

Commemorating NYCEM's 12th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium



On Wednesday, March 6, **NYC Emergency Management's Community Engagement Bureau** held its 12th Annual Community Preparedness Symposium: ***Path to Preparedness: Empowering Community Action*** at **Baruch College**.

"NYC Emergency Management's annual Community Preparedness Symposium brings together a network of resources to community groups, organizations, and government agencies that help streamline the recovery process after an emergency," said **NYC Emergency Management Commissioner Zach Iscol**. "We're grateful for the dedication and expertise of all those involved in making this event possible. Our mission at NYCEM goes beyond response—we strive to empower communities to prepare for, endure,

and emerge stronger from emergencies - this can only happen with strong community partnerships and engagement.”

With a record turnout, the 12th Annual Symposium focused on how to empower community organizers, leaders, and government to be prepared ahead of emergencies. **Deputy Commissioner of Community Engagement Herman Schaffer**, keynote speaker **Syeda Ahmed**, high school student, and **Ayman Naseer**, NYC Emergency Management’s Commissioner for the Day contest winner, delivered remarks on the importance of building a network of resources and community connections for emergencies.

Participants heard from youth on the importance of including young voices, inspiring speakers who shared their best practices, and attended workshops that discussed emergency preparedness for older adults, effective communication strategies for diverse communities, accountability in inclusive resilience, and new flood disclosure laws in New York City for tenants and homeowners.

Besides our '23 and '24 Commissioners for a Day, attendees also heard from: **Ben Regas**, Community Organizer for Waterfront Alliance, **Husein Yatabarry**, Executive Director of the Muslim Community Network, **Yujung Jung**, Program Coordinator for Community Inclusion and Development Alliance (CIDA); **Liza Cantillo**, Director of Operations for City Meals on Wheels, **Hein Oo**, New Americans Initiative YMCA of Greater New York, and **Deborah Costa**, Community Preparedness Officer for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 2.

“The annual Community Engagement Symposium showcases the amazing work of our community partners and continues to build and sustain important connections within our community,” said NYC Emergency Management **Deputy Commissioner Herman Schaffer**. “Emergency Management’s work is only successful with continued partnerships. Participants of the symposium will gain new strategies and tools to make New York City more resilient.”

Photos and videos of the event will be available soon!

Partner Spotlight



The NYCEM Community Engagement team would like to shout out all of the

amazing [Strengthening Communities](#) program network partners who attended our Community Preparedness symposium!

Thank you to our Strengthening Communities networks in Brooklyn and Staten Island for amplifying our severe weather advisories and preparedness actions to their local communities last weekend! Check out Staten Island Urban Center/PREPSI's social media graphic below:



Weather Advisory

Staten Island including Stapleton, St. George, New Brighton, Tompkinsville, Great Kills, and New Dorp:

Strong offshore winds in combination with a new moon will result in higher than normal water levels near and along the coast tonight and tomorrow morning. A Coastal Flood Advisory is in effect for Staten Island from 6 PM to 10 PM tonight for 1 to locally 2 feet of flooding, which is expected to result in minor flooding of areas near the shore, including roads, parking lots, parks, and homes and businesses with basements. Another round of coastal flooding with similar water levels is expected tomorrow morning.

Additionally, 1 to 2 inches of heavy rain and stormwater runoff this evening may exacerbate flooding along the shore. Significant inland flooding is not expected, however minor rainfall flooding of low-lying and poor drainage areas will be possible. Gusty winds are also in the forecast, with gusts up to 40 mph tonight and tomorrow. Winds may increase on Monday with gusts of 45 to 50 mph possible. Downed tree branches with a few downed trees and localized power outages will be possible.

STATEN ISLAND URBAN CENTER

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HIGH WIND SAFETY TIPS



NYC
Emergency
Management

1

Stay Informed. Sign up for emergency alerts from NotifyNYC at nyc.gov/notify or follow us on Twitter [@NotifyNYC](https://twitter.com/NotifyNYC).

2

Pay attention to **local weather forecasts** from the National Weather Service & local radio.

