



Photo Credit: Bureau of the Fiscal Service

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHITE HOUSE AND CONGRESS AGREE ON STIMULUS PACKAGE

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

utility rate increases postponed, free mental health services,
removal a of basketball hoops, inmates released, MTA changes
and more!

NYS Confirmed: 30,811
NYS deaths: 285
NYC confirmed: 17,856
Brooklyn confirmed: 4,656

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO

Governor Cuomo Announces:

- Utility rate increases that were to go into effect **April 1st** have been postponed.
- Need 140,00 beds, have 53,000.
- 40,000 Responses to Surge Healthcare Force.
- 6,175 Mental health professionals signed up to provide free online mental health services. For services, call Hotline at **844-863-9314**.

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO

Mayor de Blasio Announces:

- **Removal of basketball hoops** from 80 courts to enforce social distancing.
- By today **200 inmates** will be released.
- Additional essential workers to be added to receive **childcare**.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT **"STIMULUS PACKAGE"**

The White House and Senate leaders struck a major deal early this morning to provide over a **\$2-trillion package** to help the American people during t he COVID-19 pandemic. For more information visit here.

According to U.S Senator Schumer's office "This relief package includes an expansion and reform of the unemployment insurance program, new grant program for hospitals and health care providers, personal and protective equipment for health care workers, testing supplies, increased workforce and training, new construction to house patients, emergency operation centers and more. Additional funding is also dedicated to delivering Medicare payment increases to all hospitals and providers to ensure that they receive the funding they need during this crisis, and new investments in our country's Strategic National Stockpile, surge capacity and medical research into COVID-19." For more information visit [here](#).

U.S Senator Schumer on improvements made to bill:

- **4 months** of more **unemployment insurance** instead of 3 months.
- **\$55 billion increase** in the Schumer Marshall Plan for our Health Care System.
- **\$150 billion** for a state and local **Coronavirus Relief fund**.
- **\$10 billion for SBA emergency grants** of up to \$10,000 to provide immediate relief for operating costs once a small business or non-profit has applied for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan.
- **\$17 billion for SBA to cover 6 months of payments** for small businesses with existing SBA loans.
- **\$30 billion in emergency education funding** and **\$25 billion in emergency transit funding**.
- **\$30 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund** to provide financial assistance to state and local governments, as well as private nonprofits providing critical and essential services.

- **Make rent, mortgage and utility costs eligible for SBA loan forgiveness.**
- **Ban stock buybacks** for the term of the government assistance plus 1 year on any company receiving a government loan from the bill.
- **Establish robust worker protections** attached to all federal loans for businesses.
- Create real-time public reporting of Treasury transactions under the Act, including terms of loans, investments or other assistance to corporations.
- **Add a retention tax credit for employers** to encourage businesses to keep workers on payroll during the crisis.
- Provide income tax exclusion for individuals who are receiving **student loan repayment assistance** from their employer.
- **Eliminated \$3 billion bailout for big oil.**
- Eliminated “secret bailout” **provision** that would have allowed bailouts to corporations to be concealed for 6 months.
- **Saved hundreds of thousands of airline industry jobs** and prohibited airlines from stock buybacks and CEO bonuses.

“This is not a moment of celebration but rather one of necessity,” **said U.S. Senator Charles Schumer.** “The more than \$40 billion dollars of additional help on the way to New York is essential to save lives, preserve paychecks, support small businesses, ensure public transit and much more. These critical dollars will inject proverbial medicine into our state, city and localities like on Long Island, to deliver much-needed resources right now that can help combat the coronavirus. Like all compromise legislation, this bill is far from perfect—but it now does much more for this

state, its people and its future than where we began.” For more information visit [here](#).

MTA



Photo Credit: Curbny.com

- **“MTA Essential Service Plan.”** Some lines will not run Monday through Friday – including the B, W and Z lines, which will be covered by other local service.

- **Long Island Rail Road** "will have over 500 weekday trains running, compared to a typical weekday of over 740 trains, beginning March 27." For more information visit [here](#).
- Beginning on March 27, **Metro-North** "will provide hourly service on the Harlem, Hudson and New Haven lines, with extra trains added during peak times. Beginning the weekend of April 4/April 5, Metro North will provide hourly service while also suspending shuttle service between Wassaic and Southeast on the Upper Harlem line." For more information visit [here](#).

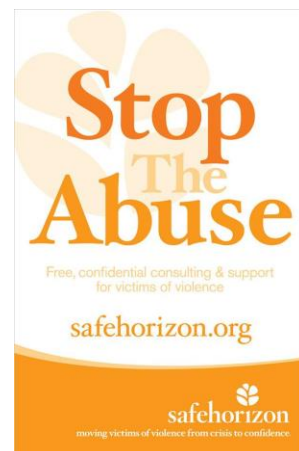
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Photo Credit Safe Horizon

Safe Horizon operates NYC's 24-hour hotline: 1-800-621-4673 for those who are experiencing domestic violence or gender based violence. For more information visit [here](#).

"For anyone needing resources to help themselves or a loved one experiencing dating, domestic, or gender-based violence, you can also visit the **NYC Hope Resource Directory**



at nyc.gov/NYCHOPE. For immediate safety planning, shelter assistance, mental health support, and other resources, all [NYC Family Justice Centers](#) are providing support by phone, Monday to Friday, from 9:00am – 5:00pm. The physical locations of the Family Justice Centers are temporarily closed." For more information visit [here](#).

