



Assemblymember  
**RODNEYSE BICHOTTE**  
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader



## COVID-19 Updates

Don't forget to vote! Primary Election Day is **Tuesday, June 23**. Find your polling place [here](#). If you requested an **absentee ballot**, it must be postmarked by [June 23](#). Text **NYCVOTES** to **917-979-6377** to stay up-to-date and receive text alerts about the election.

[Subscribe to Newsletter](#)



Photo Credit: Theodore Parisienne/for New York Daily News

**June 18, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NYC To Enter Phase Two of Reopening on Monday**

***Amid Coronavirus Pandemic***

NYC Playgrounds to Reopen on Monday; Outdoor Dining Initiative Begins Tomorrow; Rent Guideline Board Votes on Rent Freeze; Food Distributions; and more!

**NYS Confirmed: 385,760**

**NYS Deaths: 24,661**

**NYC Confirmed: 211,260**

**Brooklyn Confirmed: 58,502**

**NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO**



Photo Credit: Office of Governor Cuomo

- **Governor Cuomo** announced that New York City is on track to enter Phase Two of reopening on **June 22**.
- The **Mid-Hudson Valley** is on track to enter Phase Three of reopening on **June 23** and **Long Island** is on track to enter Phase Three of reopening **June 24**.
  - Business guidance for Phase Two of the state's reopening plan is available [here](#) and guidance for Phase Three is available [here](#).
- Restaurants or bars that **violate** reopening rules and guidelines could immediately lose their liquor license and be shut down.
  - Governor Cuomo also announced that hospitals and group homes will be **allowed** to accept visitors at their discretion.

- Yesterday, the governor granted **clemency** to three individuals "who have demonstrated substantial evidence of rehabilitation and a commitment to their communities." Read more [here](#).
- The governor announced that the state will issue guidance to **colleges and universities** to allow some in-person instruction and on-campus housing for the fall semester.
- The governor announced that **less than one percent** of yesterday's COVID-19 test were positive. The governor said he plans to **end his daily briefings** tomorrow and will hold briefings as necessary.
- The governor signed the following legislation:
  - **(S.8397-A/A.10326-A) prohibiting** health care employers from **penalizing** employees for making **complaints** of employer violations;
  - **(S.8493/A.8674)** requiring all New York State Police officers to wear **body cameras** while on patrol; and
  - **(S.3595-C/A.10002)** to create the **Law Enforcement Misconduct Investigative Office**.

