

A Message From
**ASSEMBLYMEMBER
HARVEY EPSTEIN**



Dear Neighbor,

We're seeing fewer admissions to our hospitals for COVID-19 cases, fewer ICU patients, and fewer deaths. These are positive changes. The State is beginning to consider how to "[reopen](#)" New York but we are not out of the woods yet. We must continue to practice social distancing, wearing face coverings in public, and thoroughly washing our hands.

Our office has been reaching out to constituents with the help of volunteers to make sure they are taken care of during this crisis. **If you need help filing for unemployment, obtaining SNAP benefits, paying rent, have a small business issue, or have another concern, please call my office at 212-979-9696 and leave a message or send an email to help.district74@gmail.com. My staff and I will work to promptly return your call or email.**

If you can volunteer, please email us as well. We need all the help we can get to make phone calls, put up posters or distribute food. If you can help, help in the way you feel comfortable doing.

Take a look below for more info.

See you around the district,

Harvey

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5. Volunteers needed
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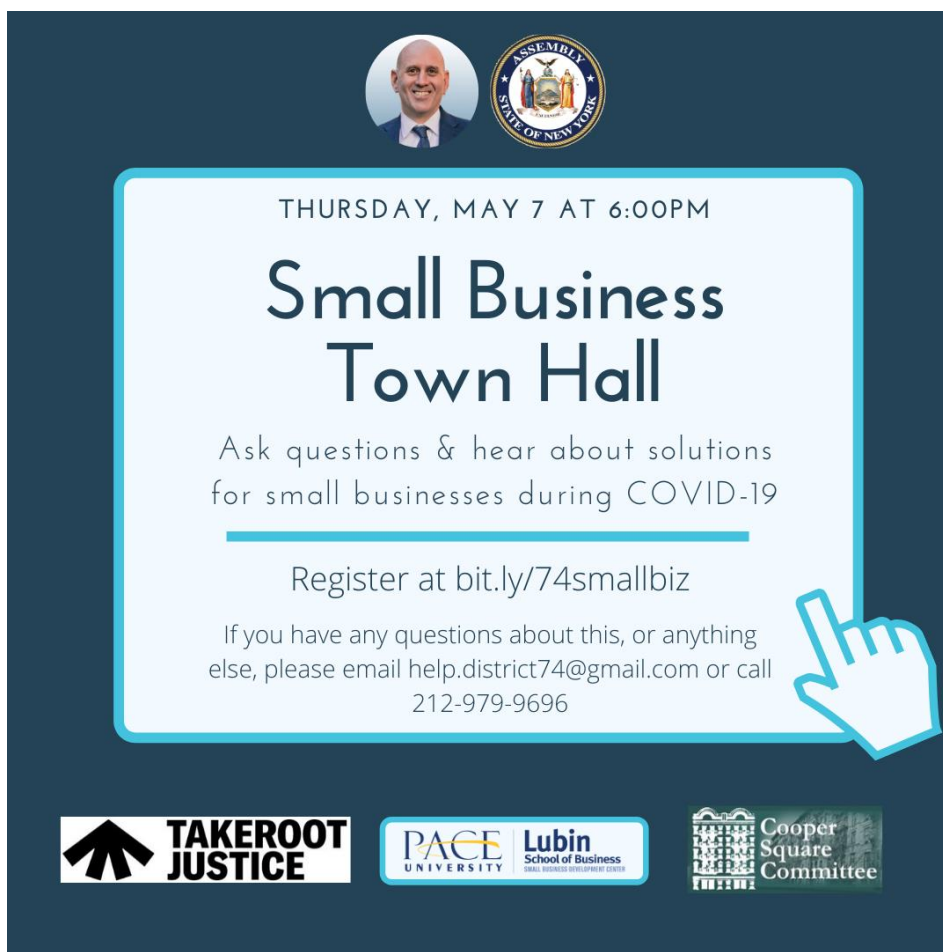
8. My Letter to the Mayor Regarding the Cancellation of Organics Curbside Collection
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Upcoming Events

Supporting New York City's College Students Through Crisis and Beyond - 4/30 1PM

On Thursday, April 30 at 1PM please join Young Invincibles for a student-led town hall, on "Supporting New York City's College Students Through Crisis and Beyond." You'll hear from New York City's college students on how the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting their education, NYS Senator Toby Ann Stavisky Assembly Member Glick and I will discuss how the state can support its students. [Registration](#) is required. Click [here](#) to register.