3

Power outages are possible. **Charge external batteries.** Turn fridges & freezers to colder settings.

4

Bring inside loose, lightweight objects like lawn furniture, potted plants, bins, tools, and toys.

5

Anchor objects like gas grills & tanks. Close up & secure patio umbrellas & awnings. Remove aerial antennae.

FOR MORE DETAILS ON THESE TIPS,
VISIT [ON.NYC.GOV/HIGHWINDS](https://on.nyc.gov/highwinds)

JOIN: Climate Strong Communities Workshops

The Mayor's Office of Climate & Environmental Justice is working to reduce risks from extreme weather like heat waves and flooding in New York City. Please join us to share your opinions on:

1. **Heatwaves:** How can we make public spaces and streets cooler in the summer?
2. **Heavy Rainfall:** How can we reduce flooding in the neighborhood?
3. **Clean Energy:** What kinds of opportunities are available with renewable energy?
4. **Greening:** How can trees and gardens help cool the neighborhood and reduce flooding?

Flood Watch New York

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Help document flooding and storm damage

Flood Watch New York is a program that collects and analyzes crowd-sourced photos of flooding and hazardous weather impacts across New York's varied coasts and waterbodies through the MyCoast NY tool.

Photos are linked to real-time environmental conditions to create reports that help emergency managers, local planners, residents, and state agencies understand our changing environment and make informed decisions.



REPORT TYPES



FLOOD WATCH -
Tracking flooding
across the state



STORM REPORTER -
Documenting damage
after the storm

Download the **MyCoast app** or visit **MyCoast.org/ny**

DOWNLOAD



REGISTER



SNAP PHOTO



+ ADD REPORT



Need more info?
Contact Jessica Kuonen,
jak546@cornell.edu



APPLY: Public Health Emergencies Pitch Competition!



Pandemic
Response
Institute

FIREFLY
INNOVATIONS

GRAND CHALLENGE COMPETITION

INNOVATIONS IN PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES

Apply by March 31, 2024!

Up to Ten \$500 Prizes
for the Top Ideas

Opportunities to Pitch and
Apply for Seed Grants!

Connect with Columbia
& CUNY Faculty

Firefly Innovations, the premier public health entrepreneurship platform of the **CUNY Graduate School of Public Health & Health Policy**, in partnership with the **New York City Pandemic Response Institute (PRI)** announce the Grand Challenge Competition for Innovations in Public Health Emergencies!

The competition seeks to identify the most promising ideas and technological solutions for public health emergencies – from pandemics to climate change – within the following focus areas:

- *Access to Care and Social Service Solutions that improve the ability to fill critical needs during public health emergencies*
- *Community Engagement & Communications Solutions which enhance the ability to reach and mobilize the public*
- *Data Sharing, Analytics, Modeling, & Forecasting Solutions which increase the prediction and shared understanding of public health emergencies*
- *Diagnostic Solutions which address access gaps and advance point of care, laboratory, or other testing efforts*

Submissions are required to include an emphasis on Health Equity, & Social Determinants of Health and submissions in the areas of Artificial intelligence and Machine Learning are highly encouraged.

Winning ideas will receive:

- *Up to ten \$500 prizes for the top ideas*
- *Opportunities to connect with multidisciplinary researchers at Columbia University and the City University of New York*
- *Invitation to apply for a seed grant for R&D*
- *An invitation to pitch at the PRI Innovation Forum*

Deadline to apply is **March 31, 2024**. Multiple idea submissions are allowed. Submit your ideas by [clicking here!](#)

Get FREE Help to File Your Taxes!



**Maximum credits. Full refund.
Your family deserves it. Get it back.**



If you earned \$85,000 or less in 2023, you can file your taxes for **FREE** with an IRS-certified VITA/TCE volunteer preparer. Services are available virtually online and in person. Find out more by [clicking here](#). **The deadline to file a tax return for your 2023 taxes is April 15, 2024.**

APPLY: John D. Solomon Fellowship for Public Service

The John D. Solomon Fellowship for Public Service is the first student fellowship with the City devoted specifically to emergency management. For more than 10 years, the program has proudly provided 10 graduate students in the New York City area with the opportunity to complete a nine-month, paid fellowship in an agency of New York City government or a nonprofit organization.

