CIDNY April 2024 Newsletter

Hello from CIDNY

Thank you for taking the time to read our April 2024 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 have not already.
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CIDNYInc/
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If you would like to support CIDNY with a donation, you can do so here: https://www.cidny.org/donation/.
CIDNY's Consumer Action Network (CAN) Meeting

Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. online via Zoom

Please join our Consumer Action Network (CAN) meeting in April for a variety of topics, including congestion pricing. This event will be online only through Zoom.

Please RSVP in advance at: www.tinyurl.com/CIDNY4All or email Mbacke Thiam at mthiam@cidny.org. For more information, please call 212-674-2300. If you need accommodation like large print, American Sign Language (ASL), or materials in other languages, please let us know as soon as possible.

CIDNY's Annual Mental Health Fundraiser on May 20, 2024

Since 1978, the Center for Independence of Disabled New York (CIDNY) has worked to ensure full integration, independence, and equal opportunity for all New Yorkers with disabilities, by removing barriers to the social, economic, cultural, and civic life of the community.
People with disabilities experience significant challenges trying to navigate an ablebodied society. CIDNY focuses on seven areas of advocacy: physical health, mental health, housing, education, employment, voting, and transportation. I’m reaching out today to invite you to our annual fundraiser to help us advance our mission, and because we have a great opportunity for you to join us.

Our annual fundraiser in May, Mental Health Awareness Month, will raise awareness and funds for crucial initiatives for our consumers. The event will take place on May 20, 2024, from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Perelman Arts Center in the World Trade Center. The Perelman Arts Center is a new innovative theatre space crafted by a world-class team of award-winning architects and designers.

Please join us for an evening of performances by Broadway artists, raffles, cocktails, light bites, vendors, and a keynote address by NYC Public Advocate Jumaane Williams.

For tickets, please visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cidnys-annual-mental-health-fundraiser-tickets-852427432397?aff=oddtdtcreator

For sponsorship opportunities, please visit: https://www.cidny.org/2024-sponsorship-opportunities
If you have any questions about this event, please contact Makenzi Cooley at mcooley@cidny.org or 646-519-0339.


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**FREE Vaccine Events (Flu, COVID-19, RSV Vaccines)**

Protect your health and the people you love! CIDNY is hosting upcoming vaccine clinics, providing no-cost vaccines for Flu, COVID-19, and RSV in Manhattan and Queens. Vaccines are available to anyone entirely free, no health insurance required! Recipients can receive a $50 Amazon E-gift card for getting vaccinated.

The Manhattan location will be outside of CIDNY’s Manhattan office at 1010 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10018. Look for the Mobile Health minibus next to CIDNY’s office on the corner of W 38th Street and Sixth Ave (Avenue of the Americas).

The Queens location will be outside CIDNY’s Queens office at 80-02 Kew Gardens Rd Queens, NY 11415. Look for the Mobile Health minibus next to CIDNY’s office on the corner of 80 Rd and Kew Gardens.
Vaccine Clinics will be held from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on the below dates.

- Saturday, April 6, 2024, Manhattan
- Saturday, April 13, 2024, Queens

A full list of events can be found online at [https://www.cidny.org/calendar/](https://www.cidny.org/calendar/)

If you have any questions, please call 212-674-2300 or email cspaulding@cidny.org

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**Upcoming Public Information Events**

CIDNY staff will be at the public events below. Stop by and say hello to learn more about some of our programs.

**Kingsborough Community College Resource Fair** (Public)
Thursday, April 4, 2024, 12 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Location: Kingsborough Community College, 2001 Oriental Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11235, 1st Floor of the “P Building” in the “The Cove”

The CUNY LEADS Program at Kingsborough Community College is hosting a resource fair for Students with disabilities. There should be free parking on campus.
The campus is accessible by subway – B train to Sheepshead Bay, bus – B49 to campus). The event will be on the first floor of the “P Building” in the “The Cove.”

**Staten Island Town Hall to Save Education Programs** (Public)
Thursday, April 4, 2024, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Location: Goodhue Community Center, 304 Prospect Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301

Join Council Member Joseph, Council Member Hanks, and the Emergency Coalition to Save Education Programs to learn about the many NYC education programs on the chopping block – and what we can do to save them. Please register at [https://forms.office.com/r/SWEessDAW5](https://forms.office.com/r/SWEessDAW5) (English) or [https://forms.office.com/r/DggYa3QDqD](https://forms.office.com/r/DggYa3QDqD) (Spanish).

