

Contact us!

New to CASA?

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

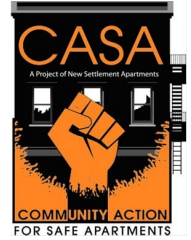
Our NEW Offices
35 Marcy Place (on the
corner of Walton)

Mailing Address
1512 Townsend Ave
Bronx, NY 10452

Upcoming dates

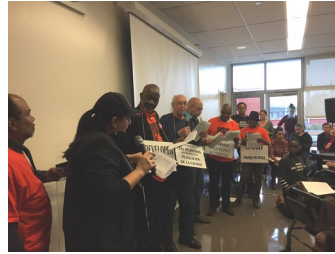
APR 21 6-8PM	CASA General Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
APR 30 11AM-2PM	Workshop Section 8/Leases @ 35 Marcy Place
MAY 5 6-8PM	Rezoning Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
MAY 19 6-8PM	CASA General Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
MAY 21 11AM-2PM	Workshop Getting Repairs @ 35 Marcy Place
JUN 2 6-8PM	Rezoning Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
JUN 16 6-8PM	Bronx RGB Hearing @ Bronx Museum
JUN 25 11AM-2PM	Workshop Rent Stabilization @ 35 Marcy Place

CASA News



www.casapower.org

January-March 2016



Bronx Gentrification Conference

Bronx Gentrification Conference

CASA co-hosted the 3rd Annual Bronx Gentrification Conference with the Bronx Documentary Center and CityLimits News to start the year. The January 10th meeting drew over 400 attendees who asked questions of HPD Commissioner Vicki Been about the Mayor's "Affordable" Housing Plan.

Bronx Gentrification Conference



Jerome Avenue Rezoning Updates

Bronx People's Hearing

In March, CASA hosted a People's Hearing where Councilwoman Vanessa Gibson committed to fighting with us to make the Jerome Avenue rezoning an example for the city. She promised that she would use our priorities to guide her advocacy, including real affordable housing, anti-displacement measures for tenants and workers and local hire and apprenticeship programs! With the scope set to be released in May, it's more important than ever to get involved!



Vanessa Gibson—Bronx People's Hearing

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



March Rezoning Campaign Meeting

Mandatory Inclusionary Housing

In part due to the advocacy work of the Bronx Coalition for Community Vision, the City Council made some changes to Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH), the citywide zoning policy. It now includes an option to require developers to set aside 20% of new housing for families of 4 making \$34,000 per year. While that's better than the original plan, it's still not good enough for the Bronx! Now is the time to focus on the Bronx!

See you at the next meeting!

We Moved!

CASA staff moved our offices to **35 Marcy Place!** Now we have more space for our growing team. Don't worry, our phone number is the same!

Come visit us!

Stay tuned for an office warming party!

CASA Staff

We now have 14 staff members at CASA!!

- Adalky, Amanda, David and Jordan are organizing in rent stabilized buildings
- Leydy is our new VISTA organizer in project-based Section 8 buildings
- and Pablo is now Lead Tenant Organizer!

We've Grown!

We have grown a lot in the past few months!

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

Building Highlights

Rent Strike at 888 Grand Concourse

Building on 20+ years of organizing, the EmeryGrand888 Tenants' Association organized a rent strike! After their building went into foreclosure tenants feared speculative buyers wouldn't honor court orders to make repairs and would pressure tenants out. The rent strike sends a clear message: we have power and will not be moved!



Legal Challenge of MCI at 1475 Sheridan Avenue

Facing a permanent MCI (Major Capital Improvement) rent increase of \$238.71–397.85 for dangerous renovations in kitchens and bathrooms, the 1475 Sheridan Avenue Tenants Association is suing their landlord for damages and to challenge the legality of the MCI. This is the first case of this kind and could prove a useful strategy for other buildings fighting MCIs.



Tenants Win Affordability on Clay Avenue

Tenants along Clay Avenue were facing a loss of affordable housing through their Section 8 subsidy. Because of their organizing, more than 1,190 tenants in 17 buildings got repairs they needed and their subsidy renewed which will keep their apartments affordable for the next 20-40 years!



750 Grand Concourse fight "Worst Landlord"

38 tenants in 750 Grand Concourse filed a HP court case against their landlord who was named the "Worst Landlord in NYC" to address a collapsed floor in the laundry room, no gas, no heat and hot water, leaks, peeling and lead paint and a rat infestation.

"I love seeing the diversity of our building—Dominicans, Africans, Indians and Asians—all coming together for a common goal and working together to accomplish it. Since we started organizing, I have seen a major change in the way the tenants see themselves and the way the landlord treats us." - Marjorie King



Gerard Gardens Tenants' Association

Right to Counsel Updates

RTC Campaign members have presented at the Manhattan, Bronx, and Brooklyn Borough Boards to gain support for the Right to Counsel Bill: Intro 214. Through our organizing, the Bronx and Brooklyn Borough Boards and NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer now publicly support Intro 214!

In March, we helped launch the book *Evicted* with author Matt Desmond at NYU where over 250 people learned about the need for the Right to Counsel.

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



Evicted Book Event

Leadership Spotlight



Marjorie King, 1111 Gerard Ave. Marjorie is most proud of engaging tenants in her building who were not active in her TA before. People who she did not know before now know her name and stop her in the hallways for information about meetings and the TA's Supreme Court case. Through her leadership, Marjorie is making her TA stronger and building CASA Power!

Social Media Corner

Do you have a Facebook or Twitter account?

 Like us on Facebook
facebook.com/CASABronx

 Follow us on Twitter
@CASABronx



Help amplify our work and get us to **1,000 Likes on Facebook** and **1,000 followers on Twitter!**

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 basaki@newsettlement.org with questions