



**Quick Takes**

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

**Manhattan**

841 Broadway, #301  
New York, NY 10003  
212/674-2300 Tel  
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**Queens**

80-02 Kew Gardens Rd, #100  
Kew Gardens, NY 11415  
646/442-1520 Tel  
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## **CIDNY July 2022 Newsletter**

### **Hello from CIDNY**

Hello! Thank you for taking the time to read our July 2022 newsletter. Happy Disability Pride Month!

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](mailto: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](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/)

TikTok: [https://www.tiktok.com/@cid\\_ny](https://www.tiktok.com/@cid_ny)

YouTube:

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

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## CIDNY Manhattan Office Address Change!

We've moved! Our new Manhattan office address is now 1010 Avenue of the Americas Suite 301 New York, NY 10018 (with the entrance on 38<sup>th</sup> Street). Please note that there are still no in-person meetings at this time. We'll be sure to let you know when the Manhattan office opens and look forward to welcoming you to the space!

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## Landmark MTA Accessibility Agreement

On June 22, 2022 disability advocates, including CIDNY, reached a historic agreement with the MTA to make the NYC subway accessible to people who need stair-free access. While there still more work to be done, this is the first time that a minimum investment has been set aside for this work.

CIDNY's executive director Dr. Sharon McLennon-Wier said "It is my pleasure as an advocate for accessibility, after

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decades of advocacy and hard work by disability-related stakeholders, to celebrate the commitment to access for all who use New York City's subway system operated by the MTA. Everyone who lives, works, or visits New York City and our amazing state will benefit from the promise of universal access that our work with the MTA on this settlement agreement will afford our community. This took a collaborative approach and dedication by numerous disability advocates who envisioned a more accessible city for all New Yorkers."

You can read more about this at  
<https://dralegal.org/press/mta-settlement/>.

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## Primary Election Voter Survey

You can help us spot problems that need to be resolved before the November Election. If you voted in the primary election on Tuesday, June 28, or voted early please complete CIDNY's Post Vote Survey. Your help in identifying problems means that we can work to get them resolved. Every voter experience that we hear about – including the good ones – makes a difference in our efforts to improve our election process! Please complete the survey at  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022PrimarySurvey>.



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If you cannot complete our survey online, or have concerns that were not covered by the survey, call Monica Bartley at 347-922-1358. Monica can help you complete the survey over the phone or take any complaints that are not covered in the survey.

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## Free COVID-19 Home Tests For People Who Are Blind/Low Vision

Free, accessible, COVID-19 at-home tests are now available for people who are blind or low vision. You can order two free tests by calling 1-800-232-0233 or filling out the form at this link:

<https://special.usps.com/testkits/accessible>.

CIDNY is also working with the Disability Vaccine Access Opportunities Center (DVAO Center) to help make sure we're all staying safe and have the correct information about COVID-19 and vaccines.

If you need help getting the first vaccine or a booster, making an appointment, or just have questions about the vaccine and what you've heard, reach out to us. Find a vaccine at [vaccinefinder.nyc.gov](https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov).

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## **CIDNY's Action Network Meeting**

Join us on Wednesday July 20, 2022, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. for our monthly CAN meeting. This month we will be focusing on advocacy updates. We also want to hear about your voting experiences from the June Primary Elections.

Please RSVP by calling David at 212-674-2300 or by sending an email to [dpolanco@cidny.org](mailto:dpolanco@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).

CAN call in number +1-929-436-2866 Meeting ID: 822 4354 9762 Password: 090870

Closed captioning will be provided. If you need accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know by July 13, 2022.



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## Telehealth Services Survey Extended

The New York State Health Department is conducting a survey about telehealth services, whether you have used them or not. Telehealth is a way to provide professional medical care over the phone or through video, where you may not even have to leave your home. This survey has been extended through the end of August. You can complete the survey at this link:

[https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/telehealth\\_survey/](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/telehealth_survey/)

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## Get Health Care

No matter what your health needs are, you may qualify for free or low-cost health insurance through Medicaid! Different life changes may qualify you to get health care even when open enrollment is closed.

This includes things like having a child, becoming single, transitioning from a parent's insurance, and more. Learn more about your options and see if you qualify anytime online at <https://www.healthcare.gov/>. If you need help or have questions, just reach out to us and we'll be happy to help you.

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## **New York Public Library Disability Pride Accessible Events**

The New York Public Library is celebrating Disability Pride Month with a series of events. This includes accessible tours of the Polonsky Exhibition of The New York Public Library's Treasures, listed below.

- ASL interpreted tours, assistive listening devices also available | July 6 | 10:30 AM & 11:30 AM
- Live verbal description and touch tours with 3D and embossed tactiles. | July 13 | 10:30 AM & 11:30 AM
- Sensory friendly visiting hours for adults | July 20 | 10 AM–12 Noon
- Sensory friendly visiting hours for kids and families | July 27 | 10 AM–12 Noon

Reservations are suggested but not required. If you would like to reserve a spot at your preferred time or request an accommodation, email [visitorexperience@nypl.org](mailto:visitorexperience@nypl.org). Learn more at <https://www.nypl.org/spotlight/disability-pride-month>.

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## CIDNY In The News

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

- [Disability Advocates & MTA Reach Historic Settlement to Make NYC Subway Accessible to People Who Need Stair-Free Access](#) (Legal Reader)
- [Transit Briefs: Amtrak, LACMTA, Metrolinx, New York MTA, TransLink](#) (Railway Age)
- [MTA to make subway stations accessible under lawsuit settlement](#) (Disability Insider)
- [Disability Advocates to Survey NYC Polling Places for Accessibility](#) (En Español) (Public News Service)
- [Landmark settlement to make 95% of NYC subways accessible for people with disabilities by 2055](#) (Staten Island Advance)
- [A Playground For Everyone](#) (Chelsea News)
- [Mental Health for Students With Disabilities](#) (Able News)
- [NYSILC HOF Welcomes Five Advocates](#) (Able News)