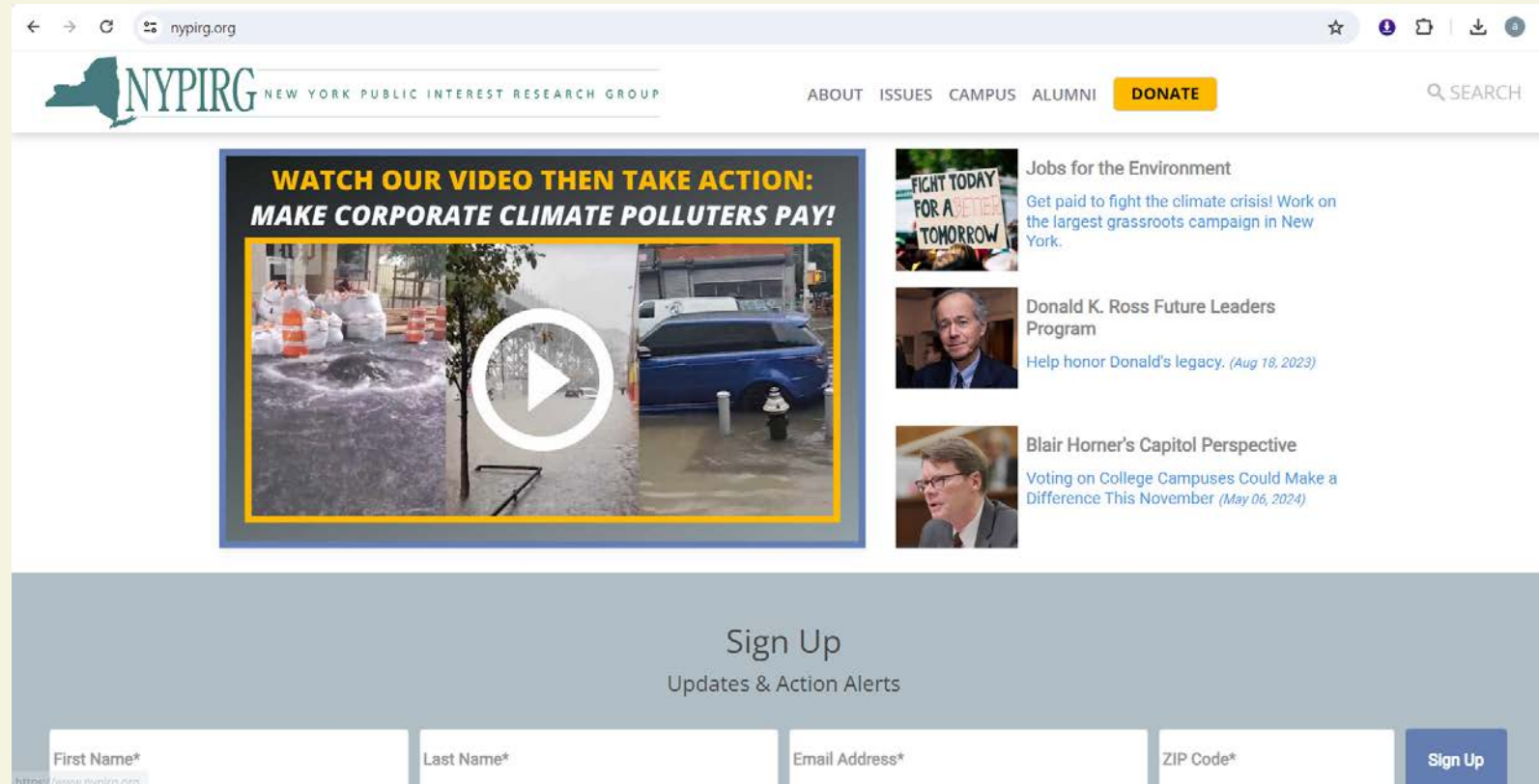




New York Public Interest Research Group

Spring 24 | Muhamad Amin uddin



WEBSITE

NYPIRG Critical Issues

Voting Rights

NYPIRG is committed to ensuring that political participation is available and accessible to all eligible New Yorkers. Over the past four decades, NYPIRG's non-partisan voter mobilization campaign has guarded and fought to expand the rights of voters in New York through community outreach, advocacy, media work, and litigation. Over the past two years, New York has taken many positive steps toward improving voter registration and voter participation rates. But there is still more to do. A U.S. Elections Project analysis showed that New York's voter participation rates had improved significantly, the state is still no better than the national average. New York must take additional steps to address systematic problems that continue to disenfranchise voters and remove barriers that suppress voter turnout.