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO

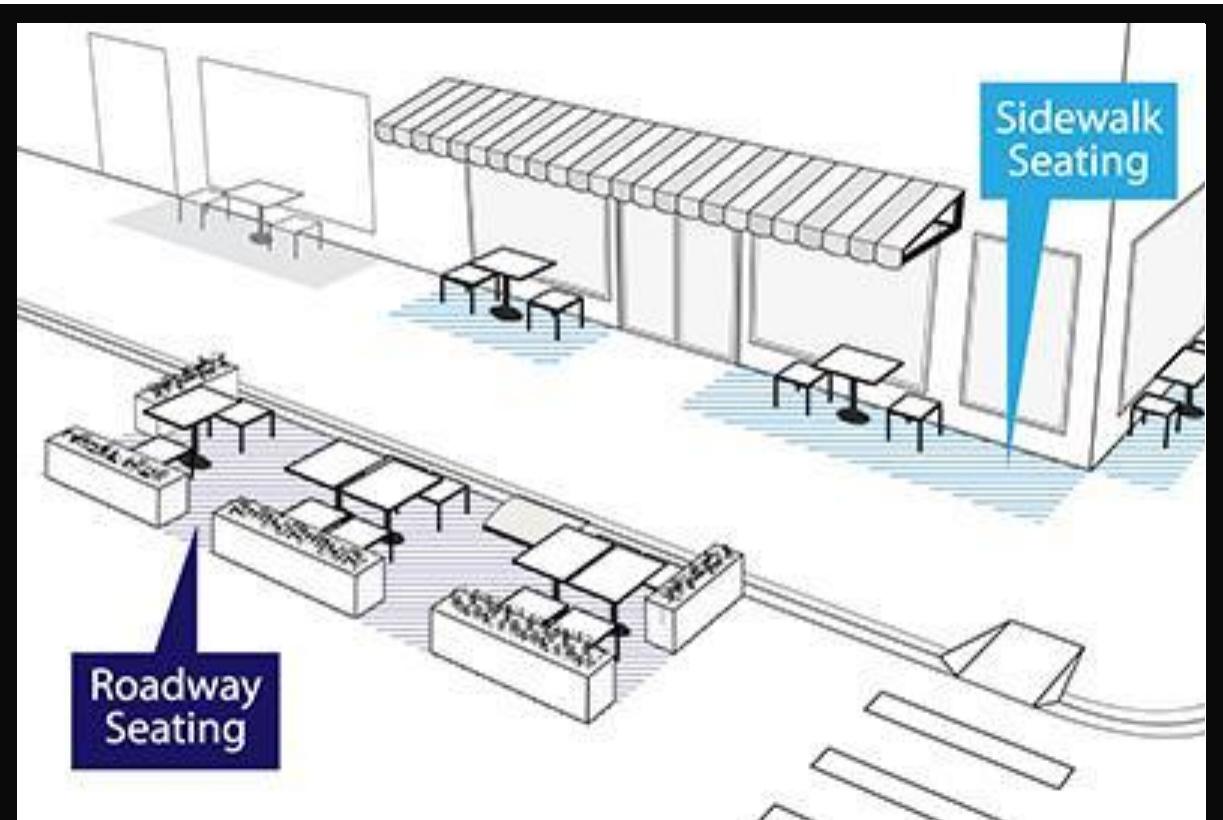


Photo Credit: Mayor's Office; Open Restaurants Program

- Two additional **Mobile COVID-19 Testing Trucks** started operating this week in hard hit communities. Find a testing site [here](#).
- **Mayor de Blasio** announced that **playgrounds** will reopen starting Monday.
  - Social Distancing Ambassadors will be out to enforce social distancing and to provide face coverings.
- The mayor also announced guidance for the city's **Open Restaurants program**, which allows qualifying restaurants and bars to expand outdoor seating on "sidewalks, curb lanes, backyards, patios, plazas, and open streets as New York City begins Phase 2 of reopening." Read more [here](#).

- Restaurants and bars can self-certify for curb lane and sidewalk seating starting **Friday, June 19th** [here](#).
- The Mayor announced additional reforms to the NYPD's disciplinary system.
  - He announced a measure to ensure **faster discipline** by requiring the Police Commissioner to make an initial determination on whether to place an officer on modified duty or suspension within **48 hours** of incidents involving substantial bodily injury.
  - The NYPD will publish all trial decisions or settlements reached going forward, effective immediately.
  - All body camera video and audio footage must be released to public within **30 days** whenever:
    - An officer discharges a firearm that hits or could hit someone;
    - An officer discharges a Taser in a way that results in death or substantial bodily harm; or
    - An officer's use of force results in death or great bodily harm. Read more [here](#).

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: Troy Aossey / Getty Images

- Today, the Supreme Court voted **5-4** against ending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (**DACA**) program for dreamers. Read more [here](#).
- Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau** said Canada will begin testing a “completely voluntary” **mobile app** that will alert people if they’ve been exposed to someone who tested positive for coronavirus. Read more [here](#).
- Texas Governor **Greg Abbot** told legislators that public school students will **return to their classrooms** this fall despite a rise in coronavirus infections in the state. Read more [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Photo Credit: CUNY

**Mayor de Blasio** and school **Chancellor Richard A. Carranza** announced the expansion of the **College Bridge Program**, a collaboration between **CUNY** and the **New York City Department of Education** to provide support to graduating NYC DOE high school seniors as they transition to college and beyond. The program received a grant of **\$877,000** from **Bloomberg Philanthropies**, and a **\$250,000** contribution from **The Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation**, which will provide support for the program's summer and fall terms. Read more [here](#).

## FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

There are **four** new food distributions sites:

- **Flatbush Gardens Community Center** on Tuesdays and Fridays 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Beraca Baptist Church** at 9602 Flatlands Avenue on Fridays 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

- **Evangelical Crusade Christian Church** at 557 East 31st Street on Tuesdays and Fridays 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Flatlands Reformed Church** at 3931 Kings Highway on Saturdays at 11 a.m.

