





Photo Credit: Time Magazine

**APRIL 22, 2020** 

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Media Contact:** Lisa Derrick: derrickl@nyassembly.gov 718-940-0428

## NYS Launches Nation-leading Contact Tracing Program

**Amid Coronavirus Pandemic** 

NYC Mayor Announces Resources for NYCHA; Two Cats Tested COVID-19 Positive; Kosher Meals; Remote Learning Devices; and more!

NYS Confirmed: 257,216 NYS deaths: 15,302 NYC confirmed: 142,432 Brooklyn confirmed: 38,481

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO

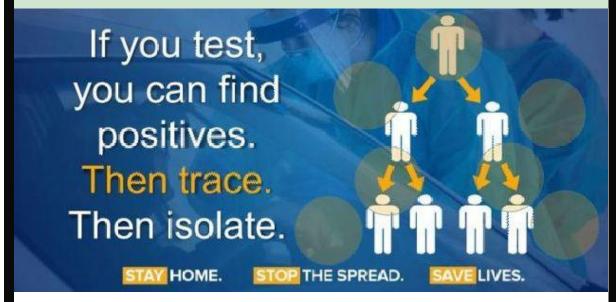


Photo Credit: Bloomberg Law

New York State will work with New Jersey and Connecticut to build a "Nation-leading Contact Tracing Program" to control the spread of COVID-19.

- Former NYC Mayor Mike Bloomberg volunteered to help with development of first-ever testing, tracing and isolation program.
  - Bloomberg Philanthropies has committed "\$10.5 million, along with organizational support and

technical assistance, to help build and execute this new program."

- **Johns Hopkins University** and **Vital Strategies** will partner in tracing operation effort.
- Will be coordinated in NYC, Rockland, Westchester, Suffolk, Nassau and Upstate NY.
- Will also partner with **CUNY and SUNY** to draw from **35,000** students in medical fields who can serve as tracers.
- For more information visit here.





Photo Credit: Mayor De Blasio

### **Test and Trace:**

- The Mayor's goal is to provide COVID-19 testing in every community.
  - The City is identifying additional test sites.

- After someone is tested positive, City will help trace individuals that COVID-19 person made contact with.
- Individuals exposed will be tested and quarantined.
- Will provide hotel rooms to those in need to isolate.
- Will provide transportation to hotels from hospital rooms.
- Will provide food, laundry services, and health care to those in isolation setting.

### **NYCHA Update:**

- Today, the Mayor announced six new COVID-19 testing sites. These sites will prioritize NYCHA residents:
  - Opening this Friday:
    - Cumberland Health Center
    - Belvis Health Center
    - Gouverneur Health Center
  - Opening next week:
    - Jonathan Williams Houses
    - Woodside Houses
    - St. Nicholas Houses
- Additionally, the mayor announced that \$5 million will go towards providing free tablets and internet service to 10,000 NYCHA seniors to keep them connected with their loved ones.
  - This effort is in partnership with **T-Mobile**, NYC will start distribution next week to seniors in Brownsville followed by developments in Central Brooklyn, South Bronx, Eastern Queens and Upper Manhattan.
  - **Training** will be provided to seniors on how to use tablets.
- The City will enroll all **NYCHA senior buildings** in the food delivery program over the coming weeks.

- The City is expanding NYCHA's **wellness** check-in call program to all seniors and vulnerable residents.
- Cleaning Schedule: NYCHA common areas will be **sanitized** three-times a week at family developments and five-times a week at senior developments.
- Face coverings and hand sanitizers will be provided to NYCHA residents.

### **Fourth of July:**

Mayor is working with **Macy's** to plan something for 4th of July that will include fireworks.

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

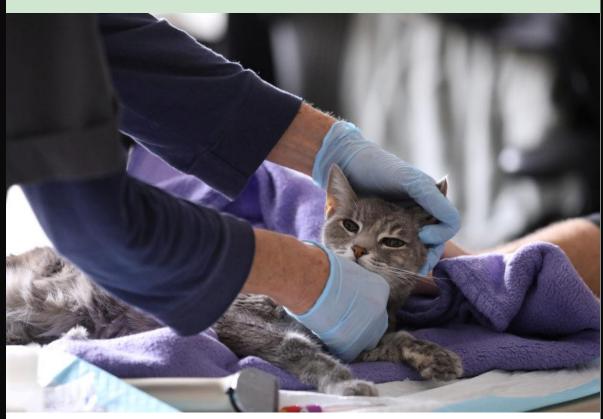


Photo Credit: PBS

- Today, the Agriculture Department and the Centers for Disease Control announced that two pet cats tested positive for COVID-19 in New York State. The cats are expected to make a full recovery.
- The President directed the Opportunity & Revitalization Council led by Secretary Ben Carson to focus on supporting to under-served communities impacted by COVID-19.
- Harvard announced that they will no longer accept the **\$8.6 million** that they were set to receive from the Stimulus package's emergency relief for higher education.
- The President disagrees with Georgia Governor Brian Kemp's s plan to reopen barbershops, nail salons, tattoo parlors and other businesses on Friday.

