

Assembly Member CHARLES BARRON

Reports to the people

60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT • EAST NEW YORK • BROOKSVILLE • CANARSIE

DISTRICT OFFICE: 669 Vermont Street, Brooklyn, New York 11207 • 718-257-5824 • Fax: 718-257-2590

ALBANY OFFICE: Room 532 Legislative Office Building, Albany, New York 12248 • 518-455-5912 • Fax: 518-455-3891

Email: barronc@nyassembly.gov • (Although both offices are physically closed, we are still servicing constituents by phone and email)



**Wear
A Mask!**



**Wash Your
Hands!**



**Keep Your
Distance!**



**Our Health Is
Our Wealth!**

We Celebrate the Life of our Beloved Staff Member Melvin A. Faulkner

Assembly Member Charles Barron and staff, with the utmost sense of loss, announce the passing of our great fighter for the community, Mr. Melvin A. Faulkner.

Mr. Faulkner was dedicated to the idea that we could impact on the quality of our lives. His special attention was to our seniors, from making sure the Department for the Aging responded to their needs, whether for wheelchair access or correcting the abuses of Access-a-Ride, you could be sure Mr. Faulkner was there for our seniors. At Community Board 5 and the 75th Precinct Council, he continued his strong advocacy.

During the foreclosure crisis, he saved more than 100 homes for families that were in danger of losing them. His presence in housing court on their behalf earned him the highest respect from judges and adversary lawyers alike. His preparation in any endeavor was impeccable.

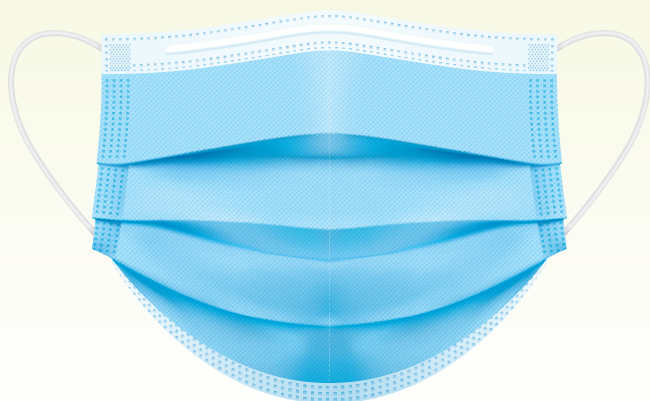
As coordinator for the Board of Elections, he made sure the machines worked, polling sites opened on time, and any changes *had* to be communicated to the community. His mantra was VOTE and don't complain if you don't.

We mourn our loss, yet take pride in how his work shall forever be remembered.

We were honored and blessed to have had the opportunity to work with him over these many years.



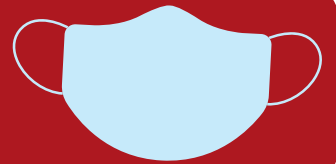
Masks and Distribution



Assembly Member Barron's office has equipped the people in our community with the tools to protect themselves from COVID-19. In partnership with Council Member Inez Barron's office, we have been able to distribute over 200,000 masks and hundreds of gallons of hand sanitizer throughout the community. We have distributed to NYCHA developments, private developments, daycares, community gardens, homeowners associations, nursing homes, churches, and cultural institutions. Our most recent initiative has been to distribute personal protective equipment (PPE) to food pantries. If you or someone you know is in need of a food pantry, you can call 311 or go to [foodhelp.nyc](https://www.foodhelp.nyc). We look forward to continuing to bring the people these tools to help them protect themselves from COVID-19. We ask that you please continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands as often as you can, refrain from touching your face, and wear a mask.



Wear a Mask!



COVID-19

Secured Testing Sites

Assembly Member Charles Barron and Council Member Inez Barron have been very instrumental in securing testing sites in our community. Due to their tireless work, testing sites have increased and have included local churches, clinics, NYCHA developments, and other facilities. To find the testing site closest to you, visit <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/get-tested/covid-19-testing.page>

Stay up to date on everything about COVID-19 by visiting <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page>

NYC Health+Hospitals Testing Sites (ongoing) Days and times vary

Coney Island Hospital
2601 Ocean Parkway
Brooklyn, New York 11235
844-NYC-4NYC
Also offers Antibody Tests/Flu Shots
Mon – Sat, 8am–4pm, Sun, 8am–12pm