**EVANGELICAL CRUSADE CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
FOOD PANTRY**

Evangelical Crusade Christian Church

# FOOD PANTRY

*Matthew 25:35*

*Every Tuesday and Friday  
beginning*

**June 12, 2020-July 3, 2020  
4:00pm-6:00pm**

Sponsored by the offices of Council-member Farah Louis and Assembly member Rodneyse Bichotte



557 East 31st Street Brooklyn NY 11210

## **FRESH FOOD DISTRIBUTION - FLATLANDS**

# FRESH FOOD DISTRIBUTION



**Every Saturday, starting June 20<sup>th</sup>**

**11AM – While supplies last**

**Flatlands Reformed Church**

**Community Center**

**3931 Kings Highway (near Flatbush Ave.)**

**Fresh food boxes will be distributed on a  
First come First serve basis and one box per household.  
Please wear your mask/face covering!**

Flatlands Community Partnership is committed to proactively developing a better quality of life for the residents of Flatlands, East Flatbush, Flatbush, Canarsie, Georgetown through stewardship of resources, creative partnerships and ensuring a dynamic framework for personal and communal growth.

GrowNYC's emergency feeding program is made possible with the generous support of many valued partners including the City of New York, New York City Council, NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets, NYC COVID-19 Response & Impact Fund, Bank of America, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, FJC, and our fellow New Yorkers. If you need additional support, visit nyc.gov/getfood to find services near you.

**Interested in volunteering? Call 718-252-5540 or info@flatlandsreformed.org**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

**GROW**<sup>NYC</sup>  
**ROBIN HOOD**

[www.hccinc.org](http://www.hccinc.org)  
[www.flatlandsreformed.org](http://www.flatlandsreformed.org)



NYS SENATOR  
KEVIN S. PARKER



ASSEMBLY MEMBER  
HELENE WEINSTEIN



COUNCIL MEMBER  
FARAH N. LOUIS

Funding for the food distribution program is made possible by the additional support of Robin Hood Foundation.

**JUNETEENTH**



hac  
HAITIAN AMERICAN CAUCUS

BK BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC L. ADAMS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

NYC COUNCIL MEMBERS

LAURIE A. CUMBO & FARAH N. LOUIS

PRESENT

# JUNETEENTH

## CEL-LIBERATION RALLY

JUNE 19TH [ 1865-2020 ] 10AM-12PM

BPL 10 Grand Army Plaza / Brooklyn, NY 11238



A La Mode  
WEDDING & EVENTS

BLUE ANGELS  
DRUMLINE

JUMP IN  
ENRICHMENT

ΑΦΑ

ALL PARTICIPANTS  
MUST ADHERE TO  
SOCIAL DISTANCING  
PROTOCOLS

For more info: 718-629-2900  
[district45@council.nyc.gov](mailto:district45@council.nyc.gov)



Snap NYC



ATTIRE:  
ALL BLACK  
EVERYTHING  
& FACE MASK

[council.nyc.gov/district-45](http://council.nyc.gov/district-45)  
Twitter | Facebook | Instagram @cmfarahlouis

Photo Credit: Councilmember Farah Louis Office

- Yesterday, Governor Cuomo issued an Executive Order recognizing **Juneteenth** as a holiday for state employees, in recognition of the official emancipation of African Americans throughout the United States. The Governor also announced that he plans to advance legislation to make Juneteenth an official state holiday next year. Read more [here](#).
- Join Borough President **Eric Adams** and Councilmembers **Laurie Cumbo and Farah Louis** tomorrow for a **Juneteenth Cel-liberation Rally** from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m at Grand Army Plaza.

## MATERNITY TASK FORCE



Photo Credit: Proeves

The **New York State Department of Health** approved two new temporary **birthing centers**, Brooklyn Birthing Center in Brooklyn, NY and Refuah Health Center in Valhalla, NY consistent with the COVID-19 Maternity Task Force recommendations. Read more [here](#).

## RENT GUIDELINES BOARD



The Rent Guidelines Board approved a rent freeze for New Yorkers who live in rent-regulated apartments.

The New York City Rent Guidelines Board voted Wednesday for a year-long rent freeze for rent-regulated apartments. Read more [here](#).

## COVID-19 HOUSNG UPDATES

# COVID-19 Housing Updates

- The Emergency Rent Relief Act of 2020 provides rental assistance through July to New Yorkers whose income was less than 80% of the area median income (AMI) and spent more than 30% of their income on rent prior to March 7, and lost income.
- Tenants who can demonstrate financial hardship during the COVID-19 state of emergency may not be evicted, but the court can award a money judgment for back rent to landlords.
- Most late payments and fees for missed rent payments are banned for residential tenants during the eviction moratorium.
- Many renters facing financial hardship due to COVID-19 can use their security deposits as payment and repay their security deposit over time.