Energy & the Environment

The planet is heating up, and that temperature rise is accelerating. Climate change is the most pressing environmental, public health, economic, and social justice issue facing our planet. Join NYPIRG's Community Action Network to help New York move toward a clean, renewable energy future — supporting efforts that shift New York away from fossil fuel use and infrastructure and to wind and other renewables.

Government Accountability

The incredible scandals and controversies that have rocked the state Capitol in recent years have provided an opportunity for NYPIRG to research and offer best ethics practices to guide policymakers in their debate over needed reforms. From campaign finance, to ethics regulation, to oversight of the lobbying industry, NYPIRG is at the center of those public debates. To get information on your local New York State legislators — including their outside employment and demographics of the district — check out NYPIRG's Legislative Profiles.

Public Health

Protecting the public's health is a central mission of NYPIRG. From minimizing the risks to products containing toxins, to fighting exposure to tobacco products, to helping patients protect themselves from skyrocketing drug prices, to helping consumers shop smart in the health care marketplace, to advocating for visitors' access to loved ones in the hospital, and to ensuring accessibility to high quality affordable medical care, NYPIRG has taken on a broad range of topics to protect the public interest.

Consumer Protection

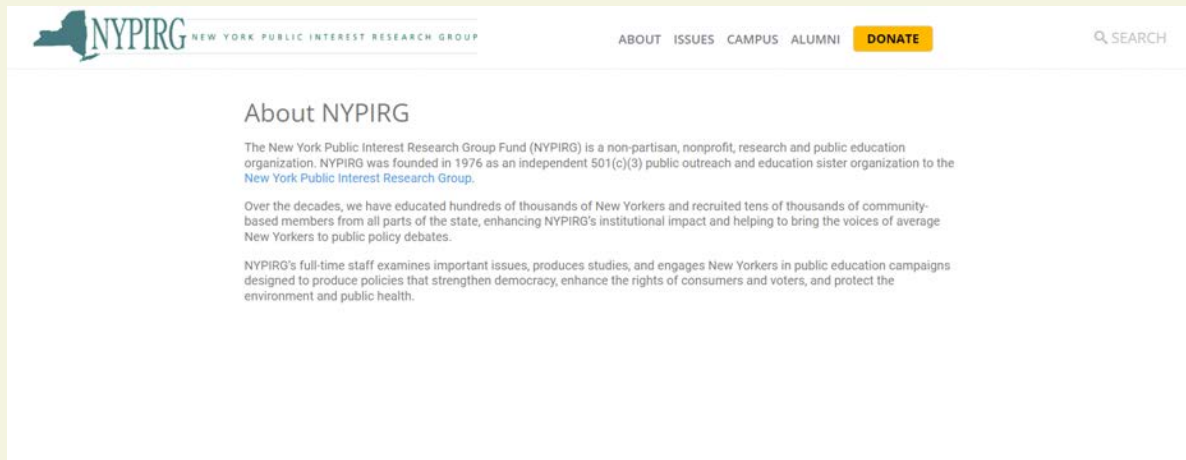
Too often, consumers get ripped off by unscrupulous businesses or landlords. Sometimes, the cost is too low for consumers to go out and hire a lawyer. In those situations, New York State offers its own "People's Court," where consumers can represent themselves and, if they win, can obtain up to a \$5,000 award. NYPIRG offers consumers information on how to use the Court, as well as other information to help them shop smart in the marketplace.

