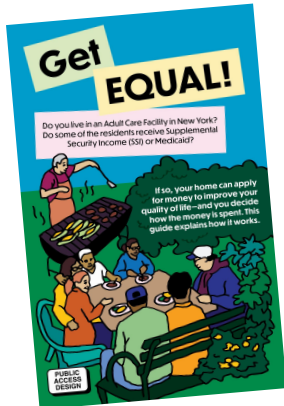


The Resident Voice

Support Line (866) 503-3332

425 East 25th Street New York, NY 10010


www.ciadny.org

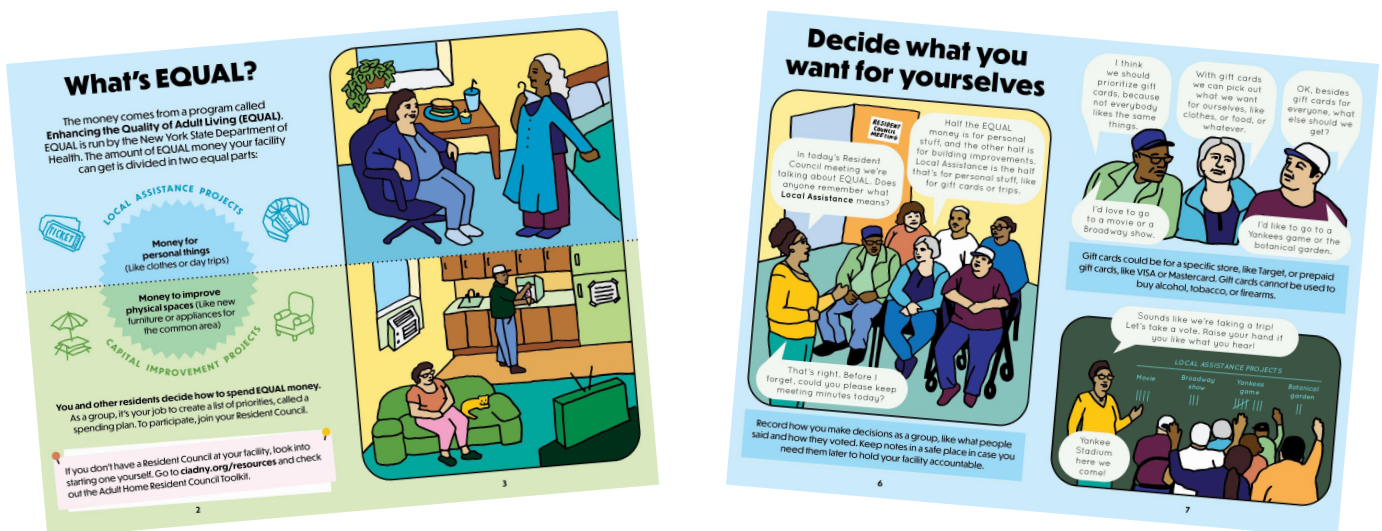


Introducing... **Get EQUAL!**

Get EQUAL! is a new guide that explains how residents at Adult Care Facilities can apply for money from the Enhancing the Quality of Adult Living (EQUAL) grant program.

EQUAL money is to improve residents' quality of life—and residents decide how the money is spent. This guide explains how it works.

Get EQUAL! was created in collaboration with the Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP) and designer Anna Pelavin.



Get EQUAL! is designed to support your Resident Council to prepare for and navigate the EQUAL grant program. It includes:

- The three steps of EQUAL
- How to collaborate with your Resident Council to come up with a spending plan
- Advice for working with your facility operator
- Tips for getting support if the process isn't going like it's supposed to

If you'd like to request copies of Get EQUAL!, or if you'd like to ask CIAD to come to your facility to provide training about EQUAL, give us a call! **(866) 503-3332**

You can also see a digital version of the full guide on our website! ciadny.org/resources

CIAD is a nonprofit advocacy organization run with and by persons with disabilities to support resident rights in Adult Care Homes. CIAD provides: Resident Council training and organizing, Independence Training, and individual advocacy. In partnership with Mobilization for Justice we support advocacy efforts with the NYS Department of Health, Adult Care Home operators and state and local elected officials.

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January 2024

CIAD Stands With YOU!

As we begin the New Year, all of us at CIAD send you best wishes for a year filled with opportunity, happiness, and health. In 2023, CIAD marked its 50th anniversary of advocacy with and for residents of adult care facilities. Even with challenges and difficulties that each of us face within our own lives, we know that when we stand together, we are stronger, and better outcomes are more possible than when we try to go it alone.

We are committed to continuing that legacy of standing with you to improve the lives of residents in adult homes and to support greater independence and autonomy for individuals in their housing opportunities.

The word advocate comes from the Latin word *advocare*, which means to "add" a "voice." To advocate is to add a voice of support to a cause or person. For us at CIAD it also means bringing action to the voices we raise to effect change for the better. One of the actions we share in is the annual SPEAK OUT which returned in 2023 after the limits of the pandemic. We hope you might join us in taking the message of residents to Albany as we meet with representative of the New York State Legislature and State regulatory bodies. See below for more information.

With warm wishes for you in 2024!

*Geoff, JK, Sherletta, Tyrria, Ruberto,
Valerie, Deborah, Diana & Michael*

SPEAK OUT 2024

We are getting ready to raise the roof in Albany! Our advocacy day is scheduled for Wednesday February 28. We will depart early in the morning by bus and return about 7:00 p.m. Meals will be provided.

If you would like to attend, please call the *Support Line* to let us know of your interest. **866-503-3332**. Leave your name and phone number and the name of the home where you live and we will follow up with you.

Our Policy Committee is meeting on the following Tuesdays: Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 13, Feb. 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.(lunch provided) to hear resident concerns and discuss the need for advocacy and our priorities for the trip. Call the *Support Line* **866-503-3332** to get details and sign up if you are interested in attending.