

Rent In This Economy?!

7 ways to fight it together

Rent is due. What to do?



Right to Counsel
NYC COALITION

How to use this guide

Here are 7 things you can do to organize with your neighbors! Organizing is powerful! Almost all of the rights we have were won through organizing, led by everyday people like you! To win what we need during this challenging time, our best and only option is to organize!

1

Get to know your neighbors

Hey,
how you
doing?

If you haven't already, see how your neighbors are doing. Are they OK? Do they need groceries? Get to know each other better. How has the pandemic affected their lives? Are they worried about rent? Make sure to get their contact information.

2

Know your rights

I saw
this resource
going...

Thanks to organizing, New York has an eviction moratorium! Courts are closed, landlords can't sue you and you can't be evicted. Make sure to know your rights! See:

www.righttocounselnyc.org/moratorium_fa

Research your landlord! Find out how many buildings they own, any open violations and more by going to:

whoownswhat.justfix.nyc

3

Tenant association? Rent strike?

What's
that?

Organizing your building and forming a tenants' association is a way to build collective power with your neighbors! Millions can't pay rent and are thinking about or going on a rent strike. Rent strikes are a powerful tool when they are organized. During this crisis, tenants are going on strike to demand that their landlords and the Governor #CancelRent!

There is power in numbers! If you want to learn more about how to go on rent strike, check out our toolkit for resources and templates: bit.ly/RentStrikeNY

4

Safety in numbers

It's time for our weekly meeting!

Talk to your neighbors and friends about the importance of a rent strike and joining a tenant association. And if there isn't a tenant association already, be proactive and form one with your neighbors. It starts as simply as creating a group chat. Then draft your demands and build consensus within the group. Meanwhile, recruit more members and link up with other tenant and mutual aid groups.

5

Write your landlord

TAP
TAP
TAP

After you and your neighbors agree on your needs and demands, write a letter to your landlord. You can find a sample letter in our toolkit! bit.ly/RentStrikeNY

If you decide to go on rent strike, let your landlord know when it will begin. The letter to the landlord makes your demands public and demonstrates your collective power!

6

Tell the world

You too?
Oh hey!

KEEP YOUR RENT

Housing is a Human Right

WE'RE NOT PAYING

Post on social media! Hang a banner from your windows! Call the media! text "Rent Strike" to 646-542-1920 to be connected to a local tenant organizing group! Share your story on this map! www.housingjusticeforall.org/storymap

7

Simple & easy actions

- + Sign our petition calling on the Governor to #CancelRent, #FreezeRent and #ReclaimOurHomes to house all homeless new yorkers! bit.ly/CancelNYRent
- + Call the Governor demanding that he used his emergency powers to issue an executive order to #CancelRent Today: 518-474-8390. Find all you need to make the call at bit.ly/cuomocancelrent
- + Join a local tenants' rights group and join the movement!