

Cuomo's Office of New Americans Opens Opportunity Centers

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Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Office of New American's has debuted 27 "opportunity centers" that will provide English language training, prepare immigrants for citizenship tests, provide job opportunities, training and access to capital.

There is also a toll-free, multilingual hotline at (800) 566-7636 to guide immigrants to services.

"By establishing the Office for New Americans, we are helping our state live up to the promise of the Lady in our Harbor and ensure that New York remains a land of opportunity for all," Cuomo said in a statement. "New York state and city were built by the working hands of immigrants who traveled thousands of miles to pursue the limitless possibilities of the American Dream. The Office for New Americans builds on this promise and will help harness the strong work ethic and energy of our immigrants so we can reinvigorate our economy, create jobs and reconnect to our state's rich history of opportunity."

Cuomo noted at a cabinet meeting on Monday that the creating of the opportunity centers shows that New York's policy toward immigrants is opposite of many states that want to drive immigrants away.

New York Secretary of State Cesar Perales echoed Cuomo' sentiments. "Providing access to English language training and other services is vital for the full participation of New Americans in our State's civic and economic life," he said.

The centers were created through an open bidding process and are being run in many places by established groups that already provide services for immigrants. Here is a list:

- Albany – Literacy New York – Albany Public Library – 161 Washington Avenue, 2nd Floor, Albany, NY, 12210

- Bronx (University Heights) – Research Foundation of CUNY/Bronx Community College – 2155 University Avenue, Bronx , NY 10453

- Bronx (Mott Haven) – Mercy Center — 401 East 145th Street, Bronx, NY 10454

- Brooklyn (Midwood) – FECS Health & Human Services – 938 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, NY 11223

- Brooklyn (Williamsburg) – Opportunities for Better Tomorrow – 280 Wyckoff Street, Brooklyn, NY 11237

- Brooklyn (Bay Ridge) – Arab American Association of NY – 7111 5th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11209

- Dutchess (Poughkeepsie) – Catholic Charities of Dutchess County – Dutchess Community College – 218 Church Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

- Erie (Buffalo) – Catholic Charities of Buffalo – 20 Herkimer Street, Buffalo, NY 14213

- Manhattan (Washington Heights) – Hispanic Federation – Northern Manhattan Coalition for Immigrant Rights – 664 West 182nd Street, New York, NY 10033

- Manhattan (Washington Heights) – Research Foundation of CUNY/Manhattan – 560 West 181st Street, 10033

- Manhattan (Chinatown) – Chinese-American Planning Council – 165 Eldridge Street, New York, NY 10002

- Monroe (Rochester) – Rochester Collaborative for New Americans (Catholic Family Center) – Rochester Public Library, Somali Community of Western, NY – 87 North Clinton, Rochester, NY 14604

- Nassau (Hempstead) – Economic Opportunity Commission of Nassau County – 134 Jackson Street, Hempstead, NY 11550

- Nassau (Freeport) – Literacy Nassau – 187 Smith Street, Freeport, NY 11520

- Onondaga (Syracuse) – Catholic Charities of Onondaga County – 527 Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13202

- Orange (Newburgh) – Catholic Charities of Orange County – Orange County Community College – 319 Broadway, Newburgh, NY 12550

- Queens (Jackson Heights) – Make the Road – 92-10 Roosevelt Avenue, Jackson Heights, NY 11237

- Queens (Jackson Heights) – Queens Community House – 74-09 37th Avenue, Jackson heights, NY 11372

- Queens (Flushing) – Korean Community Services – Chinese-American Planning Council & the MinKwon Center for Community Action – 35-56 159th Street, Flushing, NY 11358

- Queens (Flushing) – YMCA – 138-46 Northern Boulevard, Flushing, NY 11354
- Rockland (Spring Valley) – Haitian-American Cultural and Social Organization – 24 West Street, Spring Valley, NY 12231
- Staten Island – YMCA – 285 Vanderbilt Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301
- Suffolk (Brentwood) – Make the Road – CARECERN – 1090 Suffolk Avenue, Brentwood, NY 11717
- Tompkins (Ithaca) – Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga – 315 North Cayuga Street, Ithaca, NY 14850
- Utica – Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees – 309 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13501
- Westchester (New Rochelle) – United Community Center of Westchester – New Rochelle Public Library – 360 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10801
- Westchester (White Plains) – Westchester Hispanic Coalition – Westchester Community College – 46 Waller Avenue, White Plains, NY 10605

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