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Governor

Office for  
the Aging

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## Register Now: Public Forums Announced for Office of Community Living Feasibility Study

Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2015 (S2007-B/A3007-B) authorized the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) to study the feasibility of creating an Office of Community Living (OCL). The legislation requires NYSOFA to seek public input about the creation of an Office of Community Living with the goal of providing improvements in service delivery and improved program outcomes that would result from the expansion of community living integration services for older adults and persons of all ages with disabilities.

NYSOFA has commissioned the Center for Aging and Disability Education and Research (CADER), Boston University to facilitate the OCL feasibility study. In addition, NYSOFA has convened a steering committee comprised of key stakeholders from the aging, disability, and both aging and disability to assist with gathering information pertaining to the feasibility of an Office for Community Living in New York State.

A combined effort from the principal researchers from CADER along with the Steering Committee designed a survey to gather input from consumers and providers from both the aging and disability population across New York State. Preliminary survey data will be presented at the public forums to gather additional input, guidance and recommendations from stakeholders.

### **Each location will be physically accessible for all and provide:**

1. ASL Interpreting
2. Communication Access Real Translation (CART)
3. Language Interpretation/Translation (request need to be made in advance)

We respectfully request attendees come fragrance free (not wearing any scented products or washing with them) to accommodate participants with chemical/fragrance sensitivity.

If you require additional accommodations (ex. tactile interpreting, assistive listening devices, etc.) to participate in the forum, please advise when registering.

-Pre-registration *is required* due to space capacity. Please register at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OCLforumregistration>. In addition, you can also register by calling Abbey Lavazzo at (518)391-4553 or email, [abbey.lavazzo@aging.ny.gov](mailto:abbey.lavazzo@aging.ny.gov)

-All public forums will be recorded and posted on the NYSOFA website under the Office for Community Living tab: <http://aging.ny.gov/CommunityLiving/index.cfm>

The public is invited to attend any of the following forums:

**September 21, 9:00-11:00a.m.**

Empire State Plaza Meeting Room #6

Concourse Level

Albany, NY 12210

**September 21, 2:00-4:00p.m.**

West Side Ballroom

253 New York Road

Plattsburgh, NY 12903

**September 22, 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.**

Onondaga Community College, Storer Auditorium

4585 W Seneca Turnpike

Syracuse, NY 13215

(Use parking lots 2 or 4)

**September 22, 2:30-4:30p.m.**

Southern Tier Independence Center

135 E Frederick St.

Binghamton, NY 13094

**September 30, 9:00-11:00a.m.**

Suffolk County, To Be Determined (TBD)

**September 30, 2:00-4:00p.m.**

New York City, TBD

**October 1, 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.**

Dutchess/Putnam County, TBD

**October 7, 9:00-11:00a.m.**

Mt. Olive Baptist Church

701 E Delevan Ave.

Buffalo, NY 14215

**October 7, 1:30-3:30p.m.**

Monroe County, TBD