

## **CIDNY Queens August 2025 Newsletter**

### **Hello from CIDNY**

Thank you for taking the time to read CIDNY's August 2025 newsletter.

If you know someone who would like to receive our email newsletter, please forward this or have them sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/r/5FCJP8Auiv>.

Please note that the information in this newsletter is subject to change. If you have any questions, please call or email us. You can view this newsletter on our website at <https://www.cidny.org/cidny-quick-takes/> where you can access accessibility options such as changing font size, changing background color, and more through the Recite Me app (icon in the bottom-right corner of the CIDNY webpage).

Please Like/Follow CIDNY on social media if you have not already.

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Bluesky: <https://bsky.app/profile/cidnyinc.bsky.social>

If you would like to support CIDNY with a donation, you can do so here:  
<https://www.cidny.org/donation/>.

[Click here to view CIDNY's Rights and Responsibilities and Grievance Policy.](#)

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### **Join Us for CIDNY's Gala on October 27, 2025 – Early Bird Tickets Available Now**

Join us for CIDNY's Annual Gala on Monday, October 27, 2025 to support greater accessibility throughout New York City. Tickets are available now. Get your tickets at the early bird price before the price increase on September 1!

Since 1978, the Center for Independence of the 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 able-bodied society. CIDNY focuses on seven areas of advocacy: physical health,

mental health, housing, education, employment, voting, and transportation. We are inviting you to our annual fundraiser to help us advance our mission.

The event will take place on Monday, October 27, 2025, from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. once again taking place at the Perelman Arts Center (PAC NYC) located at 251 Fulton Street New York, NY 10007.

Featuring food and drink from Metropolis by Chef Marcus Samuelsson.

**Date:** Monday, October 27, 2025, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**Location:** Perelman Performing Arts Center (PAC NYC), 251 Fulton Street New York, NY 10007

**Keynote Speaker:** Emmy and Peabody Award-winning journalist Geraldo Rivera

For more information and/or to get tickets, visit: <https://www.cidny.org/cidny2025gala/>

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## **CIDNY's Consumer Action Network (CAN) Meeting**

Wednesday, August 20, 2025, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

August's CAN advocacy meeting will focus on the accessibility of public housing for people with disabilities and the expansion of the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) programs.

Please RSVP in advance at <https://www.tinyurl.com/CIDNY4All> or by emailing Mbacke Thiam at [mthiam@cidny.org](mailto:mthiam@cidny.org). If you need accommodation like large print, American Sign Language (ASL), or materials in other languages, please let us know as soon as possible and at least two weeks in advance. For more information, please call 212-674-2300. Thank you!

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## **Upcoming CIDNY and Public Information Events**

Below are some upcoming CIDNY events and public events where you can speak with staff from CIDNY. Stop by and say hello to learn more about some of our programs. For all events, please visit <https://www.cidny.org/calendar>.

### **2nd Annual NYS Digital Equity Network Conference: Advancing Access Through Collective Advocacy**

Tuesday, August 5, 2025, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. (Conference) / 4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (Networking Social with Cocktails)

Location: Center of Excellence for Wireless and Information Technology 1500 Stony Brook Road Stony Brook, NY 11794-6040

Join digital equity leaders from across New York State at Stony Brook University on August 5, 2025 for a high-impact day of learning, collaboration, and advocacy. The NYSDEN Annual Conference brings together practitioners, policymakers, funders, and grassroots organizations to explore bold solutions for expanding digital access and opportunity in every region. Please note this is not a CIDNY-run event.

More info: <https://nysden.org/conference/>

### **Career Workshops**

Thursday, August 7, 2025, 3 p.m.

Thursday, August 14, 2025, 3 p.m.

Thursday, August 21, 2025, 3 p.m.

Thursday, August 28, 2025, 3 p.m.

CIDNY is offering no-cost workshops catered to people with disabilities to find employment and overcome barriers. Weekly interactive workshops will include: current job market, vocational skills, resume writing, interview preparation, mock interviews, job coaching, technology in the workplace, advocacy and reasonable accommodations/legal rights, and more.

