

SPEAK OUT 2025

Resident Councils Raise Their Voices in Solidarity with Regulators and Elected Officials

Thirty Resident Council Leaders and Members along with **CIAD** Staff travelled to Albany on Wednesday March 5 to address the need for funding the EQUAL grant, **CIAD**, Privacy and Food issues. Resident testimony can be found on the **CIAD** website at: <https://ciadny.org/resident-voices/>.



←Left - CIAD Board Vice President Gary Levin welcomes the Residents, Official Listeners, Allies and Legislative Representatives at the Plenary Session to open the Speak Out.

Official Listeners included representatives of the NYS Department of Health, NYS Ombudsman Office, NYS Justice Center. Assemblymember Marianne Buttenschon visited and spoke to encourage the residents. We also welcomed representatives from the offices of Sen. Serrano, Assemblymember Kim and Assemblymember Mamdani.

Right →
Andre Leclech and Carmen Dixon, from Madison York RC, with Jota Borgmann of MFJ, prepare to visit the Office of Sen. Addabbo. Residents visited elected officials in Teams of 3-5. We were able to have 11 meetings during the day to give voice to resident needs.



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.

The Resident Voice

Support Line (866) 503-3332

www.ciadny.org

425 East 25th Street New York, NY 10010



Joel Young, RC President at BBALP speaks on the importance of the EQUAL grant funding.



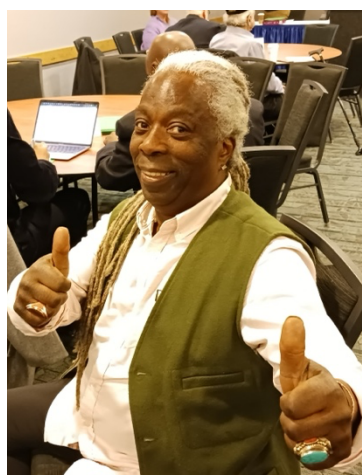
Eulene Kerr, RC President of Brookdale Enriched Housing speaks on the importance of funding for CIAD.



Vashti Hawkins, RC Vice President of Sanford Home for Adults speaks on Food and Nutrition.



Kathleen McCardle, Carlton Williams, and Eulene Kerr of Brookdale, with Tanya Kessler of MFJ meet with Special Assistant to Sen. Roxanne Persaud.



←Left- Tyrria Higgins
CIAD Peer Advocate
gives two Thumbs Up
to the success of the
Speak Out.

Right →
Theresa Young, (r)
Executive Director of
CIAD, meets with
Counsel to Speaker
Heastie. (l)

