email newsletter, please 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. If you have any questions, please call or email us.

Please Like/Follow CIDNY on social media if you haven't already.

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

Twitter: https://twitter.com/CID NY



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Instagram: https://www.instagram..com/cid ny/

TikTok: https://www.tiktok.com/@cid_ny

YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCl0eMkvGCPLfl3hzvY

XZCVg

CIDNY's Action Network Meeting

Join us on May 18, 2022, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. for the monthly CAN meeting. This month is Mental Health Awareness month so we will have a guest speaker to address us on a related topic.

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 ilmera@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: 822

4354 9762 Password: 090870

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Closed captioning will be provided. If you need accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know by May 11, 2022.

Online Education Workshops and Events

Join us and learn more! For the month of May 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.

New York City's Affordable Housing Lottery Thursday, May 5, 2022 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

CIDNY will host a guest speaker from the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) who will give an overview of New York City's Affordable Housing Lottery. You'll learn the basics of the following: what Housing Connect is; how to read an affordable housing lottery's advertisement and apply to for it; set-aside units for people with disabilities and where to indicate disability; how to indicate on your profile if you need a reasonable accommodation; and more.

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You can register for this meeting by clicking here: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpdemrrDIrG90mbT8nroo9q8jXKVp25NxK

CIDNY Writers' Group, facilitated by Avra Wing Thursdays, May 5, 2022 and May 19, 2022 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Since 2009, CIDNY and the <u>New York Writers Coalition</u> (<u>NYWC</u>) 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 <u>RSVP@cidny.org</u> or (347) 241-2150 if you are interested in joining the Writers' Group.

Update on Recent and Upcoming Changes to Medicaid Eligibility and Home Care

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Heidi Siegfried (CIDNY's Director of Health Policy) and Greg Otten (Senior Benefits Counselor) will help us learn more about upcoming expansions to Medicaid eligibility,

and changes to the Medicaid homecare application process and eligibility rules. Topics will include the new Independent Assessor (IA) process to get homecare, and future expansions to Medicaid income and resource limits.

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You can register for this meeting by clicking here: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkcuioqj4rG dwoZO4XFYMxGIjElGyyL6Ik

Know Your Rights Housing Resource Fair Thursday, May 26, 2022 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

CIDNY will host a housing resource fair with a theme of knowing your rights, featuring guest speakers from the following organizations: New York City Commission on Human Rights (CCHR), New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal (HCR), the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA), the Fair Housing Justice Center, and more. Topics will include understanding protected classes; recognizing and reporting discrimination in housing; various resources for finding and applying for housing; and other resources available through the different presenting agencies.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUvf-qtrDopGt2p0KUkR0KQavMnbMhjbTVY

FIDA-IDD by Partners Health Plan, ICAN Ombuds-Service, and Home Care for People with I/DD Friday, May 27, 2022 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.



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This presentation will include ICAN materials on FIDA-IDD model for dual eligible OPWDD waiver participants, and discussion of how our individuals get Medicare. It will also include Question and Answers section on applying for home care from your county or Medicaid Managed Care plan.

You can register for this meeting by clicking here: https://bit.ly/3vt4kOl

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.

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Voting: Important Primary Election Dates Coming Up!

There is a Primary Election coming up next month on Tuesday, June 28, 2022. Below are some important dates you should be aware of. You can register to vote online at https://voterreg.dmv.ny.gov/MotorVoter/. If you need any help registering or have any questions, please reach out to us.

- Voter Registration for Primary Election: Friday, June 3, 2022 In-person applications must be received by end-ofbusiness on this day. Applications must be postmarked by this date and received no later than June 8.
- Deadline for Voter Registration: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 This is the deadline for your voter registration application (postmarked by June 3, 2022) to be received by your Board of Elections office.
- Absentee Application: Monday, June 13, 2022 This is the last day to either postmark your application to request an absentee ballot or send an email or fax to request an absentee ballot.

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- In-person Absentee: Monday, June 27, 2022
 This is the last day to apply in-person for an absentee ballot.
- Last Day Mailed Absentee Ballot: Tuesday, July 5, 2022

This is the last day that your mailed absentee ballot can be received by your Board of Elections (it must be postmarked by June 28, 2022).

- Early Voting: Saturday, June 18, 2022 Sunday, June 26, 2022
 In-person early voting period for the Primary Election begins. Hours vary by day. Find your voting location at https://findmypollsite.vote.nyc/.
- Election Day: Tuesday, June 28, 2022
 Polls are open 6 a.m. 9 p.m. This is also last day to deliver your absentee ballot in-person to your Board of Elections, and the last day to postmark your absentee ballot which must be received by your Board of Elections office no later than July 5, 2022.

COVID-19 Vaccine Help

People with disabilities may face increased risks from COVID-19. CIDNY is working with the Disability Vaccine Access Opportunities Center (DVAO Center) to help make

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sure we're all staying safe and have the correct information about COVID-19 and vaccines. If you need help getting the vaccine, making an appointment, or just have questions, reach out to us.

Find a vaccine at <u>vaccinefinder.nyc.gov</u>.

Jobs At CIDNY!

Are you interested in working at an organization led by and for people with disabilities? Do you want to help reduce barriers for people with disabilities and fight for our civil rights? If so, CIDNY might be a good place for you! We have some opening available right now, including the jobs listed below. See all of the jobs on our website at http://www.cidny.org/jobs/.

- ASL Benefits Counselor
- Benefits Counselor
- Benefits Counselor (Manhattan), NY Connects Program
- Housing Benefits Counselor
- Independent Living Specialist
- Long-term Care Ombudsman (LTCOP) Brooklyn Borough Supervisor
- Receptionist (Manhattan)
- RTH Housing Specialist
- **Transition Specialist**

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Support CIDNY Just By Shopping With Amazon Smile

If you use Amazon, you can support CIDNY's work at no cost to you! All you have to do is go to https://smile.amazon.com/ch/13-2984549 to select the Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York as your Amazon Smile beneficiary, then use smile. a.m.azon.com when you shop, and a portion of the sale will benefit CIDNY!

If you or someone you know would like to directly support CIDNY, you can do so at https://www.cidny.org/donation/. Did you know some employers will match donations? If you make a donation to CIDNY, be sure to check and see if you're employer will match it!

CIDNY In The News

Take a look at our recent media coverage, linked below.

 Union Square Subway Entrance a Smelly Mess Despite Ritzy Private Ownership (THE CITY)



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- <u>Litigation Against New York State Board of Elections</u> Resolved (Legal Reader)
- Bird pilot aims to give NYC wheelchair users reliable and fast transport options (Smart Cities Dive)
- New Absentee Ballot Program in New York Will Benefit Disabled Voters (BK Reader)
- NY to Offer More Accessible Absentee Ballots for **Voters with Disabilities** (City Limits)
- This week's biggest Winners & Losers (City & State)
- Los votantes ciegos y discapacitados podrán votar por correo de forma accesible / Blind and disabled voters granted accessible absentee ballot (Bronx Free Press)
- Voters with disabilities score big win in settlement with BOE over vote-by-mail accessibility (Bronx Times)
- 504 Looks At MOPD With Series On Future (Able News)
- Mental-Health Concerns Are Out Of The Closet (Able News)

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• Columbia Daily Spectator (Columbia Daily Spectator)