RSVP: <https://forms.office.com/r/LXiN9bmbsq>

### **2025 Good Health Day Resource Fair**

August 9, 2025, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Location: Charles B. Wang Community Health Center, 137-43 45th Ave., Flushing, NY 11355

Stop by to learn more about services from the NY Connects program at CIDNY. Please note this is not a CIDNY-run event.

### **Save Medicaid and Access to Health Care**

Wednesday, August 13, 2025, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Location: 25 Hyatt St. #201 Staten Island, NY 10301 (CIDNY's Staten Island office) and online via Zoom

Please join our Consumer Action Network – Staten Island (CANSI) meeting for a discussion on the impact of Medicaid Cuts and our advocacy to protect people with disabilities.

RSVP at: <https://forms.office.com/r/ALMWUbcY1s> or by emailing Mbacke Thiam at [mthiam@cidny.org](mailto:mthiam@cidny.org). For more information, please call [212-674-2300](tel:212-674-2300).

### **Workshop: Spotting the Scammers – Financial Literacy Workshop**

Wednesday, August 20, 2025, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

You have the power to outsmart the scammers. Incidents of financial fraud are on the rise — and are becoming increasingly harder to detect. While no one is immune, there are steps you can take to outsmart the scammers. Join us for this presentation and learn about the following strategies: how to spot certain red flags that may indicate a fraudulent encounter, resources you can use if you become a victim of fraud, steps you can take now to help protect yourself and your loved ones. Presented by: Isaac McCabe, Financial Advisor. Participants will receive a \$25 Amazon E-Gift Card for attending the full 1-hour workshop with your camera on. This workshop is supported with public funds through the NYC Civic Engagement Commission's The People's Money participatory budgeting program.

Register here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/HT1NFY\\_5Simncw4BljUsAw](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/HT1NFY_5Simncw4BljUsAw)

### **Beyond The Abuse's 7th Annual Queens Resource/Book Fair**

August 23, 2025, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Location: THE HARVEST ROOM 90-40 160th St Jamaica, NY 11432

Stop by to learn more about services from the NY Connects program at CIDNY. Please note this is not a CIDNY-run event.

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### **Join the PREVENTABLE Study Webinar**

The Center for Independence of the Disabled is collaborating with Duke Clinical Research Institute to help get the word out about the largest dementia prevention study in the United States.

The PREVENTABLE Study, led by Duke Clinical Research Institute, aims to investigate whether statins, commonly used to lower cholesterol, could potentially help prevent dementia in individuals aged 75 and older.

If you or someone you care for is aged 75 or older, please join this virtual presentation with one of the researchers from PREVENTABLE. During the virtual seminar via Zoom, you will hear directly from one of the researchers and you will be able to ask questions. The webinar is less than 30 minutes, and it is presented in English.

We value your support in advancing healthcare and clinical research and hope this information can benefit you, your family, and your friends.

Secure your spot in the virtual seminar via Zoom on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at [https://bit.ly/PREVENTABLE\\_CIDNY](https://bit.ly/PREVENTABLE_CIDNY)

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## **ADA35 – March for Disability Justice**

On July 26, 2025, the 35th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, CIDNY joined numerous organizations and advocates for the ADA35 Protest, Rally, and March. Advocates marched to demand disability rights. We have come so far, yet we have so much further to go. We strive for a world without barriers. A New York City and a world that is truly accessible for all. We've said it before and we'll keep saying it: nothing about us, without us! A big thank you goes to the great photographers who helped document this event, including Erik McGregor, Jackie Rudin, and Robert Helman.

You can see some photos from this event at our Instagram account here: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DMyHn5ixjj9/>.

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## **Share Your Story and Help Save Medicaid**

Medicaid is facing drastic cuts! If you are a Medicaid recipient who lives on Staten Island or Bay Ridge, Bensonhurst, or Dyker Heights in Brooklyn, you can play a role in helping save Medicaid and access to health care through the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

We are collecting stories on why Medicaid matters! We'll share these stories with the public and elected officials to showcase how important Medicaid is. If you have a POSITIVE story on how Medicaid has helped you or your friends or family, please consider sharing your story with us through the link below.