### **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**



Photo Credit: Letter School

In order for students to receive their remote learning tablet device by Thursday, April 30, families must request the remote learning device by 5 p.m, tomorrow, **April 23rd.** 

If you miss the deadline, you can still request but will receive the tablet in May. To request a device, you can call 718-935-5100 and choose Option 5 or fill out the Remote Learning Device Request form <a href="https://example.com/here.">here.</a>

### **KOSHER MEALS**



# Assemblymember RODNEYSE BICHOTTE



42<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

# **FREE** KOSHER GRAB-AND-GO

### **MEAL OPTION FOR ALL**

### KOSHER MEAL SITES OPENING TUESDAY, APRIL 2157:

### WILLIAMSBURG

P.S. 132 The Conselyea School 320 Manhattan Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211

P.S. 257 John F Hylan 60 Cook Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206

### KOSHER MEAL SITES OPENING THURSDAY, APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>:

### MIDWOOD

P.S. 197 The Kings Highway Academy 1599 East 22 Street, Brooklyn, NY 11210

### **BORO PARK**

P.S. 192 The Magnet School For Math And Science 4715 18th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11204

### **CROWN HEIGHTS**

P.S. 289 George V. Brower 900 St. Marks Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11213

I.S. 2

655 Parkside Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11226

### **FAR ROCKAWAY**

P.S. 197 The Ocean School 825 Hicksville Road, Queens, NY 11691

P.S. 253

1307 Central Avenue, Queens, NY 11691

### FLUSHING/KEW GARDENS

P.S. 154 Queens

7502 162 Street, Queens, NY 11366

P.S. 215

535 Briar Place, Queens, NY 11691

### KOSHER MEAL SITES OPENING MONDAY, APRIL 27™:

### **BORO PARK**

P.S. 160

5105 Fort Hamilton Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11219

### STATEN ISLAND

P.S. 54

1060 Willowbrook Road, Staten Island, NY 10314

### **DISTRIBUTION HOURS:**

### MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 7:30 AM TO 1:30 PM

(7:30 am to 11:30 am, and for adults from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm)

No registration, ID, or documentation is required for meals. All three meals a day may be picked up at the same time.

Kosher meals follow the USDA meal nutrition guidelines and are produced in partnership with a certified kosher distributor.

### For more information visit: WWW.SCHOOLS.NYC.GOV/KOSHERMEALS

For more information about this or any community concern, contact Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte's Office at 718-940-0428 / bichotter@nyassembly.gov / www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte

# For getting the products our families need from point A to point B. Thank you, truckers.

Photo Credit: ministryofsport.com

During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **Truckers** for delivering the items that we need.

### **AVOID SCAMS**



Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or <u>NYC.gov/dcwp</u>. You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office, fill out a <u>complaint form</u>.
- NYS Price Gouging Hotline: 800-697-1220.
- CDC staff will **NOT** go door-to-door. If you experience this, call 911.

**SERVICES AND RESOURCES** 



Photo Credit: Ansi.org

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on New York City's workforce, the City of New York has developed a list of resources for those who may be unemployed due to COVID-19 or are seeking additional assistance. The list below will be updated frequently.

It has information on the following categories:

- Employment Resources
- Food Assistance
- Health & Medical Assistance
- Financial Assistance
- Rent Arrears and Public Assistance
- Emotional Support & Spiritual Care
- Other Assistance

Visit this website for resources.

**NYS Department of Health Hotline** for people who want to be assessed and get appointment for test (888-364-3065). NYC residents should call (844-692-4692).

### **Volunteer to Support**

**Others:** <a href="https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/c">https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/c</a> <a href="https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/c">ovid-19-relief.page#healthcare</a> workers.