Higher Education Affordability

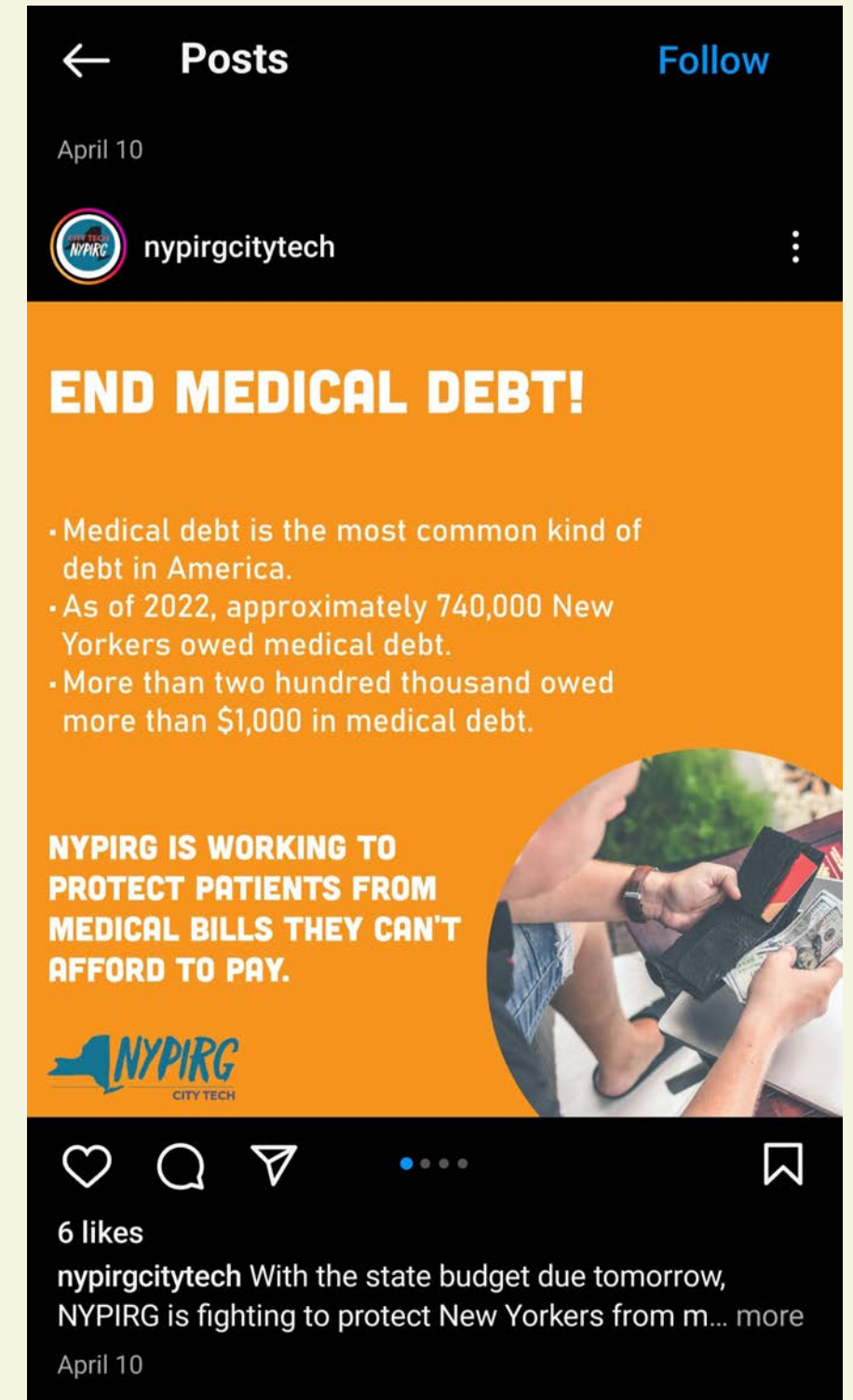
Dramatic cuts in public funding, along with skyrocketing tuition and other costs associated with getting a college degree over the past several years have threatened access to affordable, quality higher education and contributed to rising student loan debt. NYPIRG educates students and the public on the costs associated with attending college — both public and independent. In addition, NYPIRG offers policy solutions to help keep college affordable for all who wish to attend.

