



## Weekly Report from Assemblyman Charles D. Fall

March 25, 2021

### Upcoming Events


Join me and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer on **Monday, March 29** at 8 PM for an information session on **Accessing Covid 19 Relief for Houses of Worship and Schools**. To register in advance, [click here](#). Contact my office at 718-442-9932 or [sibir@nyassembly.gov](mailto:sibir@nyassembly.gov) with any additional questions.

**VIRTUAL EVENT**


Join Senate Majority Leader **Chuck Schumer** and Assembly Member **Charles Fall** to discuss:

### Accessing COVID19 Relief for Houses of Worship & Schools

MONDAY, MARCH 29TH, 2021 AT 8PM



**CHUCK SCHUMER**  
DEMOCRATIC LEADER



**CHARLES FALL**  
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, DISTRICT 61

[REGISTER IN ADVANCE HERE](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Zoom meeting.

FROM THE OFFICE OF SENATOR CHUCK SCHUMER

## District 61 News

As a champion and avid supporter of the Summer Youth Employment Program(SYEP) I am happy to inform our constituents that applications for this summer are now open. Beginning this week through [April 24th](#), youth-age 14 to 24, are eligible for a quality, paid work experience through SYEP. If you or someone you know would like to apply [click here](#).



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## Updates From Albany

**This Wednesday I received my Covid vaccination while I was in Albany, NY to discuss budgetary topics and pass important legislation for all New Yorkers.**

This week, it was announced that New Yorkers 50 years of age and older will be eligible to receive the vaccine.

- Over 400 Members of the Legislature and staff were able to receive the J&J vaccine.
- 103,425 doses have been administered across New York's vast distribution network in the last 24 hours, and more than 1 million doses have been administered over the past seven days.
- More than 1.65 million doses have been administered through New York mass vaccination sites and FEMA sites to date.
- Delivery of the week 15 allocation begins mid-week.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to receive my vaccination while in Albany, as we continue to pass important legislation and further discuss the upcoming 2021-2022 New York State budget. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the healthcare workers and staff that are coordinating this effort.

We all must keep in mind, by receiving the vaccination, we are taking the necessary steps in returning to normalcy in our daily lives. Again, if you need any assistance in receiving your vaccination, please contact my office at [718.442.9932](tel:718.442.9932).



**COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Update:**

**All New Yorkers who are 50+ are eligible** to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

For more information, visit: [am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov](https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov)

The graphic features a teal and white color scheme. It includes an illustration of a blue vaccine vial labeled 'COVID-19 VACCINE' and a syringe, surrounded by red, spiky virus particles.

**Assembly passes legislation expanding unemployment insurance eligibility to include workers who have had to leave their jobs in order to meet their childcare obligations.**

This week the New York State Assembly and Senate passed legislation (**A.6080/S.2623**) that makes clear that meeting childcare obligations constitutes a "compelling family reason."

- Currently, New York State unemployment insurance claimants who voluntarily leave the workforce without good cause are ineligible for benefits.
- The unemployment insurance appeal board and the courts have interpreted whether the need to provide childcare constitutes good cause, and have been inconsistent in their decisions, with some denying benefits and others ruling in favor of the claimant.
- This legislation ensures that workers who were forced to make the difficult decision to leave their jobs to care for their children at home are not denied the benefits they need.

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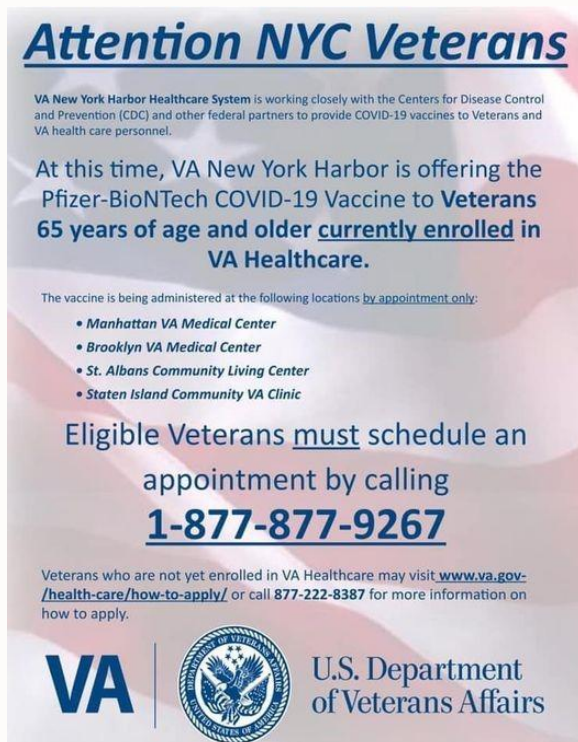
**Critical Updates, New Policies, and Testing Locations to Protect You and Your Community**

