



Assemblymember  
**RODNEYSE BICHOTTE**  
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader

# COVID-19 Updates



Photo Credit: Curbed NYC

**MAY 17, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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718-940-0428

**NYC Beaches Will Remain Closed for  
Memorial Day Weekend**

## *Amid Coronavirus Pandemic*

NYC Announces Partnership with CityMD; NYS Announces Partnership with CVS; Blood Donations Urgently Needed; New MTA App for Essential Workers; and More!

**NYS Confirmed: 350,121**  
**NYS Deaths: 22,619**  
**NYC Confirmed: 192,593**  
**Brooklyn Confirmed: 52,298**

**NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO**



Photo Credit: Governor Cuomo; Governor taking a COVID-19 test today during his briefing.

- Capital Region and Western New York is close to reopening. Testing and tracing capacity has to be finalized for regions.

- Mental health
  - The Mental Health Coalition has a "**How Are You Really?**" service. To access it visit [here](#).
  - New York State Emotional Hotline: (844) 863-9314
  - Additional mental health resources available [here](#)
- Governor Cuomo announced that NYS is conducting an average of **40,000** COVID-19 tests a day.
  - New York is conducting more tests than any other state and country.
  - Testing will be key to monitoring the virus as we open. As we reopen more New Yorkers need to get tested.
  - NYS currently has over **700** testing sites
- Governor Cuomo announced a partnership between NYS and **CVS** to bring testing to more than **60** CVS pharmacies accross the state.
  - Each site will be able to conduct **50** or more tests a day.

**NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO**





Photo Credit: Time Out

- Mayor de Blasio announced a new partnership with **CityMD Urgent Care** to provide **123** testing sites across all 5 boroughs.
  - Capacity will provide **6,000** diagnostic tests daily.
  - Open **7 days** a week.
  - Walk-ins welcome, appointments not required.
  - CityMD will cover the cost for individuals who are uninsured.
  - Find locations [here](#).
  - NYC will be able to provide **20,000** tests daily.
- **Test and Trace**
  - NYC is on Track to have **1,000** tracers by end of May.

- First class of **500** prospective tracers has completed Johns Hopkins training, there are **1,000** more individuals undergoing training.
- Field training will take place the week of **May 24th**, training will be on more than **100** potential case types.
- **100** new tracers to start the week of **May 24th**.
- Test and Trace Corp is deploying **Resource Navigators** in every community by **June 1st**.
- Resource Navigators will connect anyone isolating at home with
  - Food
  - Medication
  - Phones
  - Toiletries
  - Mental Health Resources
- **200-300** people will be hired as Resource Navigators by **June 1st**. Navigators will work with local community organizations.
- **140,000** Antibody Tests now available to New Yorkers free of charge.
  - Test is by appointment, visit [here](#) or call (888) 279-0967.
  - Hours of operation: Monday through Friday noon to 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to noon.
  - Testing will be conducted at:
    - Bronx: 40-06 Third Avenue, NY 10457.
    - Brooklyn: NYPD Community Center in East New York at 127 Pennsylvania Avenue, NY 11207.
    - Manhattan: Manhattanville Health Center at 21 Old Broadway, NY 10027.

- Queens: 34-09 Queens Boulevard, NY 11101.
- Staten Island: St. John Villa Academy at 57 Cleveland Place, NY 10305.
- Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome
  - There are now **137** cases in NYC.
  - **66** tested positive for COVID-19 or antibodies.
  - **1** Fatality.

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: Getty Images/istock

- The Federal Government is investigating a number of fraudulent Unemployment Insurance claims. According to Secret Service Investigators, a well-organized Nigerian fraud ring stole social security numbers and filed unemployment claims "on behalf of people who in many cases did not lose their jobs." There are a number of cases throughout the State. For more information visit [here](#).



## NYC DAILY COVID-19 INDICATORS



Photo Credit: Wired

Mayor de Blasio's report on NYC COVID-19 indicators are:

- **New hospitalizations:** unchanged at 77
- **ICU Admissions:** down from 506 to 469
- **COVID-19 Positive Tests:** down from 13% to 11%

## NYC BEACHES WILL REMAIN CLOSED



Photo Credit: Mike Lednovich

NYC Mayor de Blasio announced that Beaches will remain closed to swimming during Memorial Day weekend.

- Walking on beaches will be permitted.
- NYC Parks and NYPD increasing patrols.
- City will add fencing to control entry points.
- Access will be further restricted if social distancing or no-swim rules are not observed.
- Opening later in summer is contingent on further reduction of COVID-19 cases
- NYC Parks is training lifeguards to ensure staffing if beaches reopen.

**BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED**



**THERE IS AN URGENT NEED...**

**...FOR DONORS LIKE YOU.**



 **New York** Blood Center

Photo Credit: NY Blood Center

According to Mayor de Blasio, New York Blood Center is down to a **2 day supply** of blood. NYBC is issuing an **urgent call for healthy blood donors**. Some surgeries will not be able to move forward until there is additional blood supply. For more information visit [here](#). To schedule an appointment to donate blood, visit [here](#) or call (800) 933-2566.

## NYC PARKS



Photo Credit: Paul Martinka

NYC Parks have started adding circles on park grass to ensure that people social distance and stay 6 feet from each other.

**ESSENTIAL CONNECTOR**



Photo Credit: RPA

MTA Train Services are currently closed from 1 a.m. to 5 p.m. for deep cleaning. If you are an essential worker who commutes during those times, **MTA developed an app named Essential Connector** to help riders plan their commute.

- Essential workers can book one free trip in a for-hire vehicle per night if:
  - A bus trip would take more than 1 hour and 20 minutes
  - A bus trip requires more than two transfers, or
  - The walk to or from a bus stop is more than 1/2 mile (10 minutes of walking)

- If your trip meets one of these requirements, register [here](#) to sign up for Essential Connector or download the app on your mobile device. Essential Connector also provides up to date MTA information.

**HAITIAN UNITY DAY**



*Virtual Celebration of*

# HAITIAN UNITY DAY

Join the Haitian-American Legislative Caucus  
for a live celebration of Haitian culture with  
special musical performance by:

**Monvelyno Alexis  
& Riva Nyri Précil**



**Monday, May 18, 2020  
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.**



Watch live on Facebook or  
Register in advance for Zoom Meeting:  
<https://bit.ly/HaitiUnity>

Watch live on each Assemblymember's Facebook:

@SolagesNY

@RodneyseBichotte

@AssemblywomanKimberlyJeanPierre

@nysamclydevanel

@FrontusAD46

@JaffeeNY



Join **Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte** and the **Haitian-American Legislative Caucus** on Haitian Flag Day, **Monday, May 18th, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.**, for a virtual celebration of Haitian culture. To register in advance, visit [here](#). You can watch the video on Monday, [here](#).

## ALTERNATE SIDE PARKING



Mayor De Blasio announced that **Alternate Side Parking** will be **suspended** through **Sunday, May 17th**. Alternate Side Parking will **resume Monday, May 18th** through **Sunday, May 24th** to allow for a week long cleaning sweep of the City. Alternate Side Parking will be **suspended again from Monday, May 25th** through **Sunday, June 7th**.

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

**PEDIATRIC MULTI-SYSTEM**

## INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME

11alive.com

# PEDIATRIC MULTI-SYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME


Photo Credit: 11alive

Governor Cuomo announced that a new investigation is under way 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 “**Pediatric Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome**,” and now **requires** healthcare 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



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

**Thank you  
sanitation workers.**

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

## AVOID SCAMS



Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID-19 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 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](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](#).

**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** 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: 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

