

Coalition of Institutionalized Aged & Disabled

Who we are:

The **Coalition of Institutionalized Aged and Disabled (CIAD)** is a group of adult home residents and resident councils working to help ourselves—increasing our individual autonomy, ensuring our rights are respected, strengthening our resident councils, and representing our interests and concerns on a public policy level with state and local officials.

This newsletter is a way for us to keep you informed and for you to keep other residents informed of council activities. Let us know what is going on in your home.

Some of the things we do...



We train **Peer Advocates** to run independent living skills workshops called **“Taking Control”** to help residents to be more independent in the home and/or in preparation to move into the community with support services.

In response to the **COVID-19** crisis which can be isolating for many people, **CIAD** created a **Support Line** where adult home residents can call in to talk to a Peer Advocate to feel more connected to the world outside the home, to get information and to talk about their concerns. The Peer Advocates are available on the Support Line **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9-11 am & 2-4 pm. The toll-free number is (866) 503-3332.**

Important information you should know:

[Voting Information for the Presidential Election](#)



If you are not registered to vote, you must register by **Oct. 9th** if you would like to vote in the November 2020 Presidential election. **If you have a NYS ID, you can go to [DMV.NY.gov](https://dmv.ny.gov) to register online. Type in voter registration in the search bar. Or go to [VOTE.NYC](https://vote.nyc.gov)**

Absentee Ballots will be mailed to registered voters starting **Sept. 18th**. If you do not receive one by **Oct. 1st**, you should call your local board of elections:

Queens (718) 730-6730, Bronx (718) 299-9017, Bklyn (718) 797-8800, Staten Island (718) 876-0079, Manhattan (212) 886-2100

Mail your absentee ballot out as soon as possible **or bring it to your poll site** on the dates listed below. Early voting starts **Oct. 24th to Nov. 1st**. Early voting **may be at a different site than your regular poll site for Nov. 3rd**. Contact the numbers above or check on-line at **www.vote.nyc.gov**. **using your zip code.**

COVID-19 update: We want to keep everyone safe!!!



Remember to wear a mask covering your nose and mouth when you leave your room, especially when you go outside. Maintain social distancing and avoid crowds as much as possible. Wash your hands thoroughly and often.

If you had the virus once, you are not necessarily immune. People have gotten sick twice, so be careful.

Stimulus Payments 2020

If you were eligible and received a \$1,200 Stimulus check from the federal government, remember, **the money is yours to do with as you wish, even if the home acts as your representative payee.** It does not count as income for Medicaid or SSI and does not affect your eligibility for these benefits. An adult home can **only collect money** it says you owe them from your stimulus check **if they have 1) previously provided written notification to you about it, and 2) you give them permission in writing.**

Resident Council News

Several councils have submitted amendments to the New York State Department of Health for their 2019 EQUAL Grant because their original priorities could not be fulfilled safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, some councils had planned to use a portion of the EQUAL Grant for group trips. Now, they are looking to put the money to other uses, such as additional money for clothing. **If your council wants to change their priorities, call the CIAD Support Line for help. The deadline to apply is the end of October!**