

# CITY ACCESS NEW YORK

“City Access New York promotes lifelong access to information, programs and services for New Yorkers of all abilities. We assist individuals with Developmental and Sensory Disabilities to reach a maximum level of independence and integration into their communities and society at large through prevocational training, internships, supported and competitive employment, and social/recreational activities.”

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During these uncertain times we, at City Access New York would like to wish our CANY family a safe and healthy Spring!



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*Thank you to our  
Board, Funders and  
Elected Officials for  
their generous support  
during this most  
difficult time!!*

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MARCH 2020

## A Letter from Our Executive Director

During this unprecedented time of uncertainty and change, we are reminded of what is most important in our lives, and that is the health and well-being of our loved ones. At City Access New York, our hearts go out to all those affected by COVID-19, and we're grateful for the efforts being undertaken to stem its spread.

We're also doing our part. Led by our mission and dedication to care for our participants and their families, we have a team of devoted staff working remotely every day with all participants to achieve successful outcomes. We are assembling a resource guide and virtual lesson plans for social, educational and job related skills to ensure continuity of support for our individuals with developmental disabilities. The reason for this is simple. We care about their well-being and want to do everything we can to help keep them engaged and learning.

Yes, it's a challenging time, but you're not going through it alone: We at City Access New York are here to support you every step of the way. We've weathered many storms and have great confidence in the resiliency of our community and our country.

Please be well and let's look out for each other.

Sincerely,



Sophia Rossovsky

Executive Director



## CANY "At home"

On March 17, 2020 we received news from OPWDD that Day Habilitation's would have to close and respite trips would have to be canceled to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This is when we launched the CANY "At home" initiative. Our team of dedicated Administrative Staff and DSP's worked quickly and efficiently to develop educational resources such as social stories, educational worksheets and a plan to ensure that during this crisis our participants still had the supports and stability they well deserve in these trying times.

Our DSP's have daily video conferences with their groups and promote socialization amongst the group, develop pre vocational skills using household chores, while giving their families support as well.



## Giving back

How are you giving back to the community during these trying times? Eddie's mom is making beautiful masks for the people in the community who are on the front lines of these uncertain times. We Thank you so much! You are a hero!



"Tough times don't last,  
but tough people do." —  
Robert H. Schuller

## All about COVID-19

COVID-19 or Coronavirus Disease 2019 is a respiratory virus that spreads easily from person to person. There are currently no treatments or vaccinations for this virus but there are preventive measures.

## Resources

Below are some resources for further information to understand and to cope with the virus.

- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID 19\) Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [COVID-19: Information for Families of Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs from healthychildren.org \(American Academy of Pediatrics\)](#)
- [Social Stories on COVID-19](#)
- [Plain Language Information on Coronavirus: For people with disabilities, by people with disabilities](#)
- [Plain Language Information on Coronavirus: For people with disabilities, by people with disabilities \(Spanish\)](#)
- [What Do People with Disabilities Need to Know About Coronavirus?](#)
- COVID-19 Emotional Support Hotline 1-844-863-9314 free counseling to anyone who needs it during this time

For more updates and stories. Follow us on Facebook [@CityAccessNewYork](#) or on our website at [www.cityaccessny.org](http://www.cityaccessny.org)

## Preventing COVID-19



**Wash hands.**



**Stay home if sick.**



**Clean surfaces.**



**No close contact.**