Thursday, May 7th - Small Business Town Hall




THURSDAY, MAY 7 AT 6:00PM




Small Business Town Hall

Ask questions & hear about solutions for small businesses during COVID-19

Register at bit.ly/74smallbiz

If you have any questions about this, or anything else, please email help.district74@gmail.com or call 212-979-9696



Updated Public School Grading Policy

The Mayor and Chancellor have announced changes to the grading policy in light of the COVID-19 outbreak. Read more here: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learn-at-home/chancellor-s-message-for-families>.

Volunteer to Help New Yorkers



If you can volunteer, please reach out. We need all the help we can get to make phone calls, put up posters or distribute food. If you can help, help in the way you feel comfortable doing.

Call my office at 212-979-9696 and leave a message or email help.district74@gmail.com

Financial Hardship Info for Kips Bay Court and Stuy Town Peter Cooper Village Residents

If you are a resident in a Beam Living managed apartment in our district and you're having trouble paying rent, feel free to reach out to my office at 212-979-9696 or help.district74@gmail.com

Beam Living has also created a financial hardship program for residents. Details [here](#). If you have concerns about their program, you are welcome to discuss it with my staff.

My Statement on Convening of Rent Guidelines Board Meetings

The coronavirus/ COVID-19 pandemic has dealt a blow to New York's economy that we won't recover from until 2021 at the earliest, according to estimates by the State Comptroller. It is outrageous to convene the Rent Guidelines Board at a time like this—struggling rent regulated tenants need a rent freeze now. I look forward to working with my colleagues to quickly pass my bill (A10265/S08175) to freeze rents for millions of New Yorkers.

Need Help Getting Your \$1200 From the Federal Government?

NYS is launching an awareness campaign to help ensure that New Yorkers who need it most claim their Economic Impact Payments under the CARES Act. The CARES Act provides \$1,200 payments to individuals making below \$75,000 and \$2,400 payments to married couples making below \$150,000. Many taxpayers who filed 2018 or 2019 federal tax returns will receive them automatically into their bank account.

Learn more on the Tax Department's Economic Impact Payment [information webpage](#). The Tax Department will also partner with other state agencies and local community organizations to do direct outreach to make sure New Yorkers in need can access their payments.

My Letter to the Mayor Regarding the Cancellation of Organics Curbside Collection

Last week I learned of the City's terrible decision to suspend curbside organics collection and close food scrap drop-off sites. I am actively fighting back against this misguided decision. Read my letter [here](#).

Coronavirus Testing Sites

Gouverneur Health

227 Madison Street, New York, NY 10002

212-441-5000

M - F : 9 AM - 5 PM

Midtown Manhattan Statcare Urgent & Walk-In Medical Care

715 9th Avenue, New York, NY 10019

917-310-3371

9 AM - 7 PM

ProHEALTH Pediatric Urgent Care - Yorkville/Upper East Side

1601 3rd Ave, New York, NY, 10128

www.solvehealth.com

M-F : 8 AM - 8 PM

Sat & Sun : 8 AM - 5 PM

MEDRITE Walk-in Urgent Care

919 2nd Avenue, New York, NY 10017

212-935-3333

8 AM - 8 PM

Make sure to call before going. Be ready to explain your symptoms. Wear a mask, gloves, and keep your distance where possible.

Voting in the Primary on June 23rd

Registered voters will automatically receive absentee ballot applications for the upcoming June 23 elections. No one should have to choose between their health and their civic duty. To that end, the Governor is [issuing](#) an Executive Order mandating that the NYS Board of Elections automatically mail all registered voters postage-paid applications for an absentee ballot. This follows an earlier order allowing all New Yorkers to vote absentee in the June 23rd primary election. (In-person polling will still be an option.)

I also want to take a moment to say how disappointed that the board of elections cancelled the presidential primary. I believe this Board of Elections decision sets a dangerous anti-democratic precedent. This only occurred because we gave them that authority in the State budget this year. Another dangerous step for our democracy.

