

Contact us!

New to CASA?

Call our office at
718-716-8000 ext 217

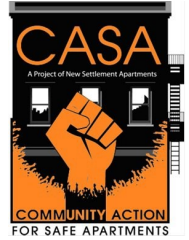
Our Offices

35 Marcy Place (on the
corner of Walton)

Mailing Address

1512 Townsend Ave
Bronx, NY 10452

CASA News



www.casapower.org

January-March 2017

Upcoming dates

APR 6
6-8PM
Rezoning Meeting
@ 1501 Jerome Ave

APR 18
6-8PM
Housing Court Meeting
@ 35 Marcy Place

APR 20
6-8PM
CASA General Meeting
@ 1501 Jerome Ave

APR 22
11AM-2PM
Workshop Leases
@ 35 Marcy Place

APR 29
2-6PM
Basketball Tournament
@ 1501 Jerome Ave

MAY 5
6-8PM
Rezoning Meeting
@ 1501 Jerome Ave

MAY 16
6-8PM
Housing Court Meeting
@ 35 Marcy Place

MAY 18
6-8PM
CASA General Meeting
@ 1501 Jerome Ave

MAY 20
11AM-2PM
Workshop Repairs
@ 35 Marcy Place

JUN 1
6-8PM
Rezoning Meeting
@ 1501 Jerome

JUN 12
4-8PM
Bronx RGB Hearing
@ Bronx Museum

JUN 15
6-8PM
CASA General Meeting
@ 1501 Jerome Ave

Huge Victory for Right to Counsel in NYC!

On February 12th, the Mayor and the Speaker announced that they are committed to passing legislation mandating universal access to legal representation for low-income tenants in housing court! When it passes, this will mean that tenants no longer have to fear unjust evictions, will no longer have to fear eviction as retaliation for organizing in their buildings or holding their landlords accountable, and will mean that we have more tools to fight gentrification. This is a victory for all of New York!

February's landmark agreement sends a strong message to tenants that our lives, homes and

communities matter, that the City won't stand by as they are forced to navigate the courts without representation and that they will be protected. This is a huge step forward towards creating a more equitable and just city.

This announcement is also a testament to the power, strength and beauty of organizing and would not have been possible without the visionary leadership and steadfast organizing of tenants in the Bronx and across the city!

Contact Susanna 718-716-8000 ext 125 or s.blankley@newsettlement.org to get involved!



RTC Announcement in February

Now, we must fight to make sure the law that gets signed has the best possible roll out plan for tenants and that tenants know about this new right!

Bronx Residents Put on Pressure at Jerome Ave Rezoning Town Hall



Almost 300 Bronx tenants, workers and community members questioned City Council Members Vanessa Gibson and Fernando Cabrera at the March 2nd Town Hall on their positions in relation to the Bronx Coalition for a Community Vision demands for a just rezoning on Jerome Avenue.

The two Council Members were

asked about their support for specific demands in the Coalition's alternative plan and whether or not they would push back the start date for the ULURP process if the City's plan does not meet our needs.

At the Town Hall, Coalition members confirmed support for key anti-displacement policies such as Right to Counsel, the newly introduced bill to create a Certificate of No Harassment, and the creation of an HPD Task Force on displacement, along with support

for worker safety legislation, an acknowledgement of the need for truly affordable housing and the need for a plan for the auto industry. Yet we know this is not enough!

We still need to keep the pressure on the City and the Council Members to make sure the plan they vote on is a plan that works for our Bronx!



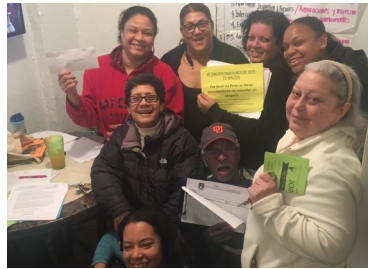
Packed Room at the Jerome Town Hall in March

Contact Susanna 718-716-8000 ext 125 or s.blankley@newsettlement.org to get involved!

Building Highlights

Tenants at 1970-72 Walton Ramp Up Pressure

1970-72 Walton tenants are making a statement that they are ready to fight! After organizing a tenants' association, sending a letter to management, calling 311 together, and meeting with management, tenants are ramping up the pressure to take their management company to court for lack of repairs and services.



955 Walton Build on MCI Opposition

After initially uniting to oppose their landlord's MCI, tenants at 955 Walton have built power through a series of tactics including sending letters to the landlord, filing a DHCR Rent Reduction application, and meeting with the management company directly, and now they're ready to take their organizing to the next level!

750 Grand Concourse Takes Action in a Crisis

After an ongoing rat infestation led to a public health crisis in February, tenants organized quickly to demand accountability in a heated forum with HRA head Steve Banks, Public Advocate Letitia James, and local elected officials. Due to the work of the tenant association, HPD is working closely with the tenants and landlord (named NYC's #4 Worst Landlord in 2017) to ensure tenants will receive building-wide essential repairs and rent-stabilized protection for 50 years.



Running and Ballin to Fundraise for CASA

On April 29th, CASA will host our first ever Basketball Tournament fundraiser for Our Bronx! The tournament will feature games of 3-on-3, performances from local artists and a raffle. Sign up for a team today to show off your skills and your Bronx pride!

In May, 9 CASA staff and allies are running the Brooklyn Half Marathon to protest gentrification and to raise money for CASA! They're also running in support of our commitment to language justice with a goal of buying a new set of interpretation equipment.



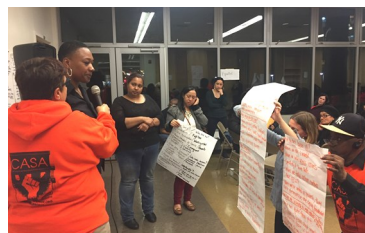
New Settlement Community Builds Post-election Power

In the first 100 days of Trump's administration, CASA joined with the larger New Settlement Apartments community including the Parent Action Committee, Community Food Action and the College Access Center to organize a resource fair and community conversation about our rights and the steps we can take to build power in our communities.

On February 23rd, we organized our first convening where we discussed how our struggles are connected and that we can come together to fight for our neighbors. We had guest presenters from the Arab American Association of New York (AAANY), Families for Freedom (F4F),

Bronx Defenders, Urban Youth Collaborative and the Urban Justice Center share information on our rights and launched a series of workshops on key issues facing our communities held the 4th Thursday of the month.

In March, we held our first thematic workshop on immigration rights and fighting Islamophobia where guest presenters, including the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), AAANY and F4F, shared the history of immigration, immigrant rights and



NSA Post Inauguration Convening

how non-immigrants and non-Muslims can stand in solidarity against deportation and Islamophobia.

The upcoming workshops will cover policing and racial justice, LGBTQ rights, sexual violence and protection against hate crimes.

Leadership Spotlight



Madeline Suero
1295 Grand Concourse

Madeline began developing her leadership by taking notes at the Tenants' Association (TA) meetings in her building and helping draft a letter to the landlord. Despite initially being shy, she started knocking on her neighbors' doors with her father to get them to come to meetings and distributing flyers. Since then Madeline has taken many opportunities to learn more and get more involved in CASA's campaigns and workshops. She represents her TA at CASA General and Rezoning Campaign meetings and recently began facilitating at the two most recent CASA's Know Your Rights workshops. Madeline is now in the Leadership Development Institute to build her skills in public speaking and meeting facilitation.

Social Media Corner

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