



Assemblymember
RODNEYSE BICHOTTE
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader

COVID-19 Updates

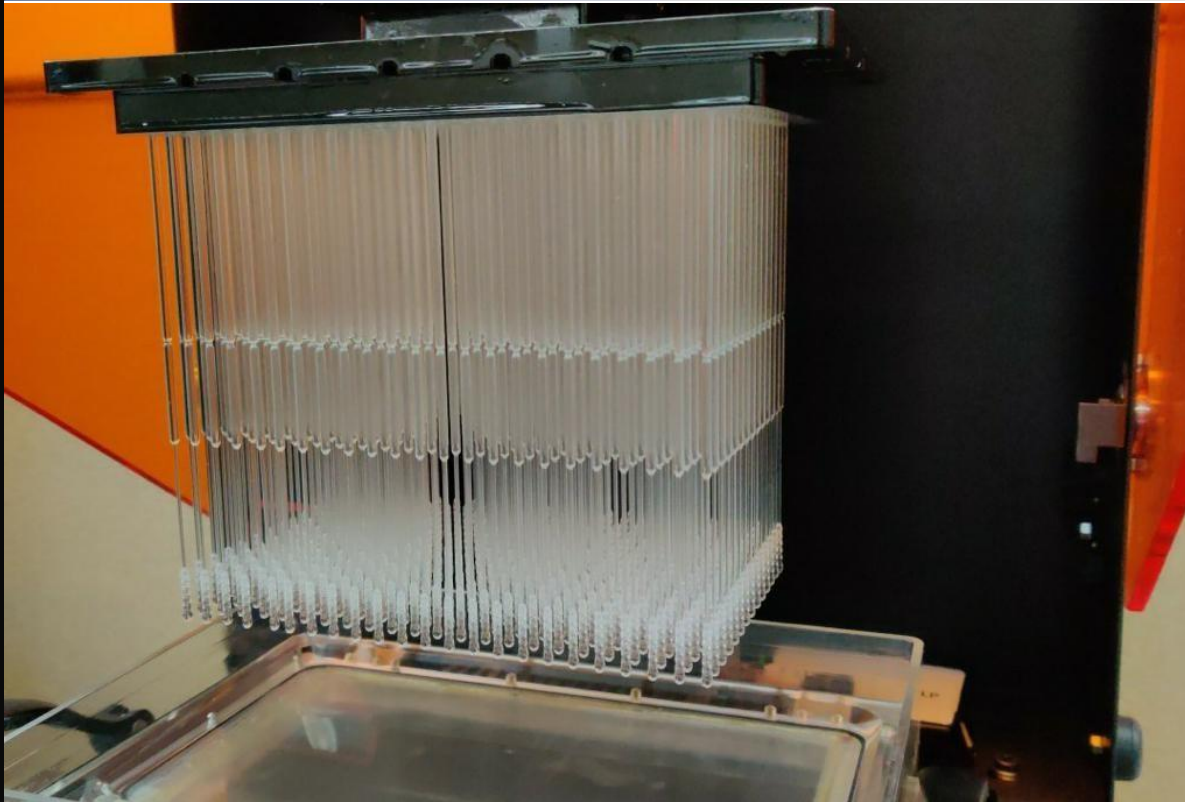


Photo Credit: EnvisionTec

MAY 3, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NYC to Procure COVID-19 Test Kits Locally

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

Increased Foodbank capacity; Northeast Regional Buying Consortium;
Facebook Small Business Grant; And More!

NYS Confirmed: 316,415
NYS Deaths: 19,189
NYC Confirmed: 174,331
Brooklyn Confirmed: 46,839

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO



Photo Credit: Daily News/ Getty Image

- Governor Cuomo announce that a partnership with 7 Northeast regional states has established a **Northeast Regional Buying Consortium** to procure medical equipment and other supplies including PPEs, ventilators,

and tests. Such a consortium will **increase market power** and **drive down price**.

- Partnership of states include, NY, NJ, CT, PA, DE, RI, MA and will:
 - establish regional needs
 - stop working with irresponsible vendors based on recent experience
 - **buy American** (USA , regional and state suppliers)
 - develop new in-state suppliers to reduce the supply chain risk and drive regional economic development
- NYS has over **\$2 billion** in purchases of medical equipment for **this year alone**. The buying Consortium will have a capacity to purchase **\$5 billion**
- The NYS Department of Health will **require** every hospital in the state to maintain at least a **90-day supply of PPEs** in preparation of a second surge of COVID-19

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO



Photo Credit: NYPost

- Mayor de Blasio announced that New York City will for the first time be able to **produce COVID-19 test kits locally**.
 - Partnerships were developed with **Print Parts** (a 3D printing company) and **EnvisionTech** (a medical 3D printing company) to develop the swabs
 - Partnership was developed with Bronx-based **Albert Einstein College of Medicine** to produce a transport medium (a fluid that samples are kept in)
 - Initial production of 30,000 test kits will be **available by Friday, May 8th** and delivered where needed by May 10th. (this initial production will include transport medium from an source outside of NYC)

- **Weekly production of 50,000 tests** kits will be all done locally and will be available after May 17th.
- Food insecurity is increasing and is expected to reach 2 million people. **Currently distributing 3.1 million meals per week.** GetFood Delivery Assistance Program continues to expand.
 - **Goal** for increased meals is **1 million per day**
 - Need support from **non-profit organizations**
 - **300** additional provider staff to **manage distribution sites**
 - Prepare meals (need commercial kitchen capacity)
 - Provide culturally sensitive meals to feed individuals
 - Target neighborhoods include: Melrose, Washington Heights, Flushing, Jackson Heights, Howard Beach, So. Ozone Park, Gravesend, Sheepshead Bay, Morris Park, Northshore of Staten Island, Eastchester and Sunset Park.
 - organizations **must be able to produce at least 1,000 meals per day**
 - For more information click [here](#).

BUSINESS

The image shows the word "facebook" in a 3D, white, sans-serif font. The letters are blocky and have a slight shadow underneath, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. They are set against a dark blue background that transitions to a lighter blue at the bottom, where the letters appear to be resting on a surface.

Photo Credit: Facebook

Facebook has a **Small Business Grant Program** that allows businesses, whose federal applications were not granted, an opportunity to apply. They will offer **\$100 million in cash grants and ad credits** to:

- Keep workforce going;
- help with rent and operational cost;
- connect with more customers; and
- support the community

Businesses qualify if they:

- have between **2 to 50 employees**
- have been in business over **one year**
- have **experienced challenges** from COVID-19
- be in or **near a location** where Facebook operates

For more information click [here](#).

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 | 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**.



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
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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.

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.

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](#).

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.

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: 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

Small Businesses:

For resources on **business** grants and loans, [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

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 websites:
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>
and www.rodneysebichotte.net

STAY CONNECTED