NYC Mass Transit

Riders rely on New York City's subway and buses to get to and from school, work, and home. Over the past four decades, NYPIRG's Straphangers Campaign has worked to promote safe, reliable, and affordable mass transit. The Straphangers Campaign offers the public critical information on New York City's mass transit system as well as ways for riders to express their views to relevant policymakers.



NYPIRG INSTAGRAM



CITYTEACH CHAPTER

ROLE

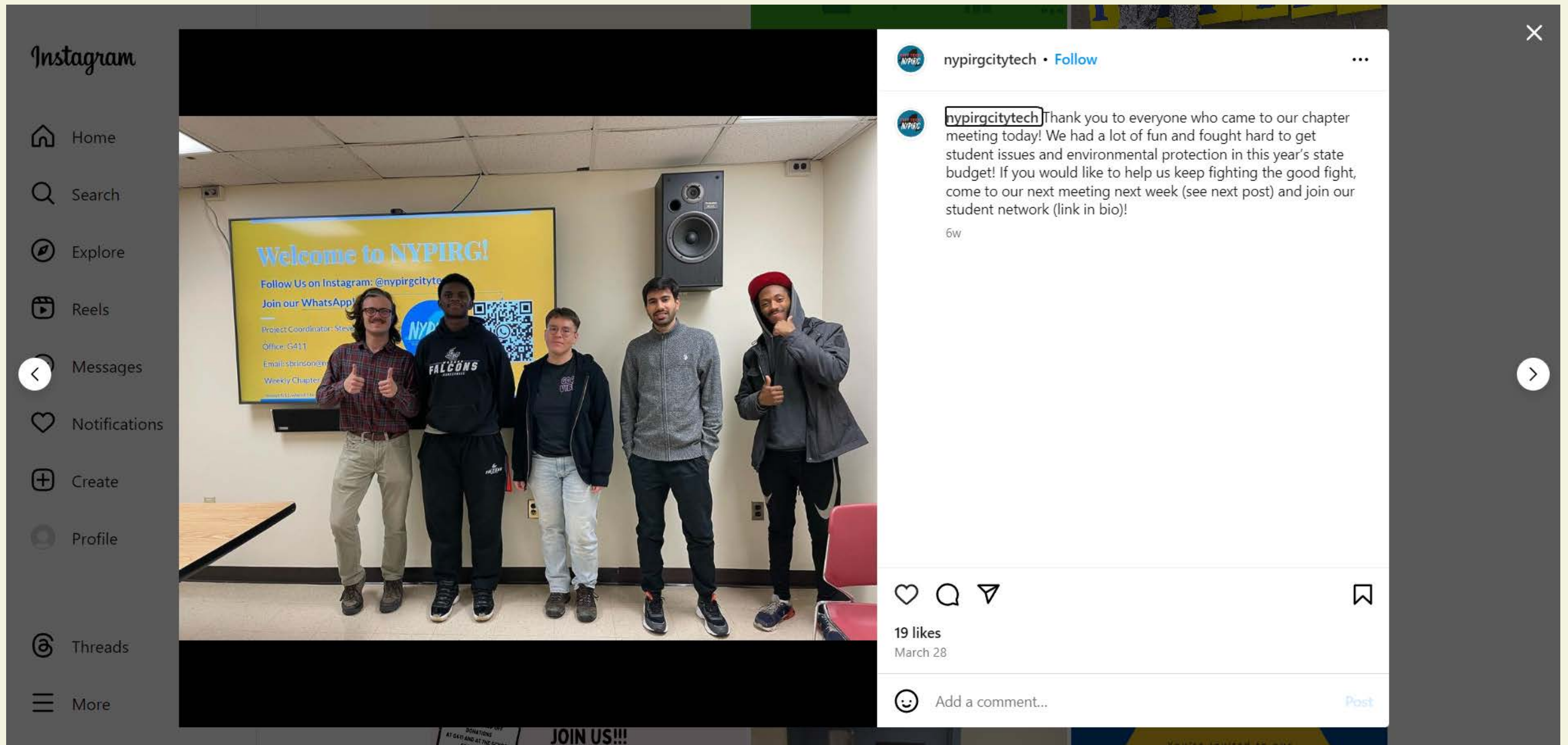
I was a graphic design intern at NYPIRG, working under the supervision of Stephen Brinson. I found this internship opportunity on OpenLab, went through an interview process with Stephen, and were offered the position of project leader for the healthcare campaign. my role involves advocating for an end to medical debt and affordable healthcare for all New Yorkers.