- Bronx: 718-508-1220
- Brooklyn: 718-250-5113
- Manhattan: 212-602-2800
- Queens: 718-575-4545
- Staten Island: 718-697-4300

MENTAL HEALTH



Photo Credit: Capta.org

NYC Well is available 24/7 to provide a range of mental health support for all New Yorkers and can be reached by calling 1-888-NYC-Well (692-9355), texting “Well” to 65173, or on the web at nyc.gov/nycwell. For more information visit [here](#).

Seniors:

"If you feel lonely or isolated, the NYC Department for the Aging's Aging Connect hotline provides a direct link to a range of aging services. Call 212-AGING-NYC (212-244-6469)." For more information visit [here](#).

Veterans:

Veterans can access mental health support by calling the Veterans Crisis Line: 800-273-8255. For more information visit [here](#).

Youth:

"The NYC Department of Youth and Community Development is continuing to provide services for young people in Runaway and Homeless Youth Residences and Drop-In Centers. If you have questions about programming or service modifications, call DYCD Youth Connect at 1-800-246-4646 or 1-646-343-6800." For more information visit [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The New York City Department of Education wants every student who needs a device for remote learning to have one, even if the student does not have internet access at home. Simply call 718-935-5100 and choose Option 5 on the menu. Someone will help you get a device with internet connection.



ترغب إدارة التعليم لمدينة نيويورك في توفير جهاز للتعليم عن بعد لكل تلميذ(ة) يحتاج لذلك. حتى ولو لم يكن لدى التلميذ(ة) إمكانية الوصول إلى شبكة الإنترنت في المنزل. اتصلوا ببساطة برقم الهاتف 718-935-5100 واختاروا الخيار رقم 5 من القائمة. سوف يقوم شخص ما بمساعدتكم في الحصول على جهاز متصل بشبكة الإنترنت.

সিটি ইজার্স চিটি ডিপার্টমেন্ট অব এডুকেশন সুর সেকে শিকা বা ডিসেন্ট পাবলি-এর অঙ্গ সেসব শিক্ষার্থী একটি ডিভাইস প্রয়োজন তারা প্রত্যেক সেন একটি ডিভাইস পায় তা নিশ্চিত করতে চায়, এমনকি যদি শিক্ষার্থীর বাড়িতে ইন্টারনেটের সুবিধা না থাকে তবুও। 718-935-5100 নাম্বারে ফোন করুন এবং মেনু থেকে অপশন 5 বেছে নিন। ইন্টারনেট যোগাযোগ সহ একটি ডিভাইস পেতে কেউ একজন আপনাকে সহায়তা করবেন।

紐約市教育局希望每一位需要遠程學習設備的學生都獲得該設備，即使該生在家裡無法上網。您只需致電718-935-5100，然後在菜單上選擇選項5即可。有人將幫您獲得一個可連接互聯網的設備。

Le Département de l'Éducation de la Ville de New York veut que chaque élève ayant besoin d'un outil d'enseignement à distance en ait un, même si l'élève n'a pas d'accès Internet à la maison. Veuillez appeler le 718-935-5100 et choisissez l'option 5 du menu. Quelqu'un vous aidera à obtenir un outil avec connexion Internet.

Depatman Edikasyon Vil Nouyòk (NYCDOE) vle pou chak timoun ki bezwen yon aparèy pou yo aprann adistans (remote) gen yonn, menmsi elèv la pa gen aksè entènèt lakay li. Jis rele nan 718-935-5100 epi chwazi opsyon 5 nan meni an. Gen yon moun k ap ede w jwenn yon aparèy ki gen koneksyon entènèt.

뉴욕시 교육청은 원격 학습을 위한 기기를 필요로 하는 모든 학생에게 기기를 제공하며 가정에서 인터넷 사용할 수 없는 경우도 해당됩니다. 718-935-5100로 전화하여 메뉴에서 옵션 5를 선택하십시오. 인터넷 연결이 가능한 기기를 받을 수 있도록 도와드릴 것입니다.

Департамент образования г. Нью-Йорка стремится, чтобы у каждого ребенка, которому необходимо устройство для дистанционного обучения, оно было, даже если у этого ребенка дома нет доступа в Интернет. Позвоните по телефону 718-935-5100 и выберите Опцию 5 в меню. Вам помогут получить устройство с выходом в Интернет.

El Departamento de Educación de la Ciudad de Nueva York quiere que todos los estudiantes que necesiten un dispositivo para aprender a distancia obtengan uno, incluso si el estudiante no tiene acceso a internet en su casa. Simplemente llame al 718-935-5100 y elija la opción 5 del menú. Alguien le ayudará a conseguir un dispositivo con conexión a internet.

نیو یارک شہر محکمہ تعلیم چاہتا ہے کہ ایسا ہر طالب علم جس کو گھر سے تعلیم حاصل کرنے (ڈیٹا لرننگ) کے لیے ایک آلے کی ضرورت ہے، اس کو ایک آلہ مہیا جائے، حتی کہ اگر طالب علم کے پاس گھر پر انٹرنیٹ نہ ہو۔ محض 718-935-5100 پر رابطہ کریں اور مینو میں انتخاب 5 کو منتخب کریں۔ کوئی فرد آپ کی انٹرنیٹ رابطے (کونکشن) کے ساتھ ایک آلہ حاصل کرنے میں آپ کی مدد کرے گا۔

Photo Credit: Department of Education

The Department of Education encourages those who do not have access to an internet-connected device at home, to complete the [Remote Learning Device Request Form](#) or call 718-935-5100.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS



Photo Credit: Fox News

New York State Department of Labor is waiving the 7-day waiting period for Unemployment Insurance benefits for people who are out of work due to (COVID-19) closures or quarantines. To apply visit [here](#).

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.

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

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