**Brooklyn Developmental Disability Resource Fair hosted by Brooklyn Public Library** (Public)
Monday, April 15, 2024, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Location: Greenpoint Library 107 Norman Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11222

An NY Connects team member will be on site to share information about the NY Connects program at CIDNY, along with other staff and programs from CIDNY.
Staten Island Economic Development Corp
Business Conference (Public)
Thursday, April 18, 2024, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Hilton Garden Inn, 1100 South Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10314

An NY Connects team member will be on site to share information about the NY Connects program at CIDNY.

Queens Town Hall to Save Education Programs (Public)
Thursday, April 18, 2024, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Location: Elmhurst Hospital, Auditorium A1-22, 79-01 Broadway, Elmhurst, NY 11373

Join NYC Council Members and the Emergency Coalition to Save Education Programs to learn about the many NYC education programs on the chopping block – and what we can do to save them. Please register at https://forms.office.com/r/kqeLqeYMrp (English) or https://forms.office.com/r/QB1Q9hwp9J (Spanish).
Staten Island Developmental Disabilities Council (SIDDC) Family Resource Fair (Public)
Friday, April 19th, 2024, 9 a.m.
United Federation of Teachers, 1200 South Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10314

An NY Connects team member will be on site to share information about the NY Connects program at CIDNY.

Brooklyn Public Library Community Information Fair, Jamaica Bay (Public)
Saturday, April 20th, 2024, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Location: Jamaica Bay Library, Meeting Room 9727
Seaview Ave. (at East 98th Street near Rockaway Pkwy

An NY Connects team member will be on site to share information about the NY Connects program at CIDNY.

Choose Healthy Life Program Health Fair (Open - Public)
April 20th, 2024, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
St. Mark AMC Church, 95-18 Northern Blvd., Jackson Heights, NY 11372

An NY Connects team member will be on site to share information about the NY Connects program at CIDNY.
NYC Civic Engagement Commission’s The People’s Money Compensated Housing Workshops

CIDNY is hosting a series of Housing workshops each Tuesday and Thursday, now through August, supported with public funds through NYC Civic Engagement Commission’s The People’s Money participatory budgeting program.

Participants will receive a $50 Amazon E-Gift Card if all requirements of the workshop are met. Requirements: Audio & Video On, Active Participation, Pre-Survey Completed, Post Survey Completed. Events this month include:

**Disability Literacy Workshop**
Tuesday, April 2, 2024, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

This presentation covers multiple disability related topics and explains how to navigate obligations for accommodating individuals with disabilities. This training will examine both what is mandated, by law, and best practices for creating an inclusive environment. This includes providing practical steps to help people choose inclusive actions, improve cultural competency, and
address personal biases. Specifically, the training is designed to provide people with a greater understanding as to what constitutes as discrimination, proper etiquette, and awareness. This workshop occurs every first Tuesday on 4/2, 5/7, 6/4, 7/2, and 8/6.

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAkf-6prjIoGNamBJipErzEOUeG4_xpwEt2

**Fair Housing Act Workshop**
Thursday, April 4, 2024, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

This presentation covers the history of the Fair Housing Act. The Fair Housing Act protects people from discrimination when they are renting or buying a home, getting a mortgage, seeking housing assistance, or engaging in other housing-related activities. This workshop occurs every first Thursday on 4/4, 5/2, 6/6, 7/3 (Holiday Excep.), and 8/1.

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwt-2pqjsoGt3mIWrfDMOF7z9H2IRblROE
Fair Housing Act Workshop  
Tuesday, April 9, 2024, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

This presentation covers an overview about NYC’s Affordable Housing Lottery. You’ll learn the basics of the following: what NYC Housing Connect is; how to read an affordable housing lottery’s advertisement; who is eligible and what the qualifications are; what the application process is; what documents and materials are needed; what set-aside units for people with disabilities are; where to indicate disability; how to indicate a reasonable accommodation(s) on your profile, if you need a reasonable accommodation(s); and more. This workshop occurs every second Tuesday on 4/9, 5/14, 6/11, 7/9, and 8/13.