The application for the 2024 - 2025 academic year is now open. Completed applications include both the web application AND a resume submitted by midnight on Sunday, March 17. Fellowship staff will confirm receipt of completed applications. Only completed applications will be reviewed. For more information and the application, [click here](#). To watch a recording of a recent information session, click the video thumbnail below!



Freeze Your Rent!

Eligible New Yorkers with disabilities and older New Yorkers can stop their rent from increasing with the City's Rent Freeze program.

Call PEU's **Rent Freeze Hotline** at **929-252-7242**.



NYC Mayor's Public Engagement Unit **Rent Freeze**

The NYC Rent Freeze Program, helps eligible New Yorkers with disabilities and seniors stay in affordable housing by freezing their rent. Find out more about the program by calling the **Rent Freeze Hotline** at **929-252-7242**. You can also visit the program website for my information by [clicking here](#).

Governor Hochul Announces \$200 Million in Utility Bill Relief for 8 Million New Yorkers



Governor Kathy Hochul announced that the New York State Public Service Commission adopted a \$200 million New York State energy bill credit to be administered by the large electric and gas utilities on behalf of their customers. The energy bill credit is a one-time credit using State-appropriated funds to provide energy bill relief to more than 8 million directly metered electric and gas customers. With this action, more than \$1.4 billion has been or will be made available to New York consumers to help offset energy costs in 2024. Find out more about the credit and other available energy assistance programs by [clicking here](#).

We Are Hiring! Join the NYC Emergency Management Team



New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM) is responsible for coordinating citywide emergency planning and response for all types and scales of emergencies. It is staffed by more than 200 dedicated professionals with diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise, including individuals assigned from other City agencies.

Our Mission: NYC Emergency Management helps New Yorkers before, during, and after emergencies through preparedness, education, and response.

Our Jobs: NYC Emergency Management has a variety of vacancies within multiple

bureaus across the agency – the jobs summaries below are simply a selection of the jobs available. For full job descriptions, go to [NYC.gov/jobs](https://nyc.gov/jobs).

BUREAU: Office of the Chief Operating Officer (COO)

Desktop Support Technician, \$57,000-\$68,000- Job ID# 619712

Under the supervision of the Director of Information Technology, the candidate will assist staff with technical support of desktop and laptop computers, applications, and related technology. Support includes specification, installation, and testing of computer systems and peripherals within established standards and guidelines. Activities require interaction with application software and operating systems to diagnose and resolve unique problems. The position utilizes one-on-one consultancy to end-users. The position's responsibilities require independent analyses, communication, and problem-solving.

BUREAU: Office of the Chief Counsel

Records Program Manager, \$65,000-\$72,000 – Job ID# 608248

The Records Management unit is looking for a Records Program Manager who will work under the directions of the Chief Counsel and the Deputy Director, Records. The Program Manager will assist with maintaining and managing the agency's electronic and physical records. This includes any day-to-day responsibilities and creating and implementing policies around agency records. The Program Manager will work with staff to ensure that all records are in compliance according to City policies and procedures.

BUREAU: Response

Logistics Program Manager, \$65,000-\$74,000 – Job ID# 627730

New York City Emergency Management Department (NYCEM) is seeking a Logistics Program Manager who is an innovative person with a passion for emergency management logistics. Applicants shall have a background in one or more of the following areas: emergency management logistics, humanitarian/mass care response logistics, mutual aid coordination, ground support logistics, logistics planning and/or other sectors of the logistics industry that would be able to contribute to NYCEM's disaster logistics planning and response efforts.

Learn More About NYC Emergency Management Community

Preparedness - <https://youtu.be/L250wy3o6r4>

NYC Emergency Management Communications Network | 165 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, NY
11201

[Unsubscribe intergov@oem.nyc.gov](mailto:unsubscribe_intergov@oem.nyc.gov)

[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

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