Share here: <https://forms.office.com/r/3RwK3m6ZtC>

If you have a positive Medicaid story and live elsewhere in NYC, you can still share your story by emailing [mthiam@cidny.org](mailto:mthiam@cidny.org).

We will also be hosting a Save Medicaid and Access to Health Care (ACA) event at our Staten Island office on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 1 p.m., and online over Zoom. For more information about that event, please email [mthiam@cidny.org](mailto:mthiam@cidny.org). Please RSVP for this event at: <https://forms.office.com/r/ALMWUbcY1s>.

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## **Disability Rising Fellowship**

The message below is about the Disability Rising Fellowship from the Disability Culture Lab.

The Disability Rising Fellowship is a year-long program that supports rising multi-marginalized disabled leaders who are ready to build their public voice and create cultural change. We are looking for fellows working across social movements and issue areas, as we believe every issue is a disability issue. But we need your work to connect the dots on why your issue is a disability issue.

Fellows receive hands-on training in media, storytelling, and narrative strategy to amplify their message and vision.

Through workshops, coaching, and mentorship, the fellowship helps leaders step into the spotlight and shift how disability is seen, heard, and valued in the world.

For more information or to apply, visit  
<https://www.disabilityculturelab.org/disabilityrising>.

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## **Update: Notice Of Proposed Settlement – Library Access Suit**

Below are documents related to a proposed settlement in the Queens library access lawsuit. The two documents are linked so you can access them online at our website at <https://www.cidny.org/litigation-updates/>.

Long form notice - AVISO DE ACUERDO CONCILIATORIO PROPUESTO EN UNA DEMANDA COLECTIVA- Jackson, et al. v. Queens Borough Public Library, et al. Caso No. 19-cv-6656-DG-ST

Short form notice - AVISO DE ACUERDO CONCILIATORIO PROPUESTO EN UNA DEMANDA COLECTIVA - Jackson, et al. v. Queens Borough Public Library, et al. Caso No. 19-cv-6656-DG-ST

If you would like to join the conference hearing about this case/settlement, you can do so on Thursday, October 9, 2025, at 12 p.m. by dialing 571-353-2301 and using ID# 179933855.

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## **Jobs at CIDNY – Come Work With Us!**

We have a few open jobs at CIDNY. Below is a list of our current open roles. Please visit <https://www.cidny.org/jobs/> for more information, full job descriptions, and our most recent job listings. Come join our team, help fellow New Yorkers, and get great benefits!

- [Administrative Assistant](#)
  - [Data Specialist](#)
  - [Director of Vocational Employment Rehabilitation](#)
  - [Health Care Advocate / Attorney](#)
  - [LTCOP Ombudsman Advocate/Brooklyn Nursing Homes](#)
  - [OHS Housing Specialist](#)
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## **CIDNY In The News**

Check out some of our recent media coverage, linked below. You can always see CIDNY in the news stories at <https://www.cidny.org/media-coverage>.

- [July marks ADA's 35-year anniversary CIDNY leader on past progress, future goals this Disability Pride Month](#) (Queens Chronicle)
- [Disability-Rights Non-Profit Organization CIDNY Celebrates Accessibility and Strives for a Fully Accessible NYC](#) (Global Heroes)
- [Rally held outside Malliotakis's office after her vote for 'Big, Beautiful Bill,' U.S. Rep. lists its benefits](#) (Brooklyn Daily Eagle)
- [New York State Supreme Court pilot program in Manhattan makes justice accessible](#) (amNY)
- [Health Care, Disability Groups Protest Malliotakis Vote on Big Beautiful Bill](#) (BK Reader)

- 'Big Beautiful Cuts': Protestors blast Malliotakis over healthcare 'Poison Pill' (Brooklyn Paper)
- Protesters gather in Brooklyn over federal Medicaid cuts (WPIX)
- Medicaid Cuts Would Devastate Older Adults and People with Disabilities (The Staten Islander)
- Medicaid Cuts Would Devastate People with Disabilities and Older Adults in NYC (The Village View)