Contact a lawyer, local legal services provider or visit [lawhelp.org](http://lawhelp.org) for assistance.

U.S. OPEN

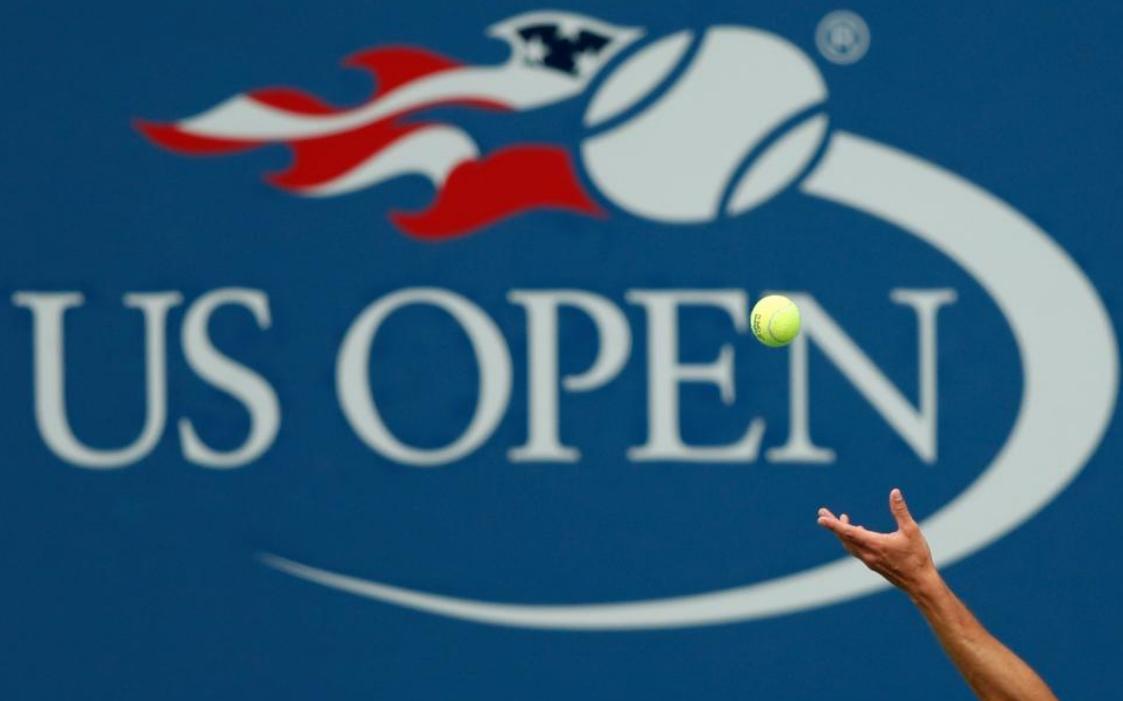


Photo Credit: NBC Sports

The U.S. Open will be held in Queens without fans from **August 31st to September 13th** . Read more [here](#).

## FIREWORKS



# REWARD

Up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons possessing or distributing fireworks.

**Fireworks  
are  
illegal**

**The New York City Police Department  
urges you to celebrate safely on July 4th**

If you use fireworks, you or someone else can get seriously hurt.  
If you have fireworks we can ARREST YOU, your car can be confiscated  
or your business can be closed.

Concerned citizens can anonymously report the delivery, sale or storage of fireworks.

**CALL: 911 for crimes in progress  
311 to provide information**

A Public Safety Message from The New York City Police Department, Community Affairs Bureau

SP 14-CAB (06-06)

## ALTERNATE-SIDE PARKING



Photo Credit: queenoftheclick

Mayor de Blasio announced that **Alternate-Side Parking is suspended** through **Sunday, June 21st**. Parking meters will remain in effect.

## COVID-19 TESTING IN FLATBUSH



Assemblymember  
**Rodneyse Bichotte**  
42nd Assembly District



# **FLATBUSH AVENUE WALK-IN COVID-19 TESTING SITE**

*This testing site is **by appointment only**.*

You must contact the  
**NYS Department of Health**  
at **1-888-364-3065** to  
schedule an appointment.

