



Photo Credit: Star Tribune/ Getty Images

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **More Medical Resources On The Way**

### ***Amid Coronavirus Pandemic***

NYC playgrounds closed; donation of COVID-19 tests; additional hospital staff on its way; small business resources; 2020 census and more!

**NYS Confirmed: 83,712**  
**NYS deaths: 1,941**  
**NYC confirmed: 47,439**  
**Brooklyn confirmed: 12,274**

**NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO**



Photo Credit: Gardiner Anderson/for New York Daily News

- NYC Playgrounds will be **closed** to enforce social distancing protocols. Will leave open spaces available.
- **Regeneron Pharmaceuticals** donated **500,000 test kits** to New York free of charge. First batch was delivered on Monday. **25,000 per day** ongoing delivery.
- **Corning Incorporated** donated **100,000 tubes**.

- **Corning** also provided an additional **500,000 tubes** at reduced cost and expedited delivery.
- Total hospitalizations: **12,226**.

For more information visit [here](#).

**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE:  
ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**



Video Credit: NYS Department of Labor

**NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO**



Photo Credit: AP Photo/Seth Wenig

- NYC Health + Hospitals President and CEO Dr. Mitchell Katz update:
  - **Elmhurst Hospital** has **increased** from **29** ICU beds to **111** ICU beds in 10 days, with **30 more coming**.
  - **Lincoln Hospital:** has **increased** from **34** ICU beds to **114** ICU beds, with **34 more coming**.
  - **Bellevue Hospital Center** increased from **66** ICU beds to **127** ICU beds, with **52 more coming**.
- Additional medical staff added:
  - **165** physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants to system.
  - **1,000** more Registered nurses deployed today.
  - Another **1,000** registered nurses coming within **next two weeks**.

- Adding another **350** physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants **next week**.
- **Free COVID-19 testing** available to front line NYC Health and Hospitals personnel.
- Additional hospital beds:
  - **Javits Center: 1,000** medical surgical beds; **another 1,500** coming in **late April**.
  - **Samaritan's Purse U.S. Disaster Relief in Central Park** **65** beds; **10** ICU.
  - **USNS Comfort: 750** medical surgical beds.
  - **Roosevelt Island: 240** medical and surgical beds.
  - **USTA - Billie Jean King National Tennis Center: 350** medical and surgical beds.
  - **Brooklyn Cruise Terminal: up to 750** medical and surgical beds by **mid-April**.
  - **Hotels: 10,000** beds across **20** hotels. There is an ability to contract more.
- Former Police Commissioner **James O'Neil** will serve as **COVID-19 Senior Advisor** and will oversee PPE and medical distribution equipment to hospitals.

For more information visit [here](#).

**CENSUS DAY**



**Happy Census Day!** This day is observed nationwide on **April 1st**. By this date, every home should have received an invitation to complete the 2020 Census. Please view the above video for more information about the Census.

If you have not yet filled out the Census, you can fill it out [here](#).

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**



Photo Credit: thriveglobal.com

- The Department of Education will mail **activity packets** to students **grades Pre-K to 5 this week**. These packets include 10-days' worth of lessons in different subjects. To access activity packet online visit [here](#).

**BUSINESS**



Photo Credit: moneycrashers.com

- **Verizon** is offering **small business grants** to help businesses who need assistance filling " urgent financial gaps. " For more information about this grant [visit here](#).
- **The Small Business retention grant program application will officially close on Friday at 5 pm**, but the City will continue to serve small businesses through the Small Business Continuity Fund. Visit [here](#) for a list of the **programs** available to **small businesses**.
- The **U.S. Treasury Department** released the **Paycheck Protection Program Application**. This application will allow eligible small business to apply for "loans to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic." For more information visit [here](#).

## IN-DISTRICT BUSINESS OPENING/CLOSURES



Photo Credit: Brooklyn Eagle

- Businesses open/closed: 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
- Businesses open/closed: Provided by **Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID**: Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory [here](#) and Church Avenue Business directory [here](#).

