

# PUBLIC MEETING

Join this public meeting to learn about the programs and upcoming initiatives of the Civic Engagement Commission!



February 19th, 2026



22 Reade Street, Spector Hall (Ground Floor) New York, NY 10007



# Public Meeting

February 19, 2026



@NYCCEC | [nyc.gov/cec](https://nyc.gov/cec)

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# Technology and Housekeeping

## To Commissioners:

- In-Person Participants: Please mute your microphone when you're not speaking and turn it on when needed
- To Online Participants: Please mute your microphone when you're not speaking. Feel free to unmute and let us know when you'd like to offer a comment, since we cannot see you.

## To All Participants:

- Call participants in the order they have registered for public comment prior to meeting, then during today's meeting
- Closed Captioning: Closed Captioning will be displayed on the smaller screen

## To In-Person Participants:

- To submit a public comment, please add your name and affiliation to the sign in sheet by the door. We will call on you to speak in order received.

## To Online Participants:

- To submit a public comment, please submit your name, affiliation, and public comment via email to [info@civicengagement.nyc.gov](mailto:info@civicengagement.nyc.gov) or via text to 917-587-9103. We will read comments in order received.

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# Agenda

- Attendance
- Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 4th, 2025
- Commissioner Van Auken, Office of Mass Engagement
- Program updates
- Mt. Sinai Partnership on PB & Health Outcomes
- Public Comment
- Better Public Meeting Survey

# **Approval of Meeting Minutes from Prior Meeting**

# Program Updates



the **PEOPLE'S** \$  
**MONEY**

# Borough Assembly Journey



## Session 1

### Meet & Kick Off

All Assembly members come together from the 5 boroughs to start their participatory budgeting journey and learn about deliberative democracy.

**January 24th, Saturday**

## Session 3

### Partner Connections

Connect with community-based organizations on their experiences throughout the borough. Then members will review and narrow down ideas to move forward for consideration.

## Session 2

### Community Insights

Explore the variety of tools and resources provided to understand local needs and align them with ideas submitted by New Yorkers.

## Session 4

### Final Selection

Collaborate and vote on the top ideas for your borough's ballot!

**February 22nd, Sunday**

# January 24th All Assembly Kick-Off!

- Overview and introduction, roles, meet & greet
- Six City Agencies on key services and Q&A panel
  - DOHMH, DYCD, SBS, DOHMH, MOIA, Food Policy



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# Borough Assembly Members & Facilitators

- CEC staff co-facilitate with trained subcommittee facilitators - 136 members total
- 20 total hours of deliberation over 4 sessions
- Implementing pre-post survey and ways to stay involved



# Ethnic & Community Media Engagement

- On Jan 22nd the CEC held an ethnic and community media round table to learn about Assembly Phase
- Outcome: three articles increasing awareness of the People's Money and use of civic assembly model
- **The Bronx Daily**, "The People's Money Returns And This Time, New Yorkers Decide Together"
- **SI News**, "NYC's The People's Money: Civic Engagement Commission Discusses Borough Assemblies Of New Yorkers Just Like You Who Help Decide Participatory Budget Projects"
- **Vision Times**, "纽约市公民大会即将于本周末登场(图)"



公民参与委员会公共事务主任乔威尔·佩雷斯、CEC主席兼执行董事萨拉·赛义德博士、CEC“人民资金”计划主任希拉里·卡雷利-唐纳尔、

CEC高级顾问本杰明·索洛泰尔，（摄影：Martin）

【看中国2026年1月23日讯】纽约市公民参与委员会（Civic Engagement Commission, CEC）即将启动“人民的钱”（The People's Money）参与式预算第四周期的第二阶段——各区公民大会（Borough Assemblies）。这一创新民主程序旨在让纽约市民直接参与决定部分市府预算如何使用，以加强公民参与、提升民主品质并重建政府与社区之间的信任。

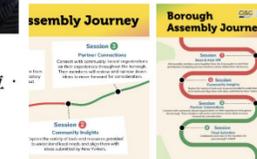
公民大会即将于本周末登场



The Civic Engagement Commission hosted a Media Roundtable on **Thursday, January 22nd at 1PM** to inform New Yorkers of the launch of Phase 2 of The People's Money: Borough Assemblies. These assemblies are made up of randomly selected New Yorkers that are entrusted with

When public trust in government remains fragile, **New York City** is quietly launching one of its most democratic experiments yet.