Gotham Health, Cumberland
100 North Portland Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11205
844-NYC-4NYC
Also offers Antibody Tests/Flu Shots
Mon–Fri, 9am–3:30pm
Sat–Sun, 10am–2pm

Gotham, Jonathan Williams Houses
333 Roebling Street
Brooklyn, New York 11211
844-NYC-4NYC
Also offers Antibody Tests
Mon – Fri: 8:30am–3:30pm
Sat – Sun: 9am – 2 pm

Starrett City
1279 Pennsylvania Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11239
Also offers Rapid Molecular Tests
Rapid testing is sometimes limited.
Mon – Sun, 9am–7pm

Red Hook Recreation Center
155 Bay Street
Brooklyn, NY 11231
844-NYC-4NYC
Also offers Flu Shots
Mon – Sun, 9am–7pm

Kings County Hospital
451 Clarkson Avenue
T-Building, Room T-110 1st floor (Corner of Clarkson Ave & New York Ave)
Brooklyn, New York 11203
718-245-3131
Also offers Antibody Tests/Flu Shots
Mon–Sat, 7am–7pm
Sun, 9am–5pm (closed 12pm–1pm)

Gotham Health, East New York
2094 Pitkin Avenue
Brooklyn, New York 11207
844-NYC-4NYC
Also offers Antibody Tests/Flu Shots
Mon – Sun, 8am – 3pm

Midwood Pre-K
1223 Coney Island Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11230
844-NYC-4NYC
Also offers Rapid Point Molecular Tests
Rapid testing is sometimes limited.
Mon – Sun, 9am–7pm

Borough Park
4002 Fort Hamilton Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11218
Also offers Rapid Molecular Tests
Rapid testing is sometimes limited.
Mon – Sun, 9am–7pm

Canarsie Municipal Parking Lot
622 E 99th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11236
(aka 1389 Rockaway Parkway)
Also offers Flu Shots

Woodhull Hospital
760 Broadway
Brooklyn, New York 11206
718-963-8000
Also offers Antibody Tests/Flu Shots
Mon – Sun, 8:30am – 3:30pm

Gotham Health, Homecrest
1601 Avenue S
Brooklyn, New York 11229
844-NYC-4NYC
Also offers Antibody Tests
Mon – Fri, 8:30am–4pm

Bensonhurst 14th Ave
6315 14th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11219
Also offers Rapid Molecular Tests
Rapid testing is sometimes limited.
Mon – Sun, 9am–7pm

Bay Ridge 5th Ave
8511 & 8515 5th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11209
Also offers Rapid Antigen Tests/Flu Shots
Mon – Sun, 9am–7pm

Ida G. Israel Community Health Ctr
2925 W 19th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11224
844-NYC-4NYC
Mon – Sat, 8am – 4pm; Sun, 8am–12pm

Crown Heights
196 Albany Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11213
Mon – Fri, 9am–5pm

New Yorkers Should Limit Activities

The number of new COVID-19 cases in NYC remains high.

All New Yorkers should take steps to prevent COVID-19. People with underlying health conditions, as well as those who live with or care for them, should take special precautions:

- Avoid public spaces and gatherings.
- When leaving home for work, school, or essential activities, including medical care, COVID-19 testing, vaccination, or to go to the grocery store, or pharmacy, be sure that you are well protected with a mask and hand sanitizer and make sure to practice social distancing.
- If you feel sick, do not leave home except for a COVID-19 test or other essential medical care.

This advisory applies to a wide range of New Yorkers, such as people 65 and older with certain underlying health conditions, such as heart conditions, chronic kidney disease, Type 2 diabetes, and obesity. It also applies to those who live with or care for these people.

New Variants/Strains

People in NYC have tested positive for two variants of concern of the virus that causes COVID-19. These variants are more transmissible than other variants and may cause more severe illness.

NYC will continue monitoring for strains, types of variants that show meaningful differences in how they function, and other variants that have been identified and reported in New York State.

Updated Face Covering Guidance

You can get better protection by wearing two masks (a cloth mask over a disposable mask), which improves the fit and adds layers. If you are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, consider using a single higher-grade mask, such as a KN95.

Vaccine Eligibility

The COVID-19 vaccine is currently being distributed to various groups of people who are at increased risk of COVID-19 exposure or severe illness. The vaccine is expected to be widely available to all New Yorkers by mid-2021. There are three COVID-19 vaccines that have been authorized for emergency use.

New York State determines when new groups become eligible for the vaccine, and their schedule may change.

