

CIDNY March 2026 Newsletter

Hello from CIDNY

Thank you for taking the time to read CIDNY's March 2026 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.

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: In Person One-On-One Meetings Available

Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 1 p.m.

Join us for our next Consumer Action Network (CAN) Meeting on Wednesday, March 25. We'll be discussing housing accessibility as well as SCRIE (Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption) and DRIE (Disability Rent Increase Exemption).

We will also be hosting a housing clinic, offering one-on-one meetings with CIDNY benefits counselors and CIDNY's general counsel. We hope you will be able to come join us in person.

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>.

Digital Literacy Workshop: Android Phone Basics

Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: CIDNY Manhattan 1010 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 301, New York, NY 10018

This is a free course on android phone basics open to adults age 55+. A stipend available to first-time attendees. To register, please call Sara at [646-849-8303](tel:646-849-8303).

Career Workshops

Thursday, March 5, 2026, 3 p.m.

Thursday, March 12, 2026, 3 p.m.

Thursday, March 19, 2026, 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>

Digital Literacy Office Hours

Friday, March 6, 2026, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Friday, March 13, 2026, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Friday, March 20, 2026, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Friday, March 27, 2026, 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

This is a free open office hours event at CIDNY's Manhattan office (1010 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 301, New York, NY 10018) to learn the basics and build confidence

using technology. This event will occur on Fridays through May 22, 2026. These events are open to adults age 55+. RSVP is not required. For questions or more information, please call Sara at [646-849-8303](tel:646-849-8303).

Digital Literacy Workshop: Internet Basics

Tuesday, March 17, 2026, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: CIDNY Manhattan 1010 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 301, New York, NY 10018

This is a free course on internet basics open to adults age 55+. A stipend available to first-time attendees. To register, please call Sara at [646-849-8303](tel:646-849-8303).

Career Workshop: Optimizing Your Job Search with AI

Wednesday, March 25, 2026, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Join us for a special hybrid career workshop where you can come in person to CIDNY's Manhattan office or join with Zoom. Topics include: introduction to AI tools, using AI for resume review and improvement, AI and cover letters, and tips for using technology to support employment goals.

RSVP: <https://forms.office.com/r/PjrEmDdD62>

Digital Literacy Workshop: Cybersecurity Basics

Tuesday, March 31, 2026, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Location: CIDNY Manhattan 1010 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 301, New York, NY 10018

This is a free course on cybersecurity basics open to adults age 55+. A stipend available to first-time attendees. To register, please call Sara at [646-849-8303](tel:646-849-8303).

New Program: Access to Home and Access to Home for Heroes

We have a new program at CIDNY, [Access to Home and Access to Home for Heroes](#). The Access to Home and Access to Home for Heroes programs help individuals with disabilities, including veterans, make their homes safer and more accessible. Through this initiative, we assist eligible homeowners and renters with modifications that support mobility, independence, and quality of life.

The Access to Home for Heroes program allows us to focus more directly with veterans to help get them the assistance and upgrade they need.

From accessibility upgrades to essential home adaptations, our team works to ensure individuals can live safely and comfortably in the place they call home.

Access to Home and Access to Home for Heroes is funded by the New York State Homes and Community Renewal.

For more information, please contact us at [212-674-2300](tel:212-674-2300) or info@cidny.org

Queens Bus Network Redesign Survey

The MTA is seeking feedback on the recent Queens Bus Network Redesign, which is now six months old. How do you feel about the changes and new routes? Have you experienced any negative issues? Do you have positive feedback? You can fill out the survey at the link below to share your thoughts.

Survey: <http://mta.info/qbnrsurvey1>

Veterans Property Tax Exemption: Deadline March 16

Did you know that qualifying veterans and their family members are eligible for property tax breaks in New York City? The deadline to apply is Monday, March 16, 2026.

Applicants must have served in one of the following conflicts: Gulf War, Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, Vietnam War, Korean War, Cold War, World War I, or World War II. If you have questions about the program, please reach out to us at 212-674-2300 or info@cidny.org and someone from our Veteran Direct Care can help.

