



USNS Comfort. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Morgan K. Nall.

**MARCH 26, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact:** Lisa Derrick: [derrickl@nyassembly.gov](mailto:derrickl@nyassembly.gov)  
718-940-0428

**Medical Relief Is On The Way**  
**U.S.N.S. Comfort**  
**To Arrive On Monday**

*Amid Coronavirus Pandemic*

*equipment creations; paid family leave benefits; street closures; budget deadline; and more!*

**NYS Confirmed: 37,258**  
**NYS deaths: 385**  
**NYC confirmed: 21,873**  
**Brooklyn confirmed: 5,705**

### **NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO**

Governor Cuomo Announces:

- There is a quantity of **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** that will sustain us through our immediate needs
- The economic consequences puts New York in an estimated **\$10 to \$15 billion loss in revenue**. The current stimulus package being voted on does not address the loss revenue, only COVID-19 related expenses.
- **A budget is due April 1st**. The many unknowns present a challenge to develop an accurate budget. Therefore, revenue projections will be adjusted down and the budget will be adjusted throughout the year quarterly. Transparency will be provided to localities on what to expect.

### **NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO**

Mayor de Blasio Announces:

- New [initiative](#) starting Friday to **close designated streets to vehicular traffic** in order to provide more space for mobility while promoting social distancing. Initiative will eventually roll out to every borough.

- **Brooklyn Navy Yard** business began production of [face shield](#) to support medical workers caring for COVID patients. The business converted their space to accommodate such production just 6-days ago.
- **Parks and playgrounds** will have a significant amount of signs and surveillance to ensure guidelines of social distancing is being followed. For updates on service changes visit: <https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/health-and-safety-guide/coronavirus>.

## US: PRESIDENT TRUMP

- President Trump announced the agreement made by **G-20** countries to collaborate in the fight against **COVID-19** including information sharing of international data.
- **Mexico** has been supportive in providing 21,000 Mexican soldiers to protect the border to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

### Grab and Go: Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte Joins Dov Zeitlan from *Events By Dovi* in Distributing Meals To Students at Yeshiva Chaim Berlin



## VENTILATORS



Photo Credit: Harfort Healthcare

“ Patients in need of ventilators due to COVID-19 have been found to be on them much longer (**11-21 days vs. a standard use of 3-4 days**) . In light of the low supply, production of ventilators have become more creative. New York is now looking at [dual-ventilators](#) ; one ventilator serving two patients. This is not the first time it has been used. They are also converting machines used for anesthesia to ventilators.

## **TLC DRIVERS WANTED**

TLC licensed [drivers](#) are wanted for deliveries of various items related to COVID-19. Drivers will be paid \$15 per hour and reimbursed for fuel.

## **PAID FAMILY LEAVE IF QUARANTINED**



NYS provides a **Paid Sick Leave (PSL)** insurance for eligible employees who have been ordered to be quarantined by order of an authorized agency. Benefit will depend on size of employer. This is insurance coverage that:

- provides up to 60% of your pay, up to a maximum **weekly** benefit of **\$840.70**.
- After receiving your full PFL benefit, you will receive disability benefits to match your full wages up to a maximum weekly **disability** benefit of **\$2,043.92**, for a total of **\$2,884.62 per week**.
- There is no waiting period for either benefit.
- For more information visit [here](#).

If you have problems with your employer in getting time off contact the [Department of Labor](#) with complaints.

Also, the **insurance** Marketplace re-opens their enrollment between **March 16th and April 15th**. Enrollments will be retroactive to April 1st.

**HRA CENTERS CONSOLIDATE**



## Human Resources Administration

Department of  
Social Services

**HRA as of Tuesday March 24th** have consolidated their HRA Job, SNAP, and Medicaid Center locations. Customers are strongly urged to use the online service through [ACCESS HRA](#) . However, for those who are not able to do so may visit one of the centers that remain open and available. For a list of locations visit [here](#) .

To obtain information previously provided listen to the audio recording [here](#) . To access plug int eh password:  
DSSevent032320.

**AVOID SCAMS**

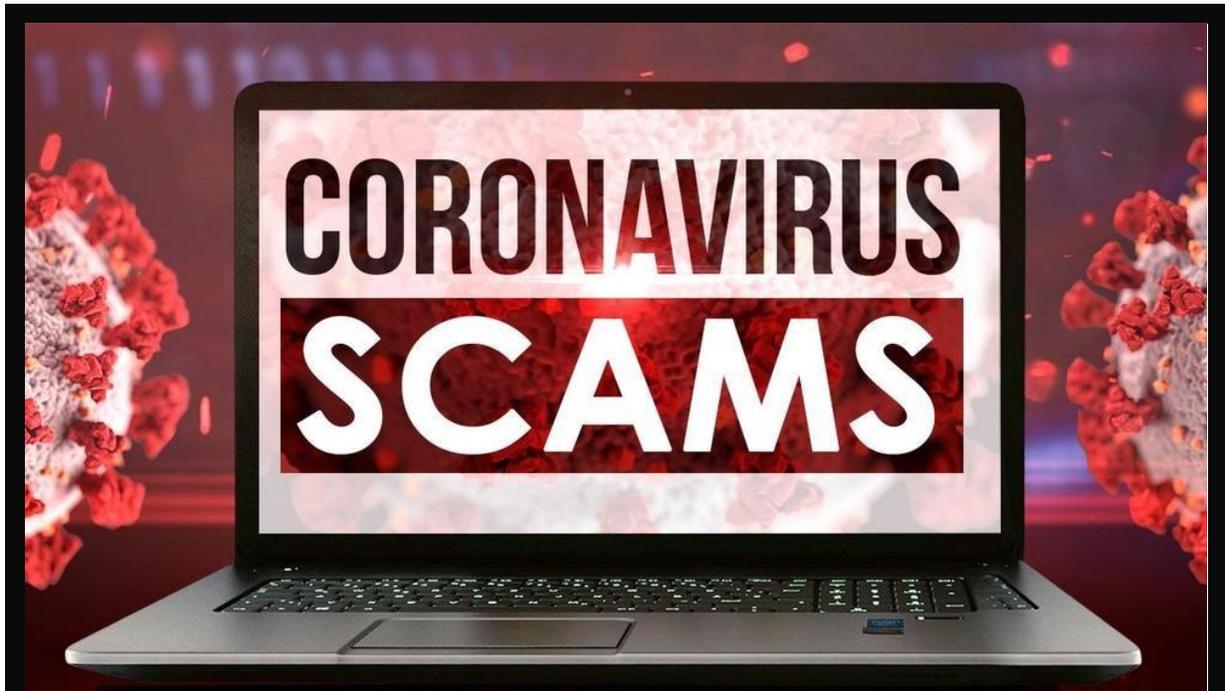


Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or [NYC.gov/dcwp](https://www.nyc.gov/dcwp). You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office, fill out a [complaint form](#).
- 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:** [https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare\\_workers](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare_workers).

**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.

## 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](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

**STAY INFORMED**

**STAY INFORMED**

about  
**coronavirus**



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 [Here](#) and Ask Questions About COVID-19 [Here](#)

New Yorkers Can Find More Information About the New COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Law [Here](#)

---

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 website:  
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>

STAY CONNECTED

