

ABOUT CIANA

CIANA is a nonprofit social services agency that has served immigrants in New York City for nearly 20 years. We specialize in providing a holistic array of culturally competent and language-appropriate services that address the growing marginalization of new immigrants, reaching newcomers from the Middle East, North Africa, South Asia, Latin America, and West Africa. In the past three years alone (FY 2023-2025), CIANA has served over 820 families from 11101, 11368, and 11369 TRIE neighborhoods, making up 30% of clients served in Queens. During this same time period, we have conducted over 10,400 community engagements in those same three TRIE neighborhoods and served over 290 clients through our NYC Care program, a major CIANA program. CIANA offers ESL courses, medical enrollment support, immigration legal services, after-school study initiatives, and services for asylum seekers. Furthermore, CIANA's Digital Safety CEC-funded project in 2024 for digital safety workshops in the Corona (11368) neighborhood directly served over 70 families in response to the needs. CIANA works to offer access for people with various disabilities, including holding classes/meetings at various sites, and accommodating client needs for virtual services when necessary.



LOCATION

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CONTACT

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PATHWAYS TO A SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE CAREER



Serving the Long Island
City/Queensbridge, East
Elmhurst & Corona
Neighborhoods

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

CIANA is proud to be working in coordination with the CEC and The People's Money to implement our project within NYC's TRIE neighborhoods! Pathways to a Successful College Career aims to inform high school students and their caregivers from the 11101, 11368, and 11369 TRIE neighborhoods about the application process to higher education institutions - stepping through materials needed, advising on best practices to ensure readiness, and promoting access for all. CIANA will support families and students to understand the various options available to them for accessing college education, addressing concerns that families may have about types of colleges, accessibility, distances, cultural factors, and cost.

We will be hosting workshops to inform students and families understand the college process, financial aid packages, and more. Outside of our workshops, we will be recruiting & training community volunteers to mentor students and families through our hands-on mentorship program: stepping through every facet of application requirements, personal essays, scholarships, testing, campus tours, etc. The project will aim to support students and their families to reach their goals and foster a successful, prosperous future.

MENTORSHIP DETAILS

Who You Are

You are a college-aged community member who is passionate about social justice and aiding in the advancement & development of access to college education! We are looking for volunteer mentors to join our project and make an impact in the lives of our future leaders and trailblazers, those who speak a secondary language are a plus!

What You'll Be Doing

As a Mentor, you will be working to give hands-on assistance to students and step them through the college application process. Mentors will be briefed with CIANA materials and trained to guide mentees through the workshop duration. With support from CIANA, you will successfully provide the tools for mentees to not only be college ready, but confident in taking the next step towards their goals.

Requirements

The requirements needed for mentors who sign on to the project will include availability to commit to project hours, training to familiarize with project materials, and the desire to make a difference! Familiarity with the American college application process and financial aid options is helpful, but not required! We encourage college-aged members of the community from every walk of life to apply and welcome all levels of familiarity and help the next generation!

What will be given by the program to incentivize mentors:

The mentorship program will include public transportation cost coverage for mentors and students via charged OMNY cards, refreshments, and a certificate of completion!