OFFICE SPACE



WEEKLY CHAPTER MEETING



We had chapter meetings every Thursday to discuss the agenda for the week.

CLIPBOARDING / PUBLIC REACHOUT

we collaborated with the City Tech Student Government Association (CitytechSGA), and organized a tabling event outside the cafeteria to get student involvement for the NYPIRG march in March.



COLLABORATION



- Collaborated with the Student Government Association (SGA) and the Art and Design Club.
 - NYPIRG's annual "March In March" event, where students advocate for demands like free and fully funded CUNY/SUNY, free metro cards, increased financial aid, more advisors and mental health services, and additional resources for students with disabilities.
 - Design and create banners and placards to be used during the march.
-

IN 2021, 59% OF NEW YORK HOSPITALS FAILED AT LEAST ONE QUESTION ON THEIR FINANCIAL AID STATE AUDIT.

- 44% did not post their financial assistance policies online as of 2018
- 22% had illegal 'accelerator' clauses that increased interest rates if patients missed a payment

THE OUNCE OF PREVENTION ACT (A6027A/S1366B) WOULD

- Ensure that hospitals implement a common financial assistance process without discriminatory asset tests
- Extend deadlines so that patients can apply for the bills they actually get
- Ensure hospitals notify patients of their options



END MEDICAL DEBT!

- Medical debt is the most common kind of debt in America.
- As of 2022, approximately 740,000 New Yorkers owed medical debt.
- More than two hundred thousand owed more than \$1,000 in medical debt.

NYPIRG IS WORKING TO PROTECT PATIENTS FROM MEDICAL BILLS THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY.



INSTAGRAM POSTS

END MEDICAL DEBT CAMPAIGN

SINCE 2019, THE FIVE STATE-RUN SUNY HOSPITALS HAVE SUED MORE THAN 16,000 PATIENTS.

- These patients disproportionately live in low-income communities and communities of color
- These lawsuits have almost no impact on SUNY's budget but deeply and painfully affect the patients
- These hospitals receive more than \$530 million a year to treat patients who can't afford to pay

THE STOP SUNY SUING ACT (A8170/S7778) WOULD END THESE PRACTICES AND HELP MAKE SURE PATIENTS DON'T HAVE TO FEAR THEIR HOSPITALS.



CALL GOVERNOR HOCHUL AT 518-474-8390 TODAY TO ENSURE THE FINAL BUDGET PROTECTS PATIENTS!

"Hello! My name is _____. I am calling to urge Governor Kathy Hochul to include strong hospital financial assistance reform in the final state budget. I am worried about my risk of having hospital debt for unaffordable out-of-pocket costs. Hospitals are supposed to have financial assistance available, but the income level for eligibility must be raised to 600% as proposed by the Ounce of Prevention Act which is part of the Senate budget proposal. New York patients need the Governor to support a budget that includes Ounce of Prevention Act and the Stop SUNY Suing Act. Thank you!"



NYPIRG's NY HEALTH ACT CAMPAIGN

DID YOU KNOW?

8% of adult New Yorkers reported not seeing a doctor in the past year because of cost

- 19.1% of adult Hispanic New Yorkers reported not seeing a doctor in the past year because of cost
- 13.2% of adult New Yorkers do not have a primary care physician

Support the Campaign for New York Health. Let's make healthcare a right, not a privilege.



DID YOU KNOW?

From 2014 to 2020, health costs increased more in New York than in any other state in America.



Support the Campaign for New York Health. Let's make healthcare a right, not a privilege.