New York City Civic Engagement Commission (CEC) formally kicked off the next phase of *The People's Money*, the budgeting program, an initiative that hands real decision making power directly to residents as it enters its



At a recent roundtable, CEC officials laid out what comes next: borough assemblies, a deliberative process that will determine which community driven ideas make it into the citywide ballot later this year.

Assemblies are led by trained facilitators, and members will hear from city agencies and community based partners, nonprofits working with the CEC throughout each phase, while bringing their own lived experience into the room.

"This program is about more than participation," CEC leadership emphasized. "It is about strengthening democracy itself and rebuilding civic trust."

## From Ideas to Power

The process begins where the government often fails to start: with listening.

Last fall, hundreds of idea generation sessions were held across the city, inviting New Yorkers to propose solutions they want to see in their neighborhoods from mental health programs to job training, senior services, food security, and public safety initiatives.



# **TRIE Neighborhood Initiative**

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# TRIE Participation in Assemblies

**Equity-Based citywide process:** PB projects are implemented in the TRIE Neighborhoods

We include TNI Coalition's assessment of need as an additional data point:

- Coalition members analyze and report out on their Idea Generation session top themes
- Attend a session to share their perspectives and answer questions
- Provide their coalition's top 10 project ideas
  - Social Services - SI
  - Education - MN, BK, Q, BX



# Capacity Building

- Working with the [Center for Artistic Activism \(C4AA\)](#) to offer a 3-part workshop on how to use art and creativity to achieve outcomes.
- We received 41 applications across our TRIE and PB Partners, including multiple coalition members.
- Sessions will offer tools that can be applied to the PB Vote, and beyond!

**Session 1:  
From Vision to Action**

**Session 2: Connecting with  
Communities**

**Session 3: Making the Impossible  
Possible**

**WINNING WITH CREATIVITY**

increase your capacity and supercharge your work with innovative methods and strategic creativity

**APPLY BY JAN. 16**

A 3-part, online workshop series for TRIE organizations, coalition members, and CEC staff

**February 13, 20, and 27, 1-3pm ET**

# **The People's Money Vote Phase Planning**

# Campaign Building



THE · CENTER · FOR  
ARTISTIC ACTIVISM

- The [Center for Artistic Activism](#) has worked with thousands of advocacy organizations, foundations, and activists all over the world, to bring more creativity and innovation to their civic engagement and social justice work
- Coaching on **effective** and **affective** campaign and guide participants to develop creative campaigns and actions for real, lasting impact
- Scope of partnership with CEC
  - Working with TRIE & PB partners to train and support their creative campaigns
  - C4AA held three workshop sessions with CEC staff responsible for contributing to the PB vote phase campaign to develop a unified vote campaign strategy
  - Goal is to strengthen and expand our tactics to increase voting participation, expand awareness of TPM, and align our existing strategies

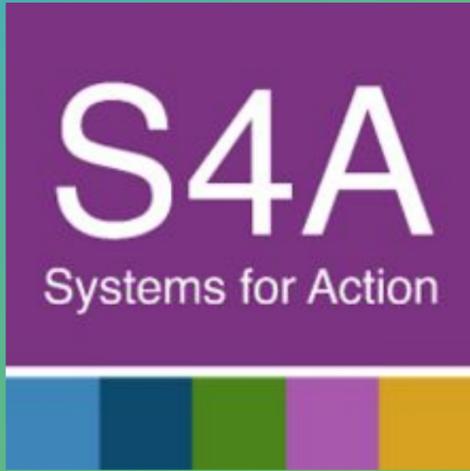
# Vote Phase Planning Workstreams

Team	Campaign Objective	Campaign Strategies
<b>Communications and Digital Engagement</b>	Reach broad audience of New Yorkers and provide digital access equitably	Ad campaigns, social media and online voting. Digital partnerships and expanded email distribution
<b>Paid Organizational Partnerships</b>	Ensure high rate of participation among high priority populations	CBO paid deliverables in TRIE neighborhoods and with organizations reaching high priority populations
<b>Outreach and Volunteers</b>	Engage populations not covered through paid deliverables	Engage volunteers (PB ambassadors and CEAA volunteers) and faith communities
<b>Arts and Events</b>	Increase awareness through creative arts activations and assets	Develop partnerships with one anchor cultural institution per borough, hold five flagship events in each borough (with People’s Bus and Sunny puppets)

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# Vote Phase - Commissioner Strategies

