NYC Organizing Academy – Advanced Course

The CNL Organizing Academy’s 10 month Advanced Organizer Course for experienced organizers is an intensive course that will provide experienced organizers a space to read, reflect, and explore ways to deepen their analysis and practice of community organizing. The course is designed to help you get to the next level and to dig deep into institutional and individual opportunities for growth. The course will be structured by topic, which currently are: Base Building, Leadership Development, Political Education, Coalitions and Campaigns, and Institutional Growth - all looking at developing staff and creating a culture of excellence. (Topics are subject to change based on participant input). For each topic, the class will explore theoretical frameworks, reflect on current practices for their strengths and challenges, identify new practices to try, and then reflect on implementing them. The class is participatory and discussion-oriented, rather than lecture-style. Participants, the instructor, and additional advisers all contribute to the on-going development of the course.

Logistics: The course will meet from 10:00 to 1:00pm, two Fridays each month starting in September 2018 and will run through the end of June of the following year.

Session Location:
Organizing Academy sessions will take place at:
  1. ANHD 50 Broad Street, Suite 1402, NYC 10004

Tuition Cost: $2000 for ANHD/NYIC members and $2500 for non-members

Expectations:
  • Participants must be engaged in community organizing work
  • Participants must make every effort to attend all CNL sessions on time and engage fully and positively. (Note: Host organizations must commit to facilitating full attendance). Participants with multiple lateness and absences will be in danger of not graduating.
  • Participants must utilize the online communication tool to communicate and access CNL materials
  • Participants must be prepared for all sessions

How to Apply? Applications Due: June 22, 2018
  1. If you are interested in applying you must complete the online application here by June 22, 2018. (https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PMJZCC3)
  2. Finalists may be asked to participate in a short interview by phone, the call may take place individually or in a small group.
  3. Selected participants will be notified by Early July 2018
  4. For more info: To learn more about CNL, contact Ericka Stallings at ericka.s@anhd.org.

Training Instructor:
Susanna Blankley is the Coalition Coordinator for the Right to Counsel NYC Coalition, which is made up of more than 65 tenant advocate groups, tenant organizing groups, faith based groups, academics, and legal services providers throughout the New York City, who work on implementing NYC’s historic legislation making eviction defense a right and using the new law as a tool to build tenant power throughout NYC. Susanna worked as the Director of Community Action for Safe Apartments (CASA), a project of New Settlement Apartments, in the Southwest Bronx, from 2012-2017. CASA is made up of
community members working together to improve the living conditions in the South Bronx and maintain affordable housing through collective action. Under Susanna's leadership CASA grew from a small base of members to over 4,000, the organizing team grew from 3 to 13, the organization's capacity grew from working on only tenants' association issues to developing and leading local and citywide campaigns, guaranteeing concrete changes for tenants across the city such as the Right to Counsel, and she developed a strong leadership development program for members, a political education and organizing training program for staff as well as a vibrant grassroots fundraising model. Susanna has 10 years of tenant and labor organizing experience. Before organizing, Susanna worked to advance Women's Rights in Ecuador, New York City and Kenya. Susanna received her B.A. in English Literature from Columbia University and her M.A. in Intercultural Service, Leadership and Management from the SIT Graduate Institute.