### **Free Internet Services:**

<u>Charter is offering free specturm broadband and WiFiaccess</u> for **60 days to household with K-12 and/or college students** who do not already have Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll, **call <u>844-488-8395</u>**. Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. For more information visit <u>here.</u>

In-District Businesses open/closed: Provided by Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID: Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory <a href="here">here</a> and Church Avenue Business directory <a href="here">here</a>. Businesses open/closed: Provided by Flatbush Development Corporation: Visit Flatbush Business Corridor Directory <a href="here">here</a>. Includes businesses located in:

- Cortelyou Road (Coney Island Ave Ocean Ave)
- Coney Island Avenue (Cortelyou Road Foster Ave)
- Newkirk Plaza
- Newkirk Avenue (Coney Island Ave Ocean Ave)
- Foster Avenue (Coney Island Ave Ocean Ave)
- Ditmas Park

### **Small Businesses:**

For resources on **business** grants and loans, <u>visit here.</u>

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SICK WITH COVID-19



# What to do if you are sick with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

### Stay home except to get medical care

You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Do not use public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

### Separate yourself from other people in your home

As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

### Call ahead before visiting your doctor

If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

### Wear a facemask

You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then people who live with you should not stay in the same room with you, or they should wear a facemask if they enter your room.

### Cover your coughs and sneezes

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in a lined trash can and wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, immediately clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty.

# ( CDC

### Clean your hands

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

### Avoid sharing personal household items

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people in your home. After using these items, you should wash them thoroughly with soap and water.

### Monitor your symptoms

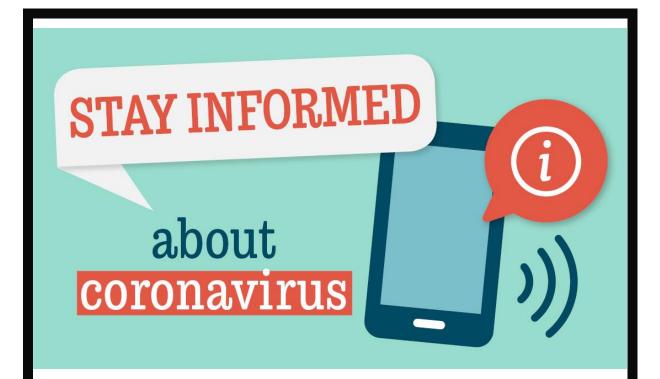
Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g., shortness of breath or difficulty breathing). **Before** seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19. Put on a facemask before you enter the facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider's office keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Ask your healthcare provider to call the local or state health department. Persons who are placed under active monitoring or facilitated self-monitoring should follow instructions provided by their local health department or occupational health professionals, as appropriate. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/risk-assessment.html.

### Discontinuing home isolation

Patients confirmed to have COVID-19 should remain under home isolation precautions until the risk of secondary transmission to others is thought to be low. The decision to discontinue home isolation precautions should be made on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments. Current information on COVID-19 is limited; home precautions are conservative and based on general recommendations for other diseases, like Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19



Health officials are working tirelessly to protect public health and contain this virus. And, as your representative in Albany, I am working to ensure that our state is putting the health and safety of our families first.

Remember COVID-19 can affect any community and we must stand by one another during this time, not alienate, threaten or discriminate against others.

For questions you can also reach out to the New York State's novel coronavirus hotline at **1-888-364-3065**. For continuous updates, you can visit the following websites:

- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

The CDC also now has the option for you to sign up for weekly updates on COVID-19.

New Yorkers Can Sign Up for Email Updates <u>Here</u> and Ask Questions About COVID-19 <u>Here</u>

New Yorkers Can Find More Information About the New COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Law <u>Here</u>

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn covering Ditmas Park, Flatbush, East Flatbush and Midwood. She is currently the **Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises** (MWBEs), and serves on the following committees: **Housing, Government Operations, Education**, **Banks, Health, and Higher Education**. She is also a member of the Task Force on Women's Issues and sits on **Governor Cuomo's Domestic Violence Advisory Council and Mayor De Blasio's MWBE Task Force.** 

As a current Assemblymember, District Leader, and Chair of Brooklyn Democratic Party, Rodneyse Bichotte has been an outspoken advocate on issues concerning **immigration**, **education**, **economic development**, **unemployment**, **education reform**, **health care access**, **senior citizen centers**, **affordable housing**, **school safety**, **women's and LGBTQ rights**, as well as other issues affecting the quality of life in the community.

Learn more about
Rodneyse Bichotte by visiting her websites:
<a href="http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte">http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte</a>
and www.rodneysebichotte.net

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