- Past Commissioner activities
  - Attend borough flagship events
  - Share information with a minimum of 25 contacts to increase digital voting
  - Host a sunny and/or post pictures of you and the sunny
  - Recommend & introduce partners to staff
- Upcoming Vote Phase 2026 Goals
  - Increasing overall participation
  - Increasing digital participation
- Ideas for Commissioner Support



# Participatory Budgeting for Health Equity: A Unified Multi-sectoral Approach



Icahn  
School of  
Medicine at  
Mount  
Sinai

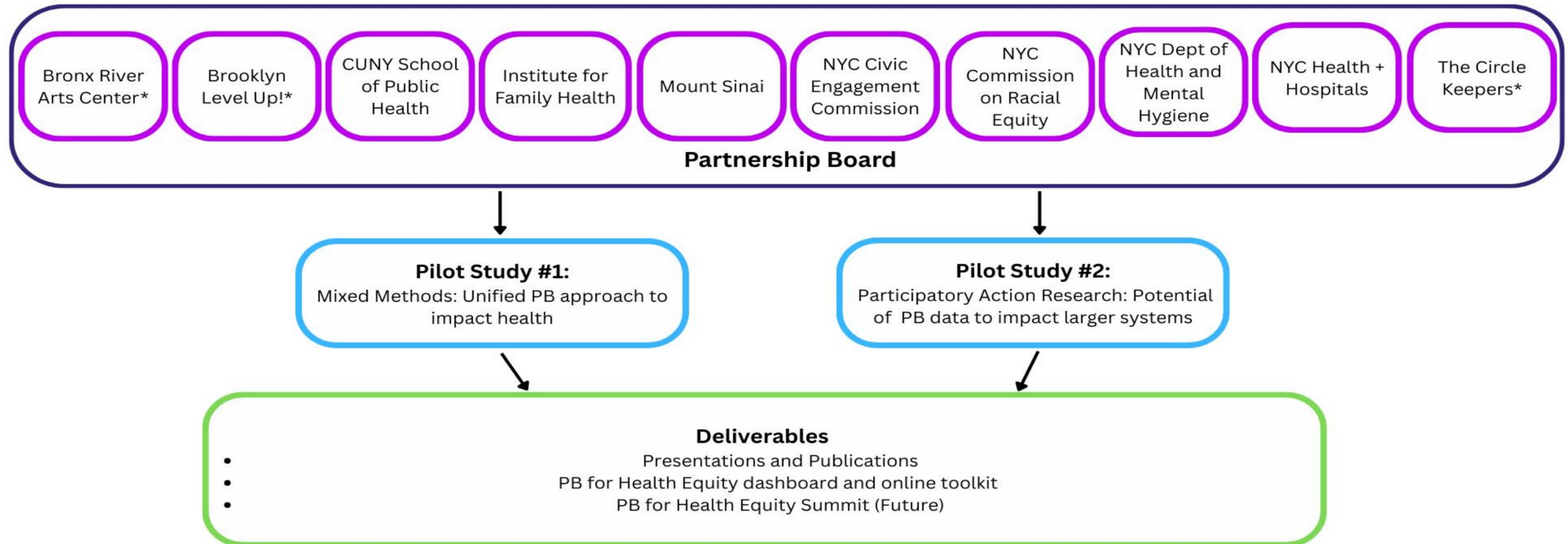
*Institute for  
Health Equity  
Research*

Devin Madden, Assistant Professor, Institute for Health Equity Research:  
Icahn School of Medicine



# Study Overview

## Participatory Budgeting for Health Equity | Governance Structure and Study Overview



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# Pilot Study 1

Surveys and interviews with:

- 1) Partnership Board members (pre- and post)
- 2) Community members and partnership board members' networks
- 3) Community members engaged in PB

Outcomes of interest:

- acceptability and perceived value of PB in impacting health
- feasibility to impact health
- potential to improve health equity, amplify voice, and dismantle systemic racism

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# Pilot Study 2

Participatory process to answer:

What is the feasibility, acceptability, and potential of using and repurposing raw data from completed PB cycles to facilitate additional changes (e.g., institutional or citywide policies, programs, protocols, or funding streams)?