For more information, visit <https://www.nyc.gov/site/finance/property/landlords-veterans.page>.

Hunter College Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling Master's Program

We are sharing the below message from the folk at the Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling Program with Hunter College. The program is currently recruiting students for Fall admission and will be hosting online information session on March 31. The application deadline for Fall admission is April 15.

Are you passionate about social justice and supporting people who face life challenges? Consider a career as a Clinical Rehabilitation Counselor to help individuals with disabilities and other health conditions on their path to independence.

Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling:

- A specialized counseling field that focuses on serving individuals with disabilities (physical, developmental, cognitive, and psychiatric disabilities) to advance their well-being and maximize their independence.
- Graduates can become Certified Rehabilitation Counselors (CRC) through national certification.
- Career opportunities in a wide range of areas, such as State Vocational Rehabilitation Systems, hospitals, workforce development agencies, mental health organizations, and higher education disability services.

Program Highlights:

- New York City's only CACREP-accredited Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling master's program.
- 60-credit program completed in 2 to 5 years with part-time or full-time enrollment options.
- Evening and online classes to accommodate your daytime employment.

Eligibility and Admission Requirements:

- A bachelor's degree with a GPA of at least 2.7.
- Open to applicants with a wide range of academic backgrounds.
- Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.
- Statement of purpose and supplemental essay.
- Two letters of recommendation from professional and/or academic references.

Application Deadline:

Fall 2026 Term: Priority- March 15th, 2026, Extended- April 15th, 2026

Spring 2027 Term: October 15th, 2026

For more information, please contact Dr. Chu at yc1107@hunter.cuny.edu

Join CIDNY's Next Empowerment Group For People With Disabilities

We have a new group starting soon! Join us for an inspiring and transformative experience! Reach out now to reserve your spot in our next group.

This group meets online via Zoom weekly 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-D, MPA at eblazsek@cidny.org to find out about upcoming open groups.

Discount Tickets: Trash at PAC NYC

The folks at PAC NYC are sharing a discount to the new show, *Trash*, created by Deaf artists James Caverly and Andrew Morrill, who also star in the play.

About the show: Living together is one thing. Understanding each other? That can get messy. Tim and Jake may be Deaf roommates sharing an apartment in the city, but they're polar opposites—each with very different views on what it means to be Deaf in a hearing world. When it comes to taking out the trash, they spiral into a comic and insightful examination of their personal garbage—and their perceptions of each other's lives. Performed almost exclusively in ASL (American Sign Language), *Trash* employs surprising theatrical devices that allow all audiences to understand the play (and each other) in profoundly new ways.

Tickets and more information about the show can be found at:

<https://pacnyc.org/whats-on/trash/>

Use code TRASH20 during checkout to unlock \$20 tickets, limit 4 per order.

Accredited Continuing Education Courses For NYS Licensed Mental Health Professionals

Registration is available for upcoming 2026 continuing education courses! CIDNY is currently offering accredited Continuing Education (CE/CEU) courses for mental health professionals licensed in New York State (NYS). 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 of licensure. The program currently offers accredited courses to NYS licensed practitioners holding LMSW, LCSW, LMHC designations, with selected courses available for 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.

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 up-to-date job listings. Come join our team, help fellow New Yorkers, and get great benefits!

- [Director of Human Resources](#)
- [NY Connects Benefits Counselor - Brooklyn](#)
- [Queens Receptionist](#)
- [Transition Specialist](#)
- [Veteran Direct Care Independent Living 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>. You may have heard CIDNY recently on WNYC as well.

- Disability services nonprofit facing crisis while owed \$6 million in state contract payouts (Bronx Times)
- Power outages, piles of snow vexing parts of Northeast in snowstorm aftermath (Newsday)
- More snow falls on the Northeast US as the region scrambles to clear piles from last storm (AP)
- How to Get a Lower Fare on NYC Buses, Subways and Ferries (THE CITY)
- Icy Streets Strand Disabled New Yorkers (Able News)
- Dr. Sharon McLennon-Wier Brings Disability Advocacy to Mayor's Transition Team (Able News)