Domestic Violence Resources

NYS launched a new texting program and confidential service to help New Yorkers experiencing domestic violence. Unfortunately, there has been a rise in domestic violence reports during this pandemic. Abuse victims are often closely watched by their abuser, making these tools needed. We want you to know: You are not alone and you do not have to stay in a dangerous situation. We will help you. Text 844-997-2121 or visit www.opdv.ny.gov to confidentially chat with a professional at any time of day or night.

Civil Legal Resources

If you need assistance with a civil legal matter, lawyer referral and legal services organizations remain open for business and are all currently operating remotely. Legal services organizations provide income-eligible New Yorkers with free legal assistance on a variety of issues, including housing, public benefits, unemployment insurance, workers' rights, family and immigration law, and health care coverage. To connect with these organizations, click on the links or call the phone numbers listed below.

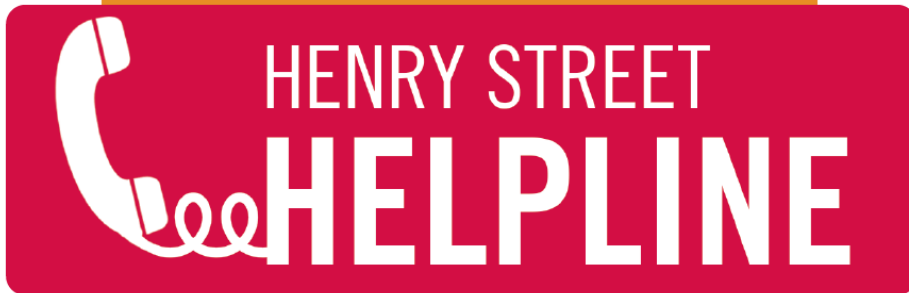
- **The New York City Bar Association** operates a [Legal Referral Service](#), and provides low cost services in limited areas. To find out more, [click here](#).
- **The City Bar Justice Center.** To learn more, [click here](#) or call 212-382-6600.
- **New York Legal Assistance Group.** To learn more, [click here](#) or call 212-613-5000.
- **Bronx Legal Services.** To learn more, [click here](#) or call 917-661-4500.
- **The Legal Aid Society.** To learn more, [click here](#) or call 212-577-3300.

- **Mobilization for Justice.** To learn more, [click here](#) or call 212-417-3700.
- **Urban Justice Center.** To learn more, [click here](#) or call 646-602-5600.
- **Legal Services of the Hudson Valley.** To learn more, [click here](#) or call 877-574-8529.

Henry Street Helpline



IS HERE FOR YOU
ESTÁ AQUÍ PARA USTED
我们在这里为您服务



If you need help navigating this challenging time, accessing services, or have questions about Henry Street programming, give us a call.

347.493.2787

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, 8 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

Other times, leave a message, and a team member will get back to you as soon as possible.

HENRY STREET'S TEAM CAN HELP WITH:

- Meal delivery and support for seniors
- Mental health services
- Signing up for health insurance
- Filing for unemployment
- Navigating SNAP & other public benefits

- Virtual ESOL and HSE classes
- Employment services
- Applying for emergency cash assistance
- Questions about with housing & rent issues
- Accessing education resources

AND MORE

Nosotros hablamos español. 我们说中文

Resources and Ways to Help

Our Resources List: Our office along with other local elected officials have compiled a list of resources to help constituents who need food, help with paying, rent, applying for unemployment, and other common issues. Check it out [here](#). We are working to update it as new resources and information become available.

What's Open In The East Village Area During COVID-19?

A directory of essential businesses that are open in the East Village area during COVID-19: <http://whatsopenev.com>

For Small Businesses:

The US Chamber of Commerce Foundation will start offering small business grants of \$5,000.

- To qualify, a business must:
 - Employ between 3 and 20 people
 - Be located in an economically vulnerable community (such as Harlem, Washington Heights or the Lower East Side of Manhattan)
 - Have been harmed financially by the COVID-19 pandemic

The application is short. It will take about 10 minutes to complete. All you will need is your business's W-9 form. Grants will be awarded on a weekly basis, but