

NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL, INC.



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## News Briefs, Summer 2021

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Donate



### Council Members

#### Executive Committee

**Chair:** Douglas Usiak  
**Vice Chair:** Kathryn Carroll, Esq.  
**Secretary:** Chad Eldred  
**Treasurer:** Aileen Martin  
**Member at Large:** Robert Meek, Esq.

CIL Chosen by CIL Directors  
Open

#### CIL Representatives

Aileen Martin  
Douglas Usiak

#### Advocates

Richard Beadon  
Cliff Perez  
Jan Lynch  
Maria Samuels  
Crystal Rivera  
Kathryn Carroll, Esq.  
John Zick

#### Organizations Serving

Aaron Baier  
Denise DiNoto  
Brodie Enoch  
Meghan Parker  
Marcus Johnson  
Chad Eldred

#### Parent/Guardian

Ann L. Scherff  
Lynn Drucker

#### Youth Representative

Vacant

#### Other Appropriate

**Individuals**  
Luticha André Doucette  
Cynthia Alcozer

## Feedback About the NYS Disability Rights Hall of Fame Event

The 3rd New York State Disability Rights Hall of Fame awards ceremony was held virtually on May 6th, 2021. We sent a survey about the event to the 112 virtual participants. A total of 66 of these individuals responded, resulting in a 59% response rate. To view the results of the survey, click here: [NYS DRHOF 2021 Survey Result](#).

Please visit our Hall of Fame web page to watch a fully accessible version of the event and learn more about the Hall of Fame: <https://nysilc.org/hof>.

Nominations for the 2022 class of inductees will open in the fall. Stay tuned for more details!

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## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

NYSILC is currently engaged in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) training. Council members and staff have learned a lot about themselves and what they need to change to be more inclusive. NYSILC has upcoming planning sessions in August and September, leading to the creation of a DEI committee which will monitor and facilitate changes.

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## NYSILC Statement in Solidarity with Asian American Communities

The New York State Independent Living Council, Inc. (NYSILC) condemns the acts of murder, violence, and marginalization directed towards Asian and Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities. NYSILC joins in solidarity with the Asian community across the country to speak out against the dramatic rise in hate crimes against Asian Americans during the pandemic, the majority reported by women.

Stephanie Woodward

Edith Prentiss

Robert Meek, Esq.

Yesenia Torres

Native American

Representative

Lafayette Williams

Business

Roger Benn

Ex Officio DSE Member

Joe Tedesco, ACCES-VR

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NYSILC condemns the murders of eight people in the Atlanta area, including six Asian women. The long history of systemic oppression and racism towards Asian Americans in this country must stop and individuals must be made accountable for their actions.

As our national organization recommends, there are several resources available and ways to educate yourself about the racism and marginalization faced by Asian American Pacific Islanders. You can donate to AAPI organizations and actively work to disrupt racism and white supremacy in your community.

Stop AAPI Hate has an outstanding list of actions you can take immediately and a hate incident tracker.

Read more and donate to these organizations:

- [Asian Americans Advancing Justice and Advancing Justice Atlanta](#)
- [Stop AAPI Hate](#)
- [Asian Mental Health Collective](#)
- [National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum](#)
- [Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality](#)

NYSILC is currently engaged in Diversity, Equity, and Intersectionality (DEI) training. The council is committed to increasing our awareness, embracing change, and building equity.

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## Contributions:

NYSILC acknowledges the following contributors for their generous donations during this past quarter (April 1 - June 30, 2021). Thank You!

### Current Council Members

Joe Bravo, Denise DiNoto, Lynn Drucker, Chad Eldred, Robert Gumson, Jan Lynch, Robert Meek, Cliff Perez, Ann Scherff, Doug Usiak, John Zick

### Former Council Members

Zach Garafalo, Barbara "Bobbi" Linn

### Other Individuals

Marieta Austin, Frank Coco, Peggy Groce, Richard J. Koch, Brian Kolb, Alan Krieger, Elizabeth Martin, Bryan O'Malley, Anthony Mignone, Congressman Paul D. Tonko, Kathleen Van De Loo, Marvin Wasserman, Brad Williams, Amy Wink, Michele Wyse

### Businesses and Organizations

Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled (BCID), Consumer Directed Choices (CD Choices), Westchester

## Upcoming events/activities:

- **Next NYSILC Full Council Meeting** -Friday, October 29th 2021 from 10 am to 1 pm via Zoom. Please visit <https://nysilc.org/council/meetings-calendar> for details.
  - **SAVE THE DATE!** Our 4th Hall of Fame induction event will take place (hopefully in person) at the Albany Wolf Road Marriott on Thursday, May 12, 2022.
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## Interested in a Pat Figueroa Scholarship for youth/young adults with disabilities in New York?

Visit the following web page for details

<https://www.nysilc.org/programs/pat-figueroa-program>.

NYSILC | office 518-427-1060 | fax 518-427-1139 | bradw@nysilc.org | NYSILC.org

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