**Brookdale Family Care Center**

1095 Flatbush Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11226

For more information about this or any community concern,  
contact Assemblymember Bichotte's district office

718-940-0428 | [bichotter@nyassembly.gov](mailto:bichotter@nyassembly.gov) | [www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte](http://www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte)

We have a **drive through** and **walk-in** COVID-19 testing site in the **42nd Assembly District**. You must make an appointment before visiting the center or you will be turned away. To make an appointment you **must** contact the NYS Department of Health at **888-364-3065**.

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Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte  
42nd Assembly District



## **Sears Parking Lot**

2307 Beverley Road  
Brooklyn, NY 11226



**Testing site is BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

For appointment call 888-364-3065

*If you experience symptoms or have been exposed  
to someone with the virus, call your doctor*

For information on this, or any other matter, please call Assemblymember Bichotte's district office at  
**718-940-0428 | bichotter@nyassembly.gov | www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte**

## MULTISYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME IN CHILDREN (MIS-C)



Photo Credit: Norton Children's

Governor Cuomo announced that a new investigation is underway regarding potential COVID-19 related **cases in children**. Symptoms can be compared to Kawasaki disease and toxic shock-like syndrome. The Department of Health issued an advisory of what's called the Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children, or MIS-C, and now **requires** health care providers to **immediately report** all related cases. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene released a [health advisory](#) detailing current findings.

- New Yorkers should **seek immediate** care if a child has:
  - Prolonged fever (more than five days)
  - Difficulty feeding (infants) or is too sick to drink fluids
  - Severe abdominal pain, diarrhea or vomiting
  - Change in skin color - becoming pale, patchy and/or blue

- Trouble breathing or is breathing very quickly
- Racing heart or chest pain
- Decreased amount of frequency in urine
- Lethargy, irritability or confusion

## THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS

For getting the products our families need from point A to point B.

**Thank you,  
truckers.**



During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **truck drivers** keeping the country operating by continuing to link our distributors with our retailers.

## COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS



**Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte**

As we face unprecedented challenges in the fight against COVID-19, we must remember to complete the **2020 Census**. The census asks just 10 simple questions that can be answered in just a few minutes online by visiting [here](#) or by calling [844-330-2020](#).

**AVOID SCAMS**



Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

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

### **Free Internet Services:**

Charter is offering free spectrum broadband and WiFi access for **60 days to household with K-12 and/or college students** who do not already have Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll, **call 844-488-8395**.

Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. For more information visit [here](#).

### **FreshDirect meals:**

**Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams** in partnership with **FreshDirect** is providing free food packages. Each box contains the following:

- Rice, 2 bags, 16oz
- Pasta, 2 boxes, 16oz
- Canned beans, 2 cans, 10-16oz
- Canned Meat/Fish, 2 cans, 3 to 5 oz
- Canned Vegetable, 2 cans, 8 to 15 oz
- Raisins / Dry Fruit, 4 boxes, 2 oz per box
- Cereal/Oatmeal, 1 Box, 10 to 20 oz
- Milk / Milk Substitute, 1 container, 32 oz
- Corn, 2 ears
- 2 Potatoes
- 1 Onion
- 1 Carrot
- Orange / Apple, 2 in total

The packages will arrive by FreshDirect vehicles to locations listed [here](#). If you have any questions, call (718) 802-3700.

Brooklyn Museum

# Don't Go Hungry!



Hello neighbors!

Help is on the way as the **Brooklyn Museum** launches a partnership with **The Campaign Against Hunger** to offer food distribution starting on **Monday, June 1, 3-5 pm.**

To ensure we have the right amount of food, **sign-up by emailing is required:** [healthymeals@brooklynmuseum.org](mailto:healthymeals@brooklynmuseum.org)

The Campaign Against Hunger (TCAH) is one of the most trusted nonprofits working to end hunger and build health in our local communities. As we witness the vastly disproportionate economic and social impacts of COVID-19 on already-struggling New Yorkers, we know many of our neighbors are in need of emergency food for their families. Learn more at <https://www.tcahnyc.org>.



