

CIDNY Queens July 2025 Newsletter

Hello from CIDNY

Thank you for taking the time to read CIDNY's July 2025 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/>.

Information in this newsletter can always 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 lower right corner of the webpage).

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

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

Twitter: https://twitter.com/CID_NY

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

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cidnyinc/>

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.](#)

CIDNY's Consumer Action Network (CAN) Meeting

Friday, July 25, 2025, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Join CIDNY and a number of invited elected officials to celebrate the 35th anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act for a discussion on accessibility and inclusion of people with disabilities in NYC.

Please RSVP in advance at <https://www.tinyurl.com/CIDNY4All> or by emailing Mbacke Thiam at 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!

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>.

Career Workshops

Thursday, July 3, 2025, 3 p.m.

Thursday, July 10, 2025, 3 p.m.

Thursday, July 17, 2025, 3 p.m.

Thursday, July 24, 2025, 3 p.m.

Thursday, July 31, 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>

Know Your Fair Housing Rights Workshop

Wednesday, July 16, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Join CIDNY and the Fair Housing Justice Center for an informative session. Our presentation covers: A brief history of fair housing and residential segregation, fair housing laws and protections at the federal, state, and local levels, the impact of race and national origin discrimination in housing, how individuals can recognize and respond to discriminatory practices, and resources and actions to advocate for fair treatment in housing. Participants will receive a \$25 Amazon E-Gift Card for attending the full 1-hour workshop with camera on.

RSVP: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/vcOKUJp_RP2Qv-bO_xmSbA

Workshop: Simplifying Saving and Spending – Financial Literacy Workshop

Wednesday, July 23, 2025, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Balancing your expenses now can help you reach your financial goals later. Take control of your financial future. Our Simplify Your Spending and Saving Strategies presentation

can help you bring balance to your budget. You'll learn more about: setting personal financial goals, balancing saving, spending and borrowing to help achieve your goals, strategies for controlling debt and improving credit scores, practical savings options for now through retirement. Presented by: Isaac McCabe, Financial Advisor. Participants will receive \$25 Amazon E-Gift Card for attending the full 1-hour workshop with 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/XDhPOJIOSMqRD_P0UshO4A

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 they go up in price at the end of August!

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 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.

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/>

Take CIDNY's Post-Election Survey

If you voted in the election on Tuesday, June 24, 2025, or voted early or absentee, please complete CIDNY's post-vote survey about your experience. 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, contact CIDNY's Voting Community Organizer, Anna Humphrey, at **646-436-9906** or <mailto:ahumphrey@cidny.org>. Anna can help you complete the survey over the phone or take any complaints that are not covered in the survey.

Take the short survey here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/77wdZXqbuR>

Disability Pride Events

July is Disability Pride Month and there's no shortage of important events. CIDNY's CAN meeting on July 25 will be an ADA celebration, and we've shared a few other Disability Pride events below. There will be multiple disability pride events across the five boroughs so be sure to follow CIDNY on social media for updates! Please note these are not CIDNY run events.

Disability Unite Festival

Sunday, July 13, 2025, 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Location: Central Park Naumburg Bandshell

Join the sixth annual Disability Unite Festival, taking place July 13th at the Central Park Naumburg Bandshell and online at DisabilityUnite.org.

Register at the link below for free admission and visit DisabilityUnite.org for more information.

RSVP: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfP6DsqaAQddOvN49wCyApGjxYQI2HYOToorN4bEz_96Ledog/viewform

ADA35: The Future Is Disabled Rally And March

Saturday, July 26, 2025, 11 a.m.

Join us in a rally and march to celebrate and protect the American with Disabilities Act on its 35th Anniversary. For more information on this event, please email ada35nyc@gmail.com, visit <http://www.ada35nyc.org> (in progress), or follow @ada35nyc on [Instagram](#) or [Bluesky](#).

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.

