

CIDNY December 2022 Newsletter

Hello from CIDNY

Hello! Thank you for taking the time to read our December 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/>.

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

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cidnyinc/>

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

YouTube:

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

In-Person Visits Now Available By Appointment Only

In case you missed it, CIDNY is now accepting in-office visits at our Manhattan and Queens offices by appointment only. **You must schedule an appointment to be seen.** We are unable to see any walk-in visitors at this time. Without an appointment will be unable to see you, so please be sure to schedule and confirm an appointment if you would like to meet with a benefits counselor. If you would like to schedule an appointment at our Manhattan office, please call 212-674-2300. If you would like to schedule an appointment at our Queens office please call 646-442-1520.

Please note that our new Manhattan office address is 1010 Avenue of the Americas Suite 301 New York, NY 10018 (with the entrance on 38th Street).

CIDNY's Action Network (CAN) Meeting

Join us on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. for the monthly CAN meeting.

Our CIDNY Intern will share the findings on the survey of CAN members, the issues you care about and the policy areas you would like CIDNY to focus on.

We will also give a brief summary of items for the 2023 Budget and Legislative season in Albany.

We will meet in person at the Queens office at 80-02 Kew Gardens Road, Suite 400 Kew Gardens, NY 11415 (between 80th Road and Union Turnpike).

To attend an in-person meeting proof of COVID-19 vaccine and booster is required.

The virtual option will still be available.

Please RSVP by calling Adrienne White at 646-442-1520 or by sending an email to awhite@cidny.org and we will send you a link to the Zoom meeting closer to the date.

For Spanish please RSVP by calling Johanna Gonzalez at 646-442- 8096 or by sending an email to jgonzalez@cidny.org.

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

If you need accommodation, such as large print or interpretation services, please let us know by December 14, 2022. Closed captioning will be provided.

Fall is For Fundraising Campaign

Help CIDNY reach our goal of \$180,000 in new donations. We have served over 18,000 people this year and want to grow our capacity for the upcoming season. All donations, big and small, are appreciated. If you would like to donate, you can visit <https://www.cidny.org/donation>, or you can donate to our fundraiser on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/donate/5856806157671445/>. You can also create your own fundraiser on Facebook and Instagram to support CIDNY!

You can also create a team on GiveButter and if raise \$100 or more, we will send you a CIDNY shirt as a thank you for your fundraising!

- Click on the CIDNY GiveButter link at <https://givebutter.com/1wUocb>
- Click "Donate" on the top right hand corner to provide a general donation
- Click the "Fundraise" button in the bottom left corner of the screen and enter your information. This will have you create your own "team."

- This will give you a custom donation page and link to share on your social media pages and people can donate directly to your campaign.

If you shop with Amazon, but sure to sign up for Amazon Smile (<https://smile.amazon.com/>) and selected Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York as your charity recipient. CIDNY will received a small portion of the sales order, at no additional cost to you!

Education Workshops and Events

Join us and learn more! For the month of December 2022, the Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY (CIDNY) will be presenting the workshops and events below. The workshops may also be recorded for future use in communications materials, websites, and for other purposes by CIDNY. Please visit our website for an updated list of events for November and beyond at <https://www.cidny.org/calendar/>.

Disability Rights and Awareness - Monkey pox, Polio, and Skin Health

Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 10 a.m.

CIDNY is partnering with AgeWell New York to provide a Disability Rights and Awareness Webinar on Monkey pox, Polio, and Skin Health.

Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84968084402>

Disability Rights and Awareness - Boosting Immunity

Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 3 p.m.

CIDNY is partnering with AgeWell New York to provide a Disability Rights and Awareness Webinar on Boosting Immunity.

Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86174962647>

FIDA-IDD Program and Home Care issues for People with I/DD

Friday, December 30, 2022, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

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 join with the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83722839445?pwd=cWdqUThzV0YvSnBxRmRGRlFhMDRkUT09>

RSVP:

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. If you cannot register, you can email RSVP@cidny.org for help or with questions.

Governor Hochul Signs Legislation to Protect Patients with Medical Debt

CIDNY was present at an End Medical Debt Town Hall at Brooklyn Borough Hall in November. CIDNY's executive director Dr. Sharon McLennon-Wier spoke at the event, while a CIDNY Action Network (CAN) member testified about their medical bills. Due to the combined efforts of activists, advocates, and allies, the Governor signed a bill that will help protect patients with medical debt. You can read more about that at

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-signs-legislation-protect-patients-medical-debt>.

This is great news, but there's still more work to be done! There is a virtual Medical Debt Campaign Forum on Tuesday, December 13 at 7 p.m. If you are interested, you can register here:

<https://www.mobilize.us/citizenactionny/event/543330/>.

Money Follows the Person / Opens Doors Programs Highlights

Money Follows the Person (MFP) is a Medicaid program that funds the Open Doors. Open Doors assists individuals living in nursing homes and intermediate care facilities who express a desire to explore options for living and receiving services in the community. What impact has it had? This "At-a-Glance" report at the link below shows some highlights.

Report:

https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/redesign/2020/docs/mfp_at_a_gance.pdf

If you would like out find out more about the Open Doors program at CIDNY, visit www.cidny.org/opendoors/.

COVID-19 Vaccines, Tests, and Information

CIDNY has been working with groups like the Disability Vaccine Access Opportunities Center (DVAO Center) to help make sure we're all staying safe. Some social media sites have suspended moderation of COVID-19 misinformation, so it is more important than ever to make sure you have the right information. If you need help getting the first vaccine or a booster, making an appointment, or have questions about the vaccine and what you've heard, please reach out to us.

If you would like to schedule a vaccine appointment, visit vaccinefinder.nyc.gov or call 877-829-4692.

CIDNY In The News

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

- [Understanding When To Ask For Help](#) (Able News)
- [Disabled New Yorkers File Lawsuit Against MTA Over Subway Gaps](#) (Huffington Post)