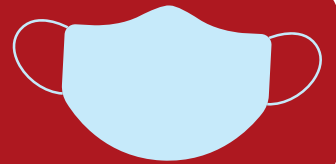
Those currently eligible to receive the vaccine include:

- New York residents ages 16 and up
- Group living facility residents and staff
- Building service workers
- Food industry workers including those that work in grocery stores and restaurants
- Government and not-for-profit workers
- Healthcare workers
- Hotel workers
- Public transit and TLC workers
- School staff: Pre-K – college (includes childcare and early intervention staff)

Please consult your physician before taking the vaccine. For updates on vaccine eligibility check <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-vaccine-eligibility.page>



Wear a Mask!



Barron's Budget Highlights

- Assembly Member Barron advocated for and helped to secure an allocation of \$1.4 Billion each of the next 3 years for the payment of the Campaign for Fiscal Equity debt owed to schools in Black and Brown neighborhoods due to racial discrimination during state budget allocations.
- Assembly Member Barron secured \$20 Million for the Martin Luther King Scholarship Fund for SUNY and CUNY students' non-tuition costs, i.e., books, childcare, transportation, food, etc.
- Assembly Member Barron advocated for and helped to secure a raise in the maximum award for the Tuition Assistance Program Award (TAP) by \$500 for SUNY and CUNY students.
- Assembly Member Barron helped to secure \$3 Billion for rent and mortgage assistance programs.
- Although \$200 Million was secured for capital money for NYCHA developments, Assembly Member Barron continues to fight for billions of dollars in order to secure and or repair boilers, roofs, mold work, as well as general maintenance and repairs.

Education

On March 22, high school buildings reopened for in-person learning for the first time since November 2020.

All remote families will now have one more opportunity to transition to blended learning this school year. This means that if your child is currently learning remotely every day, they will be able to opt in to learning in person in the school building at least part of the week for the remainder of the school year. The Department of Education (DOE) will make every effort to provide as many days of in-person learning as possible.

When and How to Opt-In to Blended Learning

- Beginning Wednesday, March 24, you can visit the Learning Preference Survey at nycenet.edu/surveys/learningpreference to select blended learning for your child.
- Families can also call 311.

When Your Student Can Return to the School Building

- Students in district 3-K, Pre-K, and grades K-5, including students in District 75, who opt in to blended learning during this opt-in window will return to buildings in April.
- Students in grades 6-12 who opt into blended learning during this opt-in window, will return at a later date and we will communicate more details as soon as possible.
- Updates will be posted at <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/health-and-wellness/coronavirus-update>

Requirements for Returning to the School Building

Please note that if you select blended learning for your child, you must submit the consent form for random COVID-19 testing by the first day your child begins in-person learning. You can submit your consent for testing one of two ways:

- Through your New York City Schools Account <https://mystudent.nyc/> under 'Manage Account,' or

- Complete and sign the consent form available at <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-year-20-21/return-to-school-2020/health-and-safety/covid-19-testing> and bring it to your child's school on the first day they are back in the school building.

Families that select blended learning are expected to have their child attend in person on days they are scheduled to do so. Please note that if your child is currently learning fully remotely and you do not complete the survey indicating a preference for blended learning, your student will remain fully remote.

The DOE is able to offer this additional chance for fully remote students to opt in to learning in buildings because the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has updated its guidance, allowing the DOE to safely accommodate more students in a classroom.