## PROCESS:

1. Study team synthesizes raw data
2. Orientation to share data with a larger group (Partnership Board and networks, 40 people)
3. Online analytic sessions (sensemaking)
4. Collective sensemaking summit

# The People's Money Project Updates

# Project Timeline

## Planning

October - January

**Goal:** Identify the desired impact and determine activities, outputs, and outcomes for the project.

**Deliverables:** Needs Assessment; Stakeholder Analysis; Project Logical Framework; Final Project Plan; TRIE Collab.

## Implementation

January - October

**Goal:** Successfully implement an impactful project.

**Deliverables:** Project Implementation in Assigned TRIE Neighborhoods; Completion of Project Timeline; Reaching Project Targets and Goals

## Evaluation

April - October

**Goal:** Evaluate and report out on the impact of the project in the community.

**Deliverables:** Monthly Progress Reporting; Mid-Project Report; Final Report

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# Pathways to Professions for Youth

## Implementing Partner:

- Commonpoint NY

Early workshops are focused on introducing youth to the offerings of the Youth Opportunity Hub.

*"I didn't know there were scholarships that actually fit my story. Now I feel like I have a real chance, and I'm already working on my first application."*

*- Project Participant*



# STEAM Enrichment for Bronx Youth

## Implementing Partner:

- Bronx River Art Center (BRAC)

BRAC has been holding events to raise awareness of their upcoming STEAM programs by inviting families and community members to meet and engage with the teaching artists and partners!



# Young Parent Support and Classes

## Implementing Partner:

- Women's Empowerment Coalition of NYC (WECNYC)

So far, this project has served more than 70 young parents!

*"I learned about health resources and classes for young parents that I didn't know existed. I feel more confident knowing where to go for help now."*