- Deli's and Grocery stores open: Provided by **Flatbush Junction Bid.**

- 1422 Flatbush Avenue - RJM Deli Mart
- 1427 Flatbush Avenue - Star Gourmet Deli
- 1485 Flatbush Avenue - Deli & Grocery II
- 2923 Glenwood Road - Tony's Health Food
- 2112 Nostrand Avenue - Sky High Deli
- 2122 Nostrand Avenue - Yung Fruit & Vegetables
- 1567 Flatbush Avenue - Subway restaurant
- 1575 Flatbush Avenue - Dunkin Donuts
- 1585 Flatbush Avenue - W&Fam Deli & Grocery
- 1479 Flatbush Avenue - Fine Fare Fresh
- 2816 Glenwood Road - Glenwood Deli

## FIRST RESPONDERS



Photo Credit: Amny.com

We thank our first responders and NYPD who are serving the public during this difficult time. Currently there has been:

- **6,100** NYPD Officers absent
- **1,400** who tested Positive COVID-19 tests
- **5** NYPD Deaths
- **167** officers who returned to work

For more information visit [here](#).

## THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS



**You do tough  
work that helps  
stop the spread  
of disease.**

**Thank you  
sanitation workers.**

Photo Credit: ministryofsport.com

During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. This week we thank our **Sanitation Workers** for keeping our communities clean.

## AVOID SCAMS

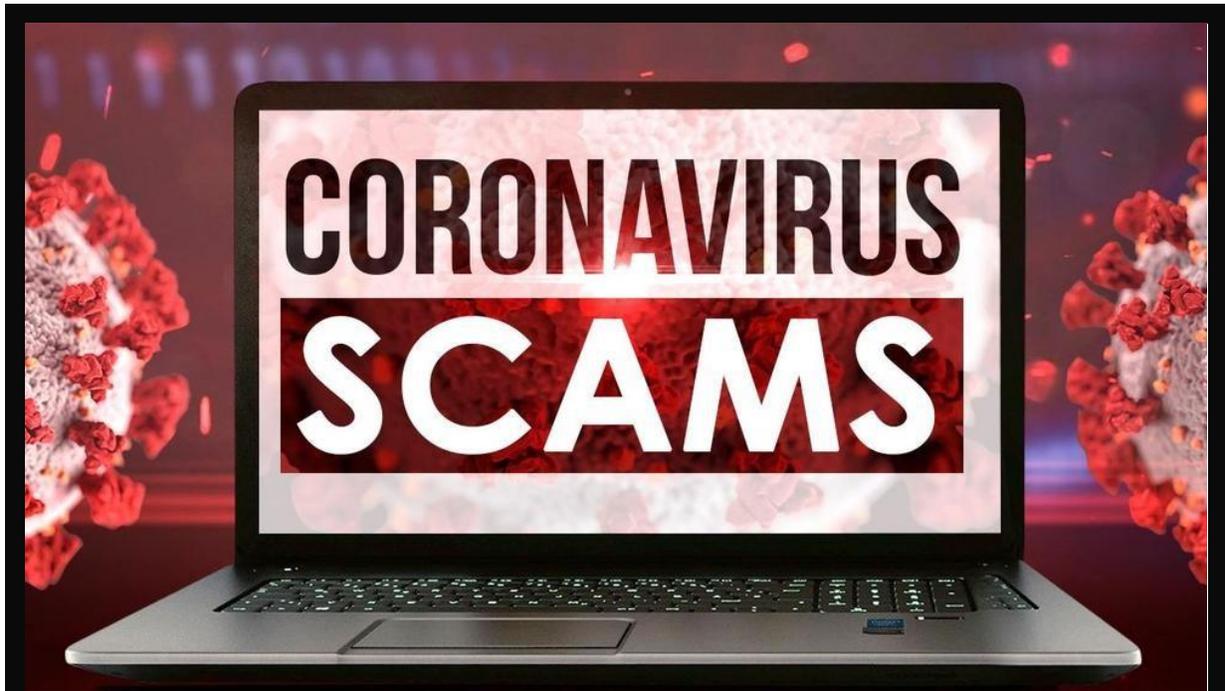


Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- 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](#).
- **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](tel:888-364-3065)). NYC residents should call ([844-692-4692](tel: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).

**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](#).

**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**

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

STAY CONNECTED