You can also contact your local representative quickly and easily using the form below. Take a few minutes to help save Medicaid and access to health care:
<https://www.votervoice.net/NYAIL/campaigns/121713/respond>

Join CIDNY's Empowerment Group For People With Disabilities

Join us for an inspiring and transformative experience! Our next Empowerment Group for people with disabilities will start in August. Reach out now to reserve your spot!

CIDNY's empowering group meets online via Zoom every other Wednesday (time to-be-determined) for a total of eight sessions. This is your chance to connect with a supportive community where you can learn, grow, and share experiences. Our sessions focus on identity, self-acceptance, and the importance of building vital support networks in a welcoming environment.

What You Can Expect:

- Engaging discussions and activities
- Valuable resources and support
- A small group setting (6-8 participants) for meaningful interactions

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to be part of a transformative journey.

For more information contact Eric Blazsek, LMHC, MPA at eblazsek@cidny.org to find out about upcoming open groups.

Paid Research Opportunity: Health Care Experiences Of Pregnant People With Intellectual And Developmental Disabilities

The Rubenstein Lab at Boston University School of Public Health is conducting a study called, Policies for Reproductive Outcomes in Medicaid—Improving Services for Enrollees with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (PROMISE-IDD). The goal of the research study is to understand the health care experiences of pregnant people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to help improve the health care and health outcomes of pregnant people with IDD.

An eligible participant should:

- Have a documented IDD diagnosis
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Speak and understand English
- Be currently pregnant or have been pregnant in the past 10 years
- Have lived in the U.S. while pregnant
- Were enrolled in Medicaid during pregnancy

Selected participants will be interviewed for one to one and a half hours about their experience with pregnancy care. Participants will be provided with a \$50 Amazon visa gift card for their time.

You can learn more at <http://sites.bu.edu/rubenstein/promise-idd/> or contracting promidd@bu.edu through email.

Please note this is not a CIDNY study.

Notice Of Proposed Settlement – Library Access Suit

Below are documents related to a proposed settlement in the Queens library access lawsuit. All three documents are linked to access online and can also be found on our website at <https://www.cidny.org/litigation-updates/>.

[Jackson QBPL Full Agreement – Final](#)

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT - Jackson, et al. v. Queens Borough Public Library, et al. Case No. 19-cv-6656-DG-ST (E.D.N.Y.) - Long Form Notice

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT - Jackson, et al. v. Queens Borough Public Library, et al. Case No. 19-cv-6656-DG-ST (E.D.N.Y.) - Short Form Notice

Accredited Continuing Education Courses For NYS Licensed Mental Health Professionals

CIDNY is currently offering accredited Continuing Education (CE) courses for mental health professionals licensed in New York State. The courses, instructed by New York State licensed professionals, at CIDNY, will count towards satisfying the 36-credit-hour continuing education credits that are required by the New York State Licensure Board for triannual renewal for licensure. The program currently offers accredited courses to NYS licensed practitioners holding LMSW, LCSW, LMHC designations, as well as licensed psychologists.

If you or someone you know is a licensed mental health professional in New York State, please visit our website to find out more about our upcoming courses and support a non-profit organization while getting your required CE credits.

Upcoming courses include:

- History of Deinstitutionalization: July 2 - [Register here](#)
- Disability 101: July 16 - [Register here](#)
- Trauma and Disability: July 23 - [Register here](#)
- History of Deinstitutionalization: August 20 - [Register here](#)

For more information and available courses, please visit: <https://www.cidny.org/ce/>

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!

- [Data Specialist](#)
- [Director of Vocational Employment Rehabilitation](#)

- Health Care Advocate / Attorney
 - Independent Living Specialist
 - LTCOP Ombudsman Advocate/Brooklyn Nursing Homes
 - OHS Housing Specialist
 - Transition Specialist
-

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>.

- NYers with disabilities face impacts from Medicaid cuts (En Español) (Public News Service)
- NYC Mayoral Candidates Vary on Attention to Disability Issues (Able Newspaper)