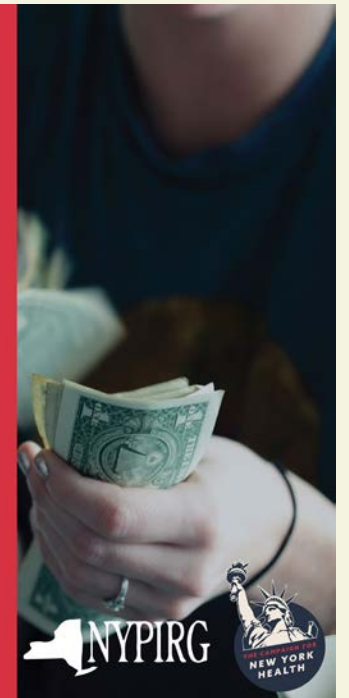


DID YOU KNOW?

New Yorkers spent \$14,000 on healthcare annually in 2020, on average.



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DID YOU KNOW?

The average doctor spends nearly a quarter of their time on administrative tasks, often related to private insurance, rather than treating patients.



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DID YOU KNOW?

More than a hundred thousand of New York's children are uninsured.



Support the Campaign for New York Health. Let's make healthcare a right, not a privilege.



DID YOU KNOW?

One in five adult New Yorkers have no regular medical provider whatsoever.



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DID YOU KNOW?

New York's life expectancy dropped 4.6 years during the pandemic.



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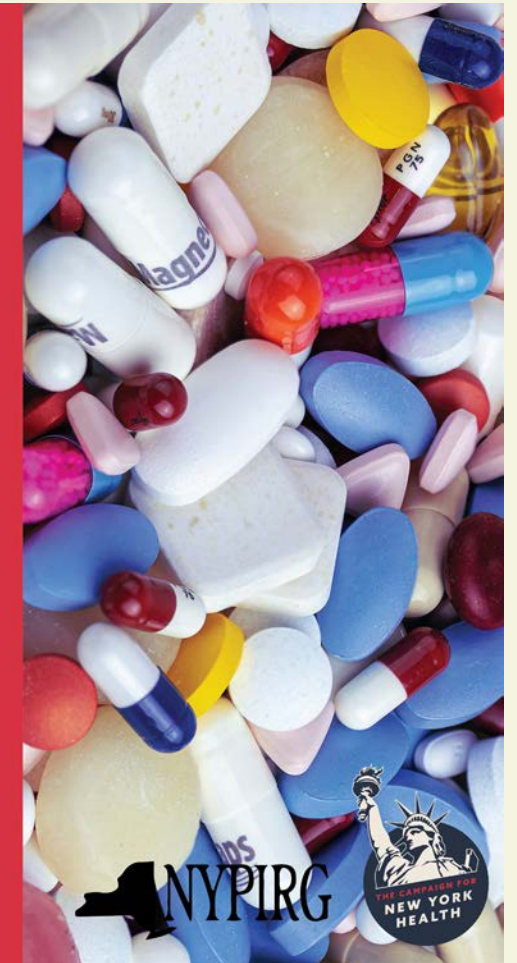


DID YOU KNOW?

The New York Health Act would save the state \$114 billion over the next ten years



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STORY BANK

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD.

Have you or someone close to you ever struggled with medical bills or poor healthcare? It's a huge problem that so many people face. Share your story with NYPIRG to help us fight for healthcare justice in New York!



nypirgcitytech • Follow

nypirgcitytech If you or a loved one has had to deal with medical debt or other bad experiences with healthcare, hospitals, or insurance, you are not alone and you deserve to have your story heard. NYPIRG is fighting for healthcare justice across the state, and your story can help show what New Yorkers are dealing with and help win the fight for healthcare justice. Share your story at the link in bio!

7w

6 likes
March 19

Add a comment... Post

I designed an Instagram post graphics for one of NYPIRG's story banks for their healthcare campaign.

TENANTS RIGHTS WORKSHOP



I designed an Instagram post graphics for NYPIRG's tenants rights workshop

LEARNING OUTCOME

Initially, I was looking to get a more design-focused internship, but I eventually ended up interning at NYPIRG. Surprisingly, they made me a project leader for their healthcare campaign, which was outside of my domain. Healthcare advocacy was not my original domain, but I got opportunities to do design work on their other projects.

Overall, I would say this internship allowed me to gain experience in public speaking, advocacy, and leadership skills that I believe will be very helpful for me in the future, regardless of which career path I take.

THANK YOU!

Photo Credit: NYPIRG, UNSPLASH