*- Project Participant*



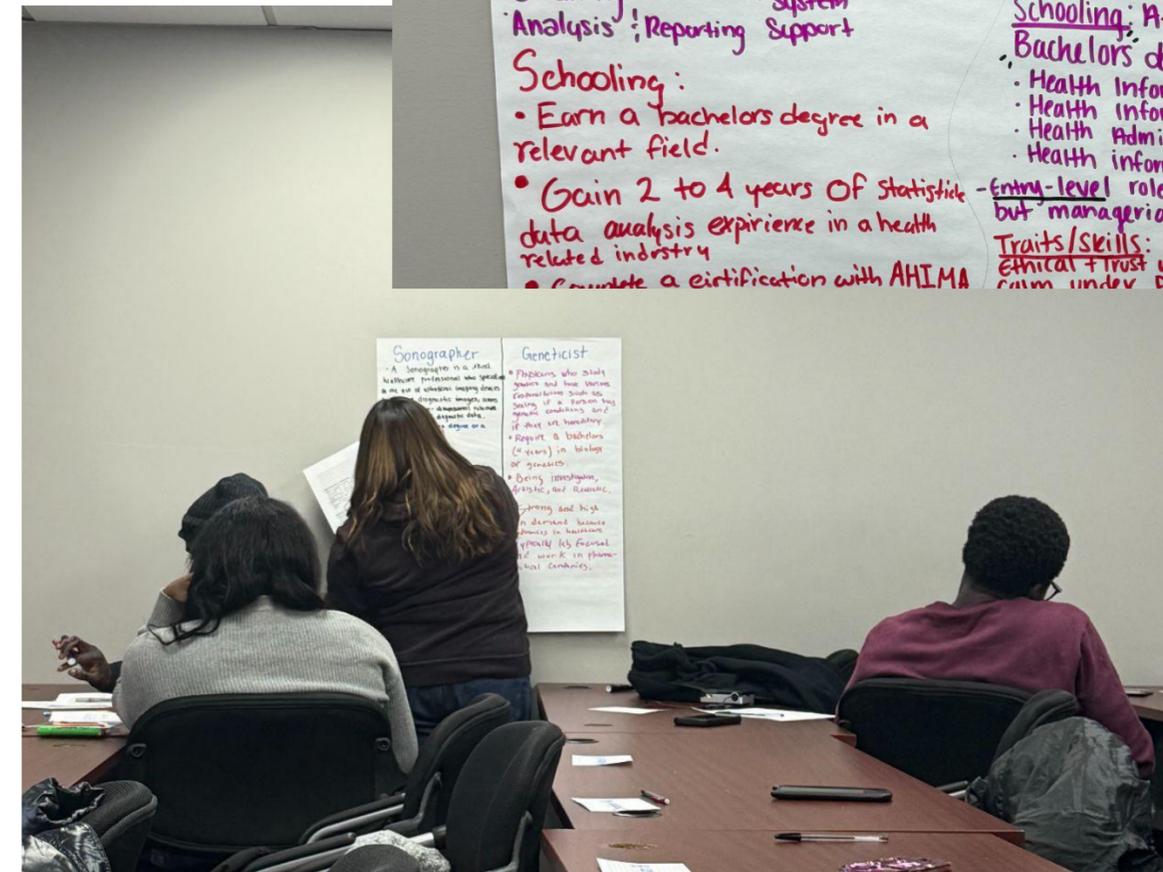
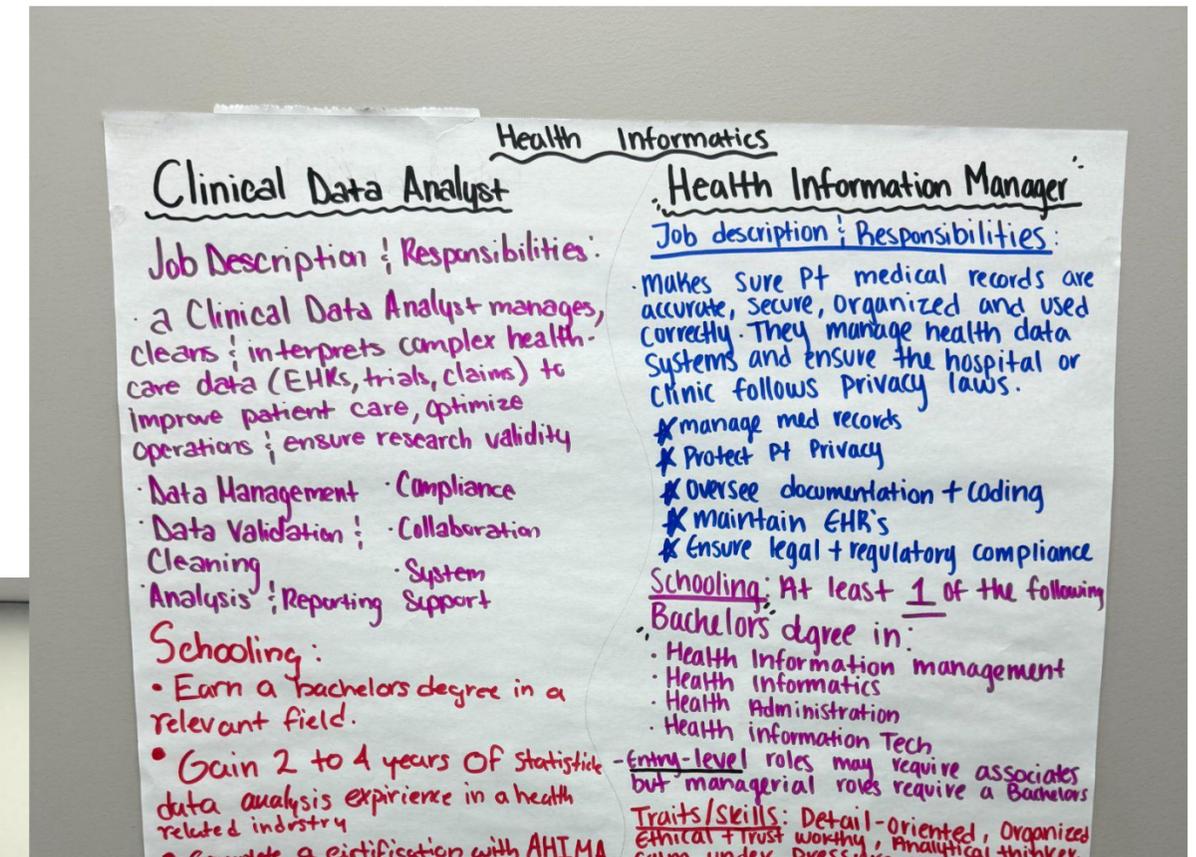
# Staten Island Youth Internship Program

## Implementing Partner:

- United Activities Unlimited

Participants have attended a total of 3 pre-internship workshops so far!

The workshops give an overview of the healthcare industry and prepare the participants for the opportunities and challenges they may face.



# The People's DxC

The NYC Service Design Studio and the CEC are partnering with Cambio Labs for the third cohort of the Designed by Community (DxC) Fellowship.



In this year's **The People's Money** process, the organization selected to implement the **Youth Entrepreneurship Program in Manhattan, Cambio Labs**, is running the DxC Fellowship program.