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsCc-mvqDouH90MbtqWeHa8_x_Q_U60oZWl

Housing Rights and Discrimination Workshop  
Thursday, April 11, 2024, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

This presentation covers an overview about fighting housing discrimination in New York (NY). You’ll learn the basics of the following: what types of general housing discrimination assistance are available, such as FHJC assists clients with filing housing discrimination complaints
and investigates allegations of discrimination based on any protected characteristic (e.g., race, national origin, source of income, disability, etc.); what the Adele Friedman Housing Accessibility Fund, which FHJC provides targeted financial assistance to benefit low and moderate income persons with disabilities who need reasonable modifications made to the housing they occupy to make it accessible, is; who is eligible and what the qualifications for the Adele Friedman Housing Accessibility Fund are; how to report discrimination and/or request an application; and more. This workshop occurs every second Thursday on 4/11, 5/9, 6/13, 7/8, and 8/8.

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0qndeGrrzkpHNKvQL0sNavGt7V_SMvia-fo

**Olmstead Housing Subsidy Workshop**
Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

This program covers the Olmstead Housing Subsidy (OHS). OHS is a rental housing subsidy program that provides transitional housing support to Medicaid beneficiaries with a disability that have lived, or currently live in a nursing home. The funding was made available as part of the Medicaid Redesign Team’s Supportive Housing Workgroup initiative to help address the needs of eligible Medicaid participants in transitioning from Skilled Nursing
Facility settings. This workshop occurs every third Tuesday on 4/16, 5/21, 6/18, 7/16, and 8/20.

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkc-urrjosG9Xvee26LI31bYJKDHXHvmvi

**Homebase Workshop**
Tuesday, April 23, 2024, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

This workshop covers Homebase. Homebase provides New Yorkers experiencing housing instability in the community with various homeless prevention services and aftercare services to families and individuals exiting NYC DHS shelter to permanent housing. Homebase locations are servicing clients either via phone or for in-person services. Anyone seeking Homebase services should call the office in advance to schedule an appointment. This workshop occurs every fourth Tuesday on 4/23, 5/28, 6/25, 7/23, and 8/27.

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvcOGuqzooGtIGyirkb8Kzqndp44BQL7vb
ReelAbilities Film Festival Is Back In New York

The Reel Abilities Film Festival (dedicated to promoting awareness and appreciation of the lives, stories and artistic expressions of people with disabilities) is back in April. Check out the lineup and festival information at https://reelabilities.org/newyork

April Primary Election Voting Survey

If you voted in the Primary Election on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, 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’s experience that we hear about – including the good ones – makes a difference in our efforts to improve our election process.

If you cannot complete the survey online or have concerns that were not covered by the survey, call Tashia Lerebours at 646-436-9906 or tlerebours@cidny.org. Tashia can help you complete the survey over the phone or take any complaints that are not covered in the survey. Thank you.

MYCIL Study – Paid Opportunity

CIDNY is conducting the MYCIL Research Study, for which we are actively seeking participants. Our target demographic is Minority Youth aged 14-24 who are out of school, with or without employment, and who face a disability and barriers to employment. Space is limited and we are in search of 100 participants. Participants in the study can earn $105.

For more information, visit https://www.cidny.org/mycil-research-2024/.

SKOAP Study – Paid Opportunity

If you are 18 or older, have been diagnosed with osteoarthritis in one or both knees and experience pain most days you could benefit from the SKOAP research study.

SKOAP is a national study funded by The Helping to End Addiction Long-term® Initiative and the National Institutes of Health that compares non-opioid pain treatments with the goal of reducing knee osteoarthritis pain and improving function to find out what treatments work best for which patients.
If you are interested in the research study, you can fill out a pre-qualifying form. Participants in the SKOAP study may also earn up to $550 for completing the study.

To fill out a brief qualifying form and find a site near you visit skoapstudy.org

CIDNY In The News

Check out some our recent media coverage, linked below.

- East New York community calling for changes to local LIRR station (News 12)
- Bronx beep hosts first Disability Advisory Council Meet and Greet (Bronx Times)
- Tribeca Pediatrics Move To Jamaica Avenue and Celebrate With Community Baby Shower (Queens Ledger)
- #605 CIDNY CIDNY – Championing Disability Rights (Great Talks)
- Empower Disabled Women to Be Safe (Able News)