

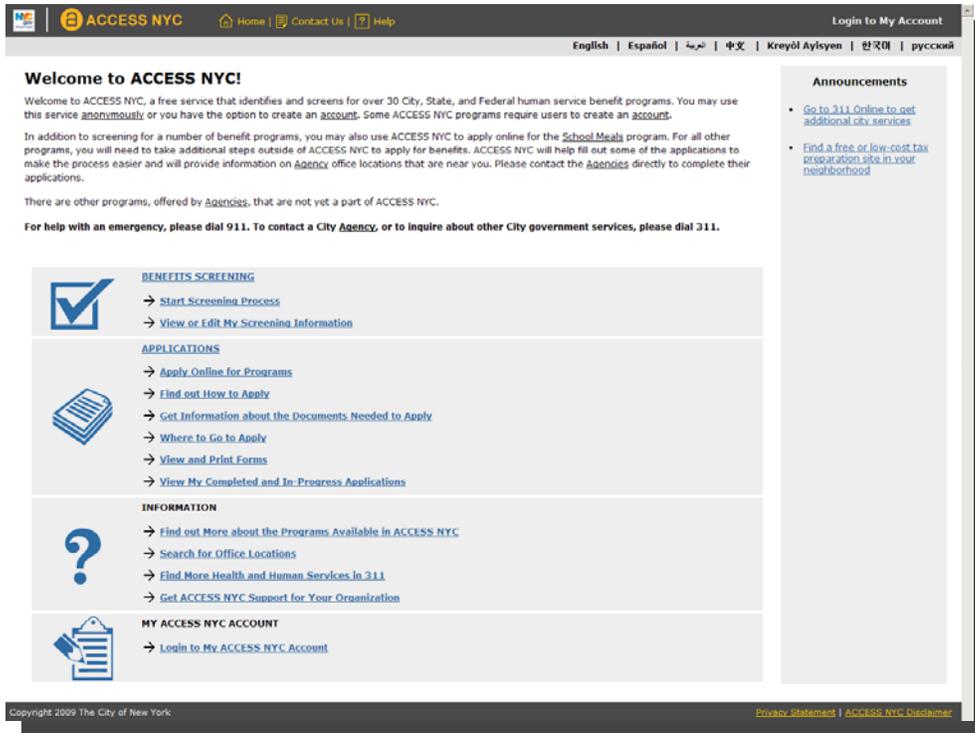
ACCESS NYC

Benefit Information. One Place.

Newsletter

March 2009

Welcome - Bienvenido - 歡迎 - أهلا وسهلا - Byenveni - 환영합니다 - Добро пожаловать



Link Ed



ACCESS NYC has joined in partnering with Link Ed to provide services for families across the city. Last fall ACCESS NYC teamed with DOE and several agencies to participate in the Link Ed Fall Expo. Coming in April, Link Ed will provide another resource fair for families in the city. ACCESS NYC is proud to be a part of this event.

The LinkEducation Spring Education Expo is an excellent place to meet teachers, parent coordinators, principals, parents, and other education organizations - in one room! The event will be held at the Harlem Armory on Saturday, April 25, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Be sure to tell the families that you serve about this exciting event. Your organization can also sign up to be a sponsor or a vendor. The event will include:

- A children's yoga class by Little Flower Yoga, a theater performance by Striking Viking Story Pirates, and a Jet Blue ticket raffle by The LEAGUE New York.

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A New Look for ACCESS NYC

March 24 marked a new phase for ACCESS NYC with the launch of the updated website. The redesigned site is even easier to use and has some exciting new features!

To make the site easier to navigate we have organized the information on the ACCESS NYC homepage into four different categories: benefits screening, applications, information, and ACCESS NYC account. Users can now see at a glance the many different ways that they can choose to use ACCESS NYC.

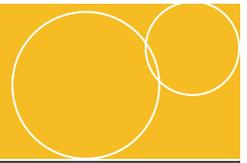
We've also made it easier to use ACCESS NYC in each of the seven languages by adding language links to the top of every page on ACCESS NYC. Users can now choose their preferred language anytime throughout their visit to ACCESS NYC and can

switch between languages during their visit as many times as they would like.

To help returning users get more out of every visit to ACCESS NYC we've created a new customized page that a user sees after logging into his or her account. The "My ACCESS NYC User Home" shows each returning user a summary of their household information, provides the status of the last screening and any available online applications, as well as links to general information.

Also new is a link to 311 Online, where users can find out more about the many health and human services available to people who live in New York City. The new 311 Online website will also link to ACCESS NYC for all of the 35 benefits that are part of ACCESS NYC.

Visit www.nyc.gov/accessnyc today!



bringing the education community together

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- Lunches for the booth vendors and tons of finger food for the attendees.

LinkEducation is a website that connects children with education opportunities. Parents, guardians, educators, and community members can easily find quality and affordable education program such as after school tutoring, homework help and alternative schools simply by entering their zip code and key words. Programs on the LinkEducation website are geared toward children in grades Pre-K through 12.

Visit the website at <http://www.linkeducation.org> to find education-related resources in your communities and to sign up for the Link Ed Spring Expo.

Monthly ACCESS NYC Trainings

If you would like to attend the **FREE** ACCESS NYC monthly training sessions, please send an email with your name, organization, title, address, email, phone number and month of interest to ACCESS NYC at accessnyc@hhsconnect.nyc.gov.

The training sessions take place the 3rd Thursday of every month from 10am to 12noon. The next session is scheduled for April 16th.

ACCESS NYC In The Community

We would love to hear how organizations are utilizing ACCESS NYC and helping clients get benefit information. Organizations selected will be featured in upcoming newsletters.

For more information or to nominate your organization, email us at accessnyc@hhsconnect.nyc.gov
Subject: ACCESS NYC in the Community.

ACCESS NYC In The Community:



HOUSING WORKS

Housing Works' Harm Reduction Place (HRP), located in SoHo, was recently awarded 2 ACCESS NYC terminals. The terminals have been placed in the community drop-in space where they are used on a daily basis to access benefit information from the City, State, and Federal government, medical information related to HIV/AIDS, as well as employment information.

HRP reports that the ACCESS NYC terminals have been a tremendous success. The two terminals in the community drop-in space are always busy, and to assure that everyone has access to the terminals, HRP keeps a log book where clients sign up for half-hour intervals. Clients are also encouraged to use the website on an ongoing basis and can sign up for additional sessions.

In an effort to help clients with limited English proficiency and computer skills, HRP has created a monthly meeting

where clients can work with the HRP's bilingual Program Director. The Program Director assists clients with internet searches and word processing skills. HRP thinks that this is an ideal time for clients to learn the essential skills needed to navigate the internet while screening themselves on ACCESS NYC.

The mission of Housing Works is to bring an end to the twin epidemics of homelessness and AIDS by providing housing, educational services, health services, and legal advice to their clients. HRP staff have said that the ACCESS NYC terminals are being used to further their mission of providing programs that can empower the clients they serve.



Contact ACCESS NYC for Free Training and Materials

E-mail Sabrina Smith-Sweeney (ssmith-sweeney@hhsconnect.nyc.gov) for information on trainings, marketing materials and help with adding a link to ACCESS NYC to your website

Call 311 with questions about using the program or click on the contact us button on the top of every page