*A pilot will inform how future People's Money projects might incorporate community-led planning for implementation at scale.*



# Program Timeline

**Designed by Community  
Fellowship Program**

**The People's Money  
Project Implementation**



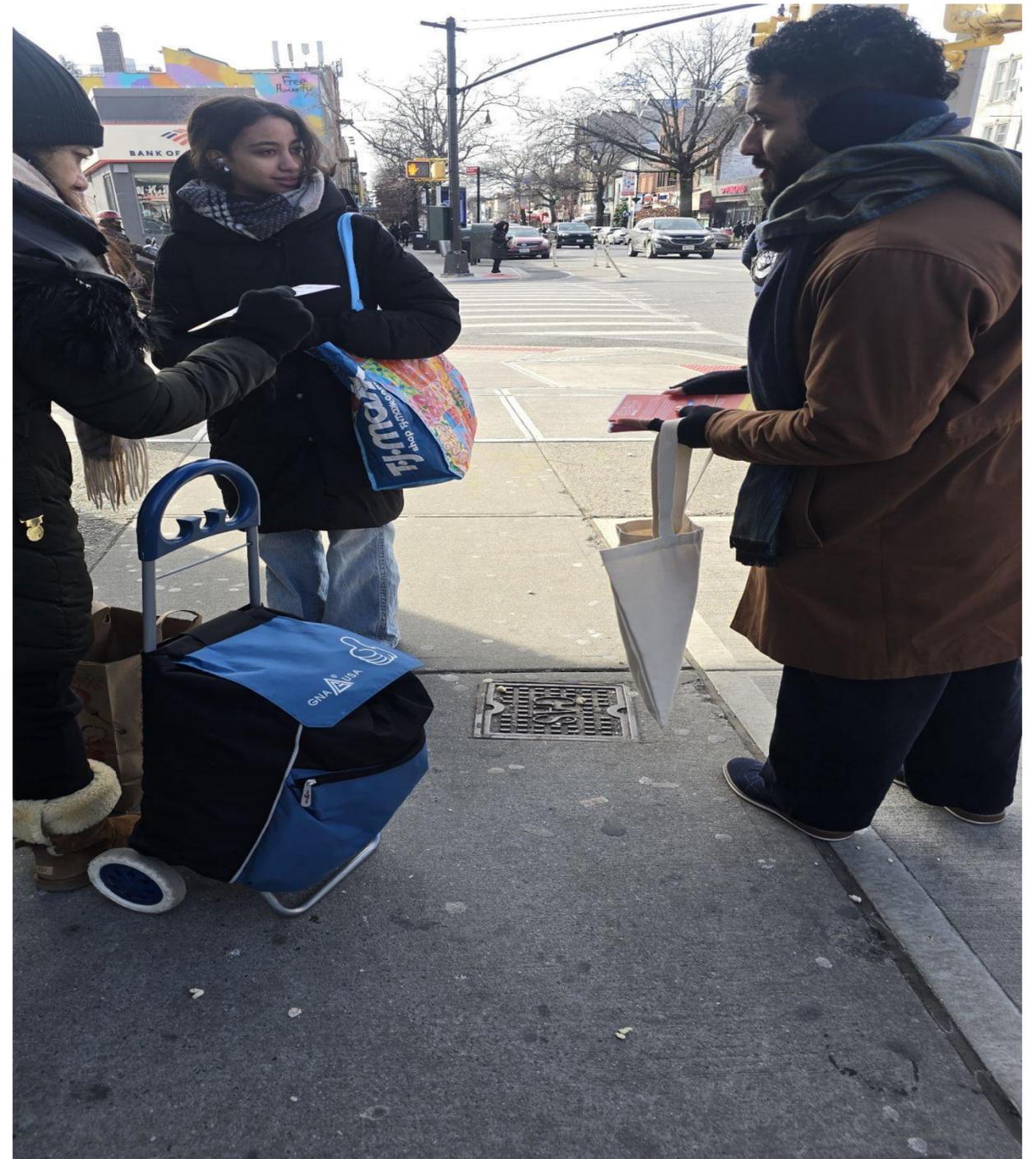




# Voter Language Assistance

# AD 36 Special

- Provided services for AD 36 Special Election; two poll sites served with Arabic interpretation services, as methodology dictates
- Canvassing effort lead by Language Assistance Advisory Committee Member; palm cards and VLA Program tri-fold handed out in Arabic and English

