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Citizen Action of New York; Records

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M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

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Summary Information

Repository:	M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives
Title:	Citizen Action of New York Records
ID:	apap341
Date [inclusive]:	1983-2008
Physical Description:	11.1 cubic ft.
Physical Location:	The materials are located onsite in the department.
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection contains the records Citizen Action of New York. Citizen Action of New York is a grassroots membership organization that fights for social, racial, economic, and environmental justice. Working closely with New York State politicians, community organizers, and activists, Citizen Action members hope to end the oppression of marginalized groups.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, Citizen Action of New York, 1986-2008. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as the Citizen Action of New York Records).

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Historical Note

Citizen Action of New York is a grassroots membership organization with chapters and affiliates in major cities across the state. The organization tackles transformative issues affecting society such as affordable healthcare, quality education, public financing of election campaigns, dismantling racism, and a more progressive tax system. To achieve its vision, members fight for social, racial, economic and environmental justice.

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Scope and Contents

The collection contains correspondence, administrative files, newspaper articles, press releases, subject files, and legislative materials.

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Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is arranged alphabetically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

Revision Description

Encoded in EAD by Brian Keough Sheri Sarnoff arranged and described accessions. 2016 December 26
2019 September 26

Processing Information

The initial donation, accessioned in 2009, was processed in 2019 by Sheri Sarnoff. An addition 37 cu. ft. of material donated in 2023 is unprocessed.

Access

Access to the processed portions of this collection is unrestricted except for some folders related to the hiring of staff and donors to political campaigns. Series 2 also contains two folders that are closed until 2052-2053 due to attorney-client privilege. The unprocessed material is restricted as it may

contain recent administrative records and/or personally identifiable information. Please contact an archivist for more information.

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Acquisition Information

All items in this collection were transferred to the University Libraries, M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives by Citizen Action of New York. The first set of materials (currently listed in this finding aid) were donated by Richard Kirsch in 2009. In 2023, Andrew Tarwerdi donated the records of former executive director Karen Scharff which she had indicated her intention to donate prior to retiring.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Public Advocate
- Albany (N.Y.)
- New York (State)
- Health care reform
- Lobbying--New York (State)
- Lobbying--Law and legislation
- New York (State)--Politics and government.
- United States -- Politics and government.

Collection Inventory

Administrative Files, 1983-2008

Physical Description: 3 cubic ft.

Language of the Material: English.

Arrangement

This series is arranged alphabetically.

Title/Description	Instances	
3 Faces of Power, 20032005	Box 1	Folder 1
8th Annual Leadership Conference, 2005	Box 1	Folder 2
15th Anniversary Celebration-Awards Ceremony, 1998	Box 1	Folder 3
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Must consult an archivist before viewing.		
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Must consult an archivist before viewing.		
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Must consult an archivist before viewing.

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Citizen Action-National Board Members and Executive Directors, 1984-1990	Box 1	Folder 44
Citizen Action of New York-17 Years of Accomplishments, 1983-2000	Box 1	Folder 45
Citizen Action of New York vs. Michael R. Bloomberg, 2002	Box 1	Folder 46
Citizen Action Updates, 1986-1988	Box 1	Folder 47
The Civil Jury System: Accountability, Deterrence, and Fairness, 1994	Box 1	Folder 48
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Legislation, 1985-2006

Physical Description: 7.8 cubic ft.

Language of the Material: English.

Arrangement

This series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

This series is related to Citizen Action's involvement in social, racial, economic, and environmental justice. The first sub-series, lobbying, includes records relating to Citizen Action's advocacy and action. The second sub-series, subject files, includes records that supported Citizen Action's mission, but were produced by other organizations and individuals. This series does contain restrictions. Please consult an archivist before using the collection.

Lobbying, 1986-2006

Physical Description: 5.9 cubic ft.

Language of the Material: English.

Arrangement

This sub-series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

This sub-series includes records related to Citizen Action's involvement in political, racial, social, and economic issues. Many of these issues were related to clean money campaigns and health care. The sub-series includes pamphlets, flyers, letters to Congressmen, news releases, and VHS tapes. The VHS tapes include video footage of members of Citizen Action lobbying, speeches from politicians at their galas and meetings, and other programs that the organization hosted. Some folders in this sub-series are restricted, so please consult an archivist before use. Two folders are closed due to attorney client privilege.

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Subject Files, 1985-2006

Physical Description: 2.2 cubic ft.

Language of the Material: English.

Arrangement

This sub-series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

This series contains documents that Citizen Action referred to when working on social, political, racial, and economic issues. This series contains news articles, information guides, workbooks, court cases, and documents

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