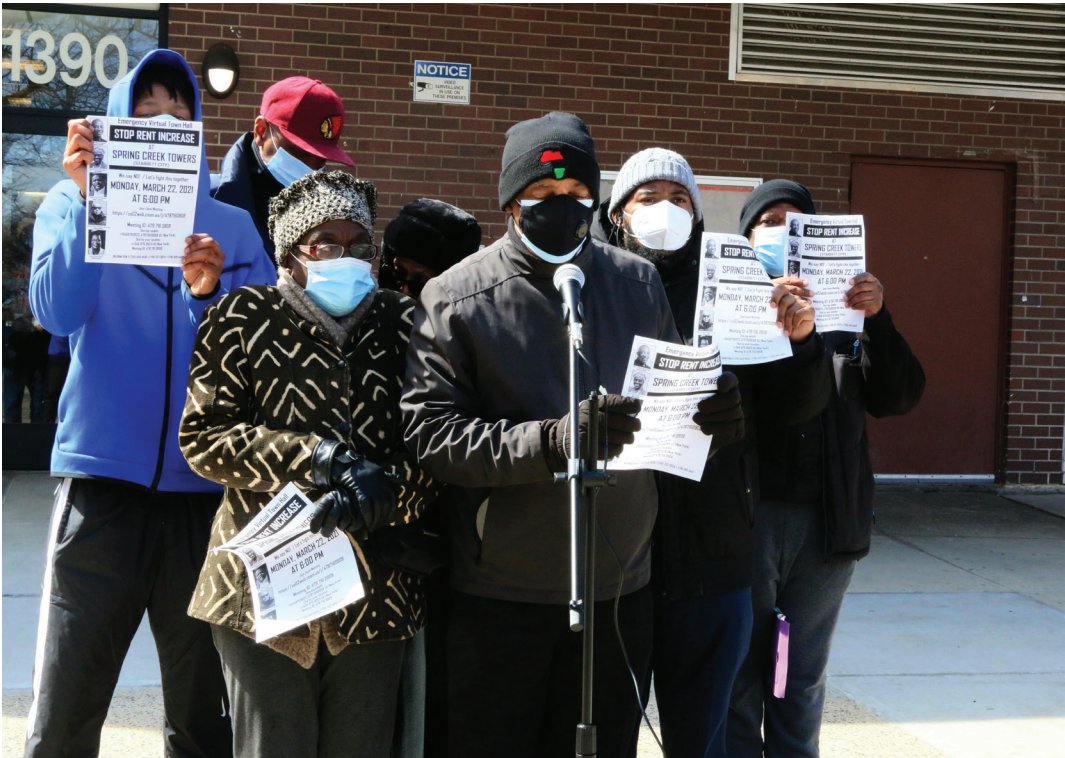
New School Opening

The East New York Family Academy is a brand new \$111 Million school that Assembly Member Charles Barron and Council Member Inez Barron advocated for on behalf of students who were previously being taught in trailers. The new school will open in the Fall of 2021 and be located at 2057 Linden Boulevard.



Starrett City/Spring Creek Towers Rent Hike Stopped

The owners of Starrett City/Spring Creek Towers were recently poised to raise rent on approximately 1,800 non-Section 8 units in their development. A call was abruptly placed to Juan Bravo, Community Liaison for Assembly Member Barron, to inform the office that they had submitted their rent increase request to the Department of Homes and Community Renewal (DHCR) and that it would very likely be approved. The State Assembly office immediately sprang into action and after an in-depth conference call with Assembly Member Charles Barron, Council Member Inez Barron, the Commissioner of DHCR RuthAnne Visnauskas, Vincent Riggins of the Concerned Families of Spring Creek Towers, and the owners of Starrett City/Spring Creek Towers, the electeds were able to stop the rent increase by getting the owners to withdraw the application. Shortly after the conference call, a press conference was held in front of the management office for Starrett City/Spring Creek Towers where the Barrons,



along with Vincent Riggins of the Concerned Families of Spring Creek Towers, informed residents that the Barrons got the owners to withdraw the rent increase request and the commissioner to agree with that. Vincent Riggins and the Concerned Families of Spring Creek Towers held a town hall meeting to urge residents to stay vigilant because the owners can resubmit the application for a rent increase at any point in the future. Instead of a rent increase, the owners should be offering more economic assistance and consideration to their residents who are continuing to suffer under the pandemic.

Charles Barron • 669 Vermont Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207



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Assembly Member
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Parks

Assembly Member Charles Barron and Councilmember Inez Barron joined together to honor the legacy of African ancestors who endured centuries of enslavement in the formation of East New York, Brooklyn. Our ancestors were buried on the land previously known as “Schenck Park,” named after a former slaveholder. The park was renamed Sankofa Park. The streets surrounding the park were co-named African Burial Ground square. A tremendous cultural ceremony and re-internment of our ancestors, remains, took place Thursday, July 18, 2019. Sankofa is a Swahili word meaning looking back to go forward. The renovation process will start this year and is expected to be completed by 2022.



(From left to right: Pastor David Brawley of St. Paul Community Baptist Church, Peggy Washington, Andre Mitchell of Man Up! Inc., Reverend Herbert Daughtry of The House of the Lord Pentecostal Church, Charles and Inez Barron, Minister Henry Muhammad of Muhammad Mosque No. 7c of the Nation of Islam, Chief Baba Neil Clarke, and Reverend Brenda Ross of Trinity Pentecostal House of Prayer)