1. **New York's Major League Baseball teams, the New York Mets and New York Yankees, can resume play with spectators in the stadiums, beginning April 1.** Professional sports in large outdoor stadiums that hold 10,000 people or more will be allowed to reopen at 20% capacity.
2. **Governor Andrew Cuomo signed legislation (S.2588-A/A.3354-B) granting public and private employees time off to receive the COVID-19 vaccination.** Under this new law, employees will be granted up to four hours of excused leave per injection that will not be charged against any other leave the employee has earned or accrued.
3. **Beginning April 2, arts and entertainment venues can reopen at 33% capacity, up to 100 people indoors and up to 200 people outdoors.** If all attendees present proof of negative test prior to entry, capacity can increase up to 150 people indoors and up to 500 people outdoors. Social distancing and face coverings will be required by all attendees, as well as strict adherence to all applicable Department of Health guidance.
5. **New York State is launching a new pilot program to begin administering the Johnson & Johnson's single-dose vaccine to eligible New Yorkers during the overnight hours at the Yankee Stadium, Javits Center and New York State Fair Mass Vaccination Sites.** Following a discussion with the White House COVID-19 Task Force, New York is taking measures to distribute the state's allocation of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine as quickly as possible, as states have been informed there will be a lag in the following week's allocation. As part of this effort, thousands of new appointments will be made available at each of the three sites in the coming days. Counties, pharmacies, and Federally Qualified Health Centers will also be receiving Johnson & Johnson allocations this week.
6. **As of Wednesday, March 17th, all providers except pharmacies can vaccinate any eligible New Yorker with the Covid 19 vaccine with Public facing government employees, nonprofit workers and essential building service workers are now eligible. Pharmacies can now vaccinate seniors 60 and over and teachers.**
7. Eligible individuals can schedule vaccine appointments by contacting:
  - **The NYC Vaccine hotline at [877-829-4692](tel:877-829-4692) or [clicking here](#)**
  - **The NYS hotline at [888-364-3065](tel:888-364-3065) or [clicking here](#)**
  - **SOMOS, a community health provider at [833-766-6769](tel:833-766-6769)**
  - **Eligible individuals will have to fill out a screening form and attest to being in an eligible category.** Anyone who is NOT eligible for vaccination, should not sign up for an appointment. **[Click here to find updated vaccine eligibility](#)**

lists, vaccine locations near you and to schedule a vaccine appointment when eligible.

- Click here for a COVID-19 vaccine fact sheet.

8. **Veterans enrolled in the VA Care system can call and schedule an appointment to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Call 1-877-877-9267. If you are not yet eligible call 877-222-8387 to enroll.**



**Attention NYC Veterans**

VA New York Harbor Healthcare System is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal partners to provide COVID-19 vaccines to Veterans and VA health care personnel.


At this time, VA New York Harbor is offering the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to **Veterans 65 years of age and older currently enrolled in VA Healthcare.**

The vaccine is being administered at the following locations by appointment only:

- Manhattan VA Medical Center
- Brooklyn VA Medical Center
- St. Albans Community Living Center
- Staten Island Community VA Clinic

Eligible Veterans must schedule an appointment by calling  
**1-877-877-9267**

Veterans who are not yet enrolled in VA Healthcare may visit [www.va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply/](http://www.va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply/) or call 877-222-8387 for more information on how to apply.

**VA** |  **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

9. **Review the State guidelines for travelers arriving in New York State.**

- View the Test-and-Trace corps **COVID-19 Wait Times Dashboard** for estimated wait times for NYC Health + Hospitals COVID-19 testing locations. This wait time information is updated by site staff every two hours.
    - **Use the DOH map to find all State-run testing sites.**
    - **Click here for a full list of NYC Health + Hospitals walk-in testing sites available at no cost to you on the North Shore.**
    - Use the Phone-a-Clinician program with Health + Hospitals, by calling (844) NYC-4NYC. Call to connect with a medical provider free of charge seven days a week from 9 AM - 9 PM.
    - Individuals that are unable to safely isolate at home may be afforded a free temporary hotel room. **Click here to learn more** or call (844) 692-4692. **Please click here if you have any further questions.**
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## **Crucial Resources to Support and Aid Your Everyday Needs**

