

Contact us!

New to CASA?

Call Enrique at
718-716-8000 ext 122
e.colon@newsettlement.org

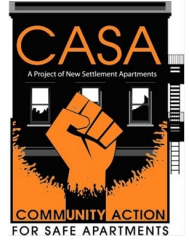
Our NEW Offices
35 Marcy Place (on the
corner of Walton)

Mailing Address
1512 Townsend Ave
Bronx, NY 10452

Upcoming dates

JULY 7 6-8PM	Rezoning Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
JULY 19 6-8PM	Housing Court Meeting @ 35 Marcy Place
JULY 21 6-8PM	Film Screening Rezoning Harlem @ 1501 Jerome Ave
AUG 3 6-8PM	Tenant's Rights Night @ 35 Marcy
AUG 4 6-8PM	Rezoning Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
AUG 6 12-6PM	Jerome Ave Block Party @ 170 & Jerome Ave
SEPT 1 6-8PM	Rezoning Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
SEPT 15 6-8PM	CASA General Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
SEPT 20 6-8pm	Housing Court Meeting @ 35 Marcy Place
OCT 14 6-10PM	CASA's 2nd Annual Gala @ Hostos College

CASA News



www.casapower.org

April-June 2016



Marching to Bronx Public RGB Hearing

Bronx RGB Hearing

CASA mobilized close to 500 Bronx tenants who demanded a rent reduction at the Bronx Public Hearing of the Rent Guidelines Board (RGB) on June 16th. At the hearing, tenants testified on how much of their family's income goes towards paying rent and how rents have gone up while wages have not.



Bronx Public RGB Hearing

Rent Guidelines Board Votes for Freeze!

Because of CASA, the Bronx had more testimony than any of the other hearings in the city! In total, 238 tenants testified in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and 2 Manhattan hearings.

The RGB decides how much rent goes up or down for the 2.5 million rent stabilized tenants in New York. Last year, we joined with hundreds of tenants across the city to win the first ever rent freeze for 1 year leases and a 2% increase for 2 year leases in the 46 year history of the board.

Final Vote

Because of the testimony from CASA and other tenant groups across the city, the RGB voted

for another historic Rent Freeze for the second year in a row for 1 year leases and 2% increase for 2 year leases!



Bronx Public RGB Hearing

We've Grown!

We have grown a lot in the past few months!

- We now have 2,412 members!
- We are organizing in 38 buildings!
- 197 people came to CASA General meetings in the past 3 months!
- 125 people came to Campaign meetings the past 3 months!

Contact Sheila 718-716-8000 ext 135 or s.garcia@newsettlement.org with questions

Beverly Creighton, SW Bronx
59 year old grandmother of 4

"I could have been signing my rights away. The whole process is intimidating and I didn't feel I could ask questions."

CASA #RTCNYC #Intro214
www.righttocounselnyc.org

Contact Susanna 718-716-8000 ext 125 or
s.blankley@newsettlement.org with questions

Right to Counsel Saves City \$320 Mil.

In April, an independent financial firm published a study and found that Intro 214, the bill that would establish a Right to Counsel (RTC) will pay for itself AND save NYC \$320 million per year!

The report found that nearly 130,000 tenants would qualify for RTC and that it would help prevent 5,237 families

and 1,140 individuals from winding up in homeless shelters due to eviction. This would save the city in \$250 million in shelter costs.

The study also looked at the savings from preserving affordable housing by keeping families from being evicted.

These are all just more reasons why RTC is right for NYC!

Building Highlights

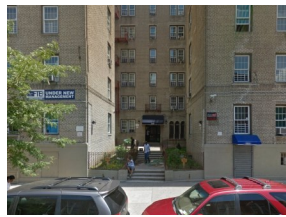
Tenants Fight to Organize at 949 Ogden Ave

When management refused to leave the first tenants' association (TA) meeting at 949 Ogden, tenant leaders exercised their Right to Organize and sent them a Cease & Desist Letter. Since then, tenants have been organizing regular meetings in a safer space where their neighbors feel comfortable speaking their minds, and they are taking steps toward legal action against their landlord.



Merriam Ave Tenants file Supreme Court Case

Tenants at 1307 Merriam Avenue came together to get repairs and their gas restored. Over 20 tenants are filing a Supreme Court case demanding an abatement for having not gas for over 6 months. The gas has been restored but tenants are fighting for justice after being without this crucial basic service for so long.



1160 Cromwell Ave Fight for A Rent Reduction

Since August, tenants have been fighting an MCI rent increase of \$176.58-293.70 for cosmetic repairs done to their bathroom and kitchens. Tenants filed for a building-wide rent reduction with DHCR. As a result of their organizing, conditions are improving in common areas such as hallways and staircases being painted, loose steps being replaced, new lights, and a new front door!



Coalition Fights "#1 Worst Landlord in NYC"

The recently formed Parkash Tenant Coalition, made up of tenants from more than 20 buildings, CASA and NWBCCC, held a successful press conference in June with Councilmember Rafael Salamanca and Public Advocate Letitia James to deliver a letter of demands. Parkash soon reached out apologizing for his prior behavior and agreed to meet with tenants!

CASA's Second Annual Gala

CASA will host our second annual gala on:
Friday, October 14, 6-10pm
Hostos Community College
475 Grand Concourse, Bronx NY
Tickets are \$15 for CASA members and are available for purchase at CASA events and online at www.razoo.com/casagala2016



Rezoning Plan Postponed

Because of the pressure of the Bronx Coalition for a Community Vision, the plan for the Jerome Ave rezoning was pushed back from May to the end of August! With this time we are focused on ensuring that our recommendations are included in the upcoming scope.

We continue to meet monthly to strategize. From April-June, more than 300 people have attended an event about the rezoning, including a Teach-In on Local Hire, a Film Screening about Gentrification and a Policy Briefing for Bronx Non-Profits.



Tour of Jerome Ave with Bronx News 12

Contact Susanna 718-716-8000 ext 125 or s.blankley@newsettlement.org with questions

Leadership Spotlight



Alba Quiñones, 1160 Cromwell Ave

First organizing a TA in 2007, Alba continues to hand out flyers, knock on doors and help take her neighbors to appointments. After coming to a general meeting, Alba attended the Leadership Development Institute and has begun facilitating our monthly workshops! Alba is still most proud of how far her building has come and she is inspired by how the Rent Freeze shows what tenants coming together can accomplish!

Social Media Corner

Do you have a Facebook or Twitter account?



Like us on Facebook
facebook.com/CASABronx



Follow us on Twitter
[@CASABronx](https://twitter.com/CASABronx)



CASA Allies

CASA is recruiting allies to help us make CASA stronger through

- Creating art and sharing media
- Organizing events and our Gala
- Connecting us to your friends and networks

Join CASA's Ally Network (CAN)!

Contact Becca at 718-716-8000 ext 225 or b.asaki@newsettlement.org with questions