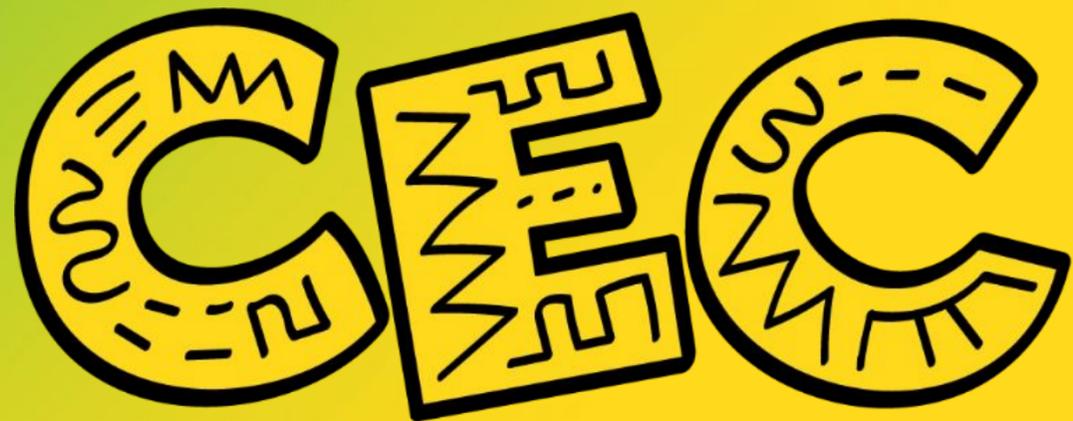


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# Look Ahead

- Kicking off 2026 Language Assistance Advisory Committee Cohort on February 25; Dr. Sayeed and MOIA Commissioner confirmed
- Planning ahead for June Primary services & Outreach and Communications, including in-language CBO-led workshops
- Reviewing methodology and discussing potential tweaks with Law, DCP





**NYC** Civic Engagement  
Commission



# COMMUNITY BOARDS

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# Scheduled Winter/Spring 2026 Trainings

## Workshop 1

Affordable Housing: But affordable to whom?

- Mar 4, 06:30 PM
- Mar 10, 06:30 PM
- Mar 14, 12:00 PM

## Workshop 2

Democratic Innovations: Civic Assemblies, Participatory Budgeting, & Legislative Theater

- April 8, 06:30 PM
- April 14, 12:00 PM
- April 15, 06:30 PM
- May 20, 06:00 PM

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# Scheduled Winter/Spring 2026 Trainings

## Workshop 3

AI: How to use it, and not have it use you

- April 21 - 12:00 PM
- April 23 - 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
- April 28 - 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

And more.....

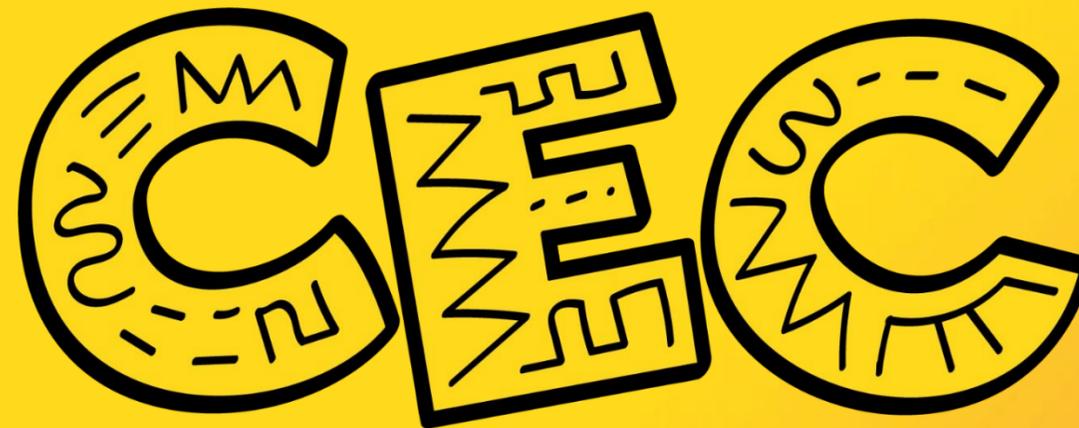
# Public Comment

# Better Public Meetings New York



Democracy  
Innovation

# Perfect City



**NYC**  
Civic Engagement  
Commission



# Activote Survey



# Thank You



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