1. The Gifted & Talented (G&T) application for the 2021-22 school year is open now through [April 9th, 2021](#). All families with children born in 2016 who live in New York City—including those who have temporarily relocated due to the COVID-19 pandemic—can apply now to enter G&T programs in fall 2021. We welcome your ongoing partnership to ensure that families in your district take advantage of this opportunity. Families can apply online at [MySchools.nyc](#), through a [Family Welcome Center](#), or over the phone at [718-935-2009](#). The online application is available in ten languages, and families can apply over the phone in over 200 languages.
2. SCORE Staten Island is a nonprofit association dedicated to helping both aspiring and established entrepreneurs get off the ground, grow and achieve their goals through cost-free education and confidential mentorship. The organization is Chapter 476 of the nationwide SCORE. As a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration, SCORE is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the SBA. It has both local mentors, who have proved to be successful in their fields, and a network of 10,000 volunteer mentors across the country providing web-based seminars and resources. It can provide:
  - Volunteer mentors who share their expertise across many different industries
  - Free, confidential business mentoring in person, via email, phone or by video
  - Free business tools, templates and tips online
  - Inexpensive or free business workshop/webinars(locally) and webinars (online 24/7)
  - For additional information, or to schedule an appointment, SCORE-Staten Island may be visited here. Or you call them at [718-727-1221](#); email at [info@scoresi.org](mailto:info@scoresi.org) and visit on Facebook and LinkedIn.

2. Need free tax assistance? **Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation offers a free tax preparation program** that provides NYC residents with assistance filing their returns and maximizing their credits and refunds. Call NAMIC's hotline **Monday – Wednesday 11am – 7pm and Saturday and Sunday 9am – 5pm**. Contact Maria Guzman-Colon at [taxhelp@nmic.org](mailto:taxhelp@nmic.org) or 929-415-8745 with any questions.



**NYC FREE TAX PREP**





**NYC FREE TAX PREP**



**FREE TAX PREPARATION**

January 23 – April 15, 2021

Please be prepared with:

- Photo ID (New York State ID preferred)
- Social Security card
- Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) for all family members
- W-2s for all jobs you held during 2020
- Any other tax-related documents
- Your bank account number and routing number (if you want to direct deposit your refund)

\*If you are filing jointly, your spouse must be present with photo ID.\*

**When?**  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 11AM - 7PM  
Saturday, Sunday 9AM-5PM

**How do I sign up?**  
Book an appointment online at [www.nmic.org/taxes](http://www.nmic.org/taxes)

**Who is eligible?**  
People who earned less than \$68,000 in 2020

**Additional questions?**  
Contact us at [taxhelp@nmic.org](mailto:taxhelp@nmic.org) or (929) 415-8745

**45 Wadsworth Avenue**  
New York, NY 10033  
[www.nmic.org](http://www.nmic.org)  
212-822-8300

In collaboration with:




**PREPARACIÓN GRATUITA DE IMPUESTOS**

ENERO 23, - Abril 15, 2021

Por favor esté preparado con:

- Identificación con foto (de preferencia la identificación del estado de Nueva York)
- Tarjeta de seguridad social
- Cartas y/o recibos: Número de Identificación (ITIN) para todos los miembros de la familia
- W-2 para todos los trabajos que tuvo durante 2020
- Cualquier otro documento relacionado con impuestos
- Su número de cuenta del banco y número de ruta (si desea su transferencia por depósito directo)
- Si presenta una declaración conjunta, su cónyuge debe estar presente con una identificación con foto.\*

**¿Cuándo?**  
Lunes, Martes y Miércoles de 11 AM a 7 PM  
Sábado, Domingo 9 AM - 5PM

**¿Cómo me registro?**  
Haga una cita en línea en [www.nmic.org/taxes](http://www.nmic.org/taxes)

**¿Quién es elegible?**  
Personas que ganaron menos de \$ 68,000 en 2020.

**¿Preguntas adicionales?**  
Contáctenos [taxhelp@nmic.org](mailto:taxhelp@nmic.org) o (929) 415-8745

**45 Wadsworth Avenue**  
New York, NY 10033  
[www.nmic.org](http://www.nmic.org)  
212-822-8300

In collaboration with:




3. **Staten Island Legal Services wants to help you.** If you need free legal help during the Covid-19 crisis, for matters of immigration, foreclosure, small business advice and more. **call them at 718-233-6480.**



**DO YOU NEED FREE LEGAL HELP DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS?**

Staten Island Legal Services is here to help you and your family get through this together.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Unemployment Benefits &amp; Employment Issues</li> <li>■ Food Stamps (SNAP), Public Assistance, Medicaid</li> <li>■ Eviction/Illegal Lockouts</li> <li>■ Mortgage Relief &amp; Foreclosure Prevention</li> <li>■ Small Business Advice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Immigration</li> <li>■ Bankruptcy and Consumer Help</li> <li>■ Student Loan and Debt Collection</li> <li>■ Domestic Violence, Orders of Protection, &amp; Child Support</li> <li>■ Education</li> <li>■ LGBTQ+ HIV+</li> </ul>
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**CALL STATEN ISLAND LEGAL SERVICES**


Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
We speak your language and serve all 5 boroughs of NYC.

**718-233-6480**

Legal Services NYC  
SERVING JUSTICE

legalservicesnyc.org

**FORECLOSURE PREVENTION NETWORK**



Since 2007, Legal Services NYC's Foreclosure Prevention Network has assisted nearly 17,000 New York City homeowners facing foreclosure. With community-based foreclosure prevention projects in our Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island offices, our dedicated team of nearly 40 attorneys and advocates provide critical legal services to homeowners navigating the judicial foreclosure process and fight to help them save their homes. LSNYC Foreclosure Prevention Network partners include non-profit organizations, housing advocates, social service agencies and local government. Our advocates conduct strategic outreach and education activities in conjunction with community and government partners.

**WHAT WE DO**

- Representing homeowners in court-mandated settlement conferences
- Providing legal advice and pro se assistance to homeowners through court-based clinics
- Helping clients negotiate home-saving solutions
- Advocating for fair lending rules, and for better enforcement of laws protecting consumers from predatory practices

**CLIENT SUCCESS STORY**

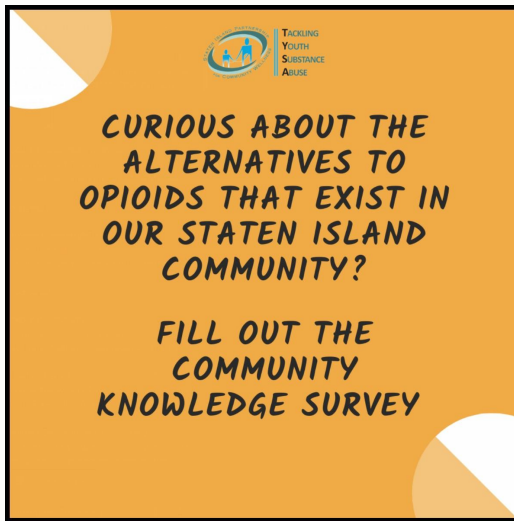
Ms. M., a 68-year-old Black homeowner, fell one month behind on her mortgage when she had to pay for her sister's funeral expenses. For one year her mortgage company continued to accept her payments, but then her servicing was transferred to a new company. The new mortgage company refused to accept Ms. M.'s payments unless she could catch up on the one missed payment. For three years, Ms. M. tried to negotiate with her lender, but it refused to work with her even though she had sufficient income and was going to pay for her husband, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease. After being sued in foreclosure, Ms. M. was able to connect with Brooklyn Legal Services, who helped her negotiate a modification with a lower interest rate and more affordable monthly payment, saving her \$300 per month on her housing expenses and allowing her family to remain in their home.

**CONTACT US FOR FREE LEGAL HELP AT 917-641-4500**





2. As part of the CADCA non-opioid choices project, **Tackling Youth Substance Abuse is surveying community members about their thoughts and knowledge on the availability of alternatives to opioids in the community.** There are no wrong answers. The survey is short and can only be completed electronically. [Click here to fill out the survey.](#)



3. **In honor of Women's History Month, the Staten Island District Attorney's Office is partnering with Soroptimist International of Staten Island for their "Dream It, Be It" program.** This is a career support program for young women that aims to equip them with the necessary tools to achieve their education and career goals. **For questions, or to sign up contact Morgan at [Morgan.Mazzarella@rcda.nyc.gov](mailto:Morgan.Mazzarella@rcda.nyc.gov)**