 Where

Brooklyn Museum  
Biergarten (in the parking  
lot behind the Museum)  
200 Eastern Parkway  
Brooklyn, NY 11238



Weekly starting  
Monday, June 1,  
3-5 pm

**Spread the word!**

## **IMMIGRATION**

- If you or a loved one is in need of free immigration assistance, please call **CUNY Citizenship Now** at 646-664-9400 or text at 929-334-3784, Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Visit their [website](#) for more information.
- **Open Society Foundation** has established the **Immigrant Emergency Relief Program** which is a \$20 million fund that will provide 20,000 undocumented immigrants with a one-time monetary emergency relief.
  - \$400/individual
  - \$800/couple or single parent with children
  - \$1,000/family with multiple adults and children
  - for more information, click [here](#).

## **SMALL BUSINESS**

- The Federal Government is offering programs to support small businesses:
  - **Paycheck Protection Program** provides a loan that will be forgiven if employees are retained on payroll for a period of time. For more information, click [here](#).
  - **Economic Injury Disaster Loan** is a low interest loan to cover expense beyond payroll costs. For more information, click [here](#).
- New York City Small Business Services has a host of other services for small businesses including grant and loan opportunities. For more information, click [here](#).

**In-District Businesses open/closed** provided by **Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID**: Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory [here](#) and Church Avenue

Business directory [here](#). Businesses open/closed list provided by **Flatbush Development Corporation**: Visit Flatbush Business Corridor Directory [here](#) . 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

## 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>

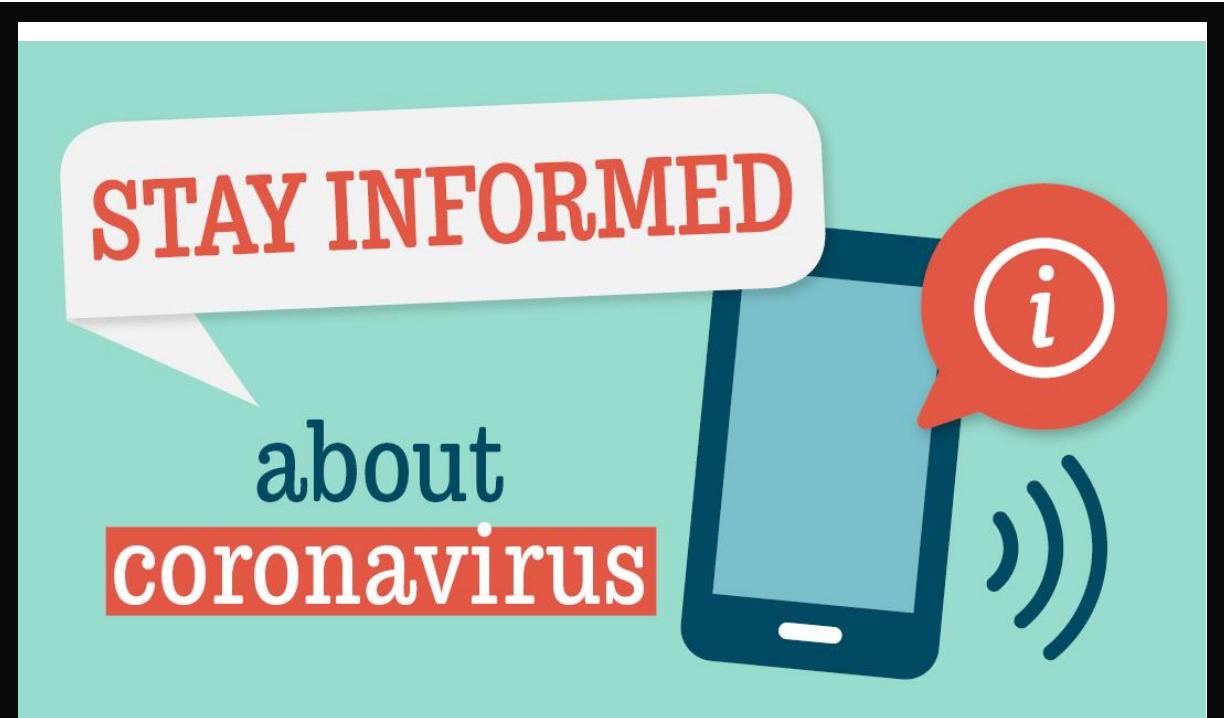
## Discontinuing home isolation

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](#)

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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:  
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>  
and [www.rodneysebichotte.net](http://www.rodneysebichotte.net)

## STAY CONNECTED