A poster for the 'Dream It, Be It' program. The title 'DREAM IT, BE IT' is at the top in a blue banner, with 'CAREER SUPPORT' below it and '{for girls}' in pink script. Below the title, it says: 'District Attorney Michael E. McMahon and Soroptimist International of Staten Island are proud to announce their partnership for the "Dream It, Be It" program'. There are two columns of text: 'What is "Dream It, Be It?"' and 'Topics We Cover'. At the bottom, it says 'How to Register for the Program?' and provides contact information for Jennifer Bollinger and Morgan Mazzarella. A quote at the bottom reads: 'This award-winning program helps teen girls grow up to be confident, happy, successful adults by providing access to professional role models, career education and the resources to achieve their dreams.' The footer contains logos for the District Attorney's Office and Soroptimist International, along with a small photo of a woman.

4. **2020WON Women EntrepreneurHER ROCK** is a 2-day conference, both virtual and in-person for female entrepreneurs who want to learn about resources, opportunities, and connections. **Wednesday, March 24th at 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM (virtual) and Sunday, March 27th, 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (in person).** For more information email [tdonegan@centralfamilylifecenter.org](mailto:tdonegan@centralfamilylifecenter.org) or call (718)273-8414.

NYC  
CAREERS  
BUSINESS  
NEIGHBORHOODS

AMERICA'S  
SBDC  
NEW YORK

ISO  
LIFE

F  
TYPE CONSULTING

Central Family  
Life Center

YOUTHBUILD

Hidden Pearls and Staten Island

FPWA

BLACK  
HEALTH

MetroPlus-Health

healthcare  
education  
project

Staten Island  
University Hospital  
Northwell Health

CF  
LIFE CENTER  
CENTRAL FAMILY  
LIFE CENTER

10 Winners  
will attend a  
VIP Luncheon  
on Day 2

presents

**2020WON  
Women EntrepreneurHER  
ROCK**

RESOURCES, OPPORTUNITIES, CONNECTIONS & KNOWLEDGE

A TWO-DAY CONFERENCE

**Wednesday, March 24th 5:30pm-8:30pm (virtual)**  
Participate in workshops that will prepare, inspire, and empower you to start and grow your business  
and hear from a panel of women entrepreneurs

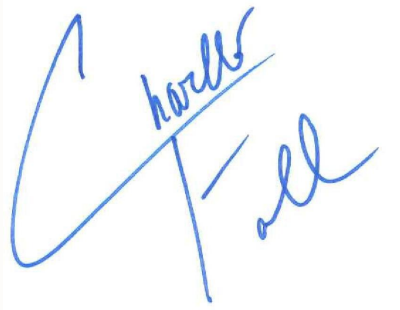
**Saturday, March 27th 12:00pm-3:00pm (in-person)**  
Central Family Life Center, 59 Wright Street, Staten Island  
Shop vendors, network with business owners while celebrating women's history.  
Our History is Our Strength.

Registration Required:  
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvcu-grjwjGNXEDgCJAPmuBMS8asCXqBDu>  
For More Info please email [tdonegan@centralfamilylifecenter.org](mailto:tdonegan@centralfamilylifecenter.org) or call (718) 273-8414

5. **Citizens Committee for New York City is offering** grants of up to \$10,000 to grassroots organizations responding to the immediate needs of struggling New Yorkers to open food pantries, distribute surgical masks, arrange elderly check-ins, or design other projects to meet their neighborhoods' urgent needs amid the COVID-19 crisis. Applications are open and there is a rolling deadline. **[Click here to learn more.](#)**
6. **During these difficult times, the Northfield Bank Foundation is offering a grant opportunity for COVID-19 emergency related requests for health and wellness and feeding the hungry initiatives.** The mission of the Northfield Bank Foundation is to promote charitable purposes within the communities in which Northfield Bank operates - Staten Island, Brooklyn and Central New Jersey. **[Click here to learn more about the grant process.](#)**

7. **Richmond County Savings Foundation - Nonprofit organizations may request funding for program or project support, journal ad or event sponsorship.** Grant requests are reviewed throughout the year for amounts up to \$5,000. **See her! e for more information.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Charles D. Fall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and "F".

Charles D. Fall

Member of Assembly

**ALBANY OFFICE: Room 534, Legislative Office Building, Albany, NY 12248.  
518-455-4677, FAX 518-455-5946**

**DISTRICT OFFICE: 853 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10310. 718-442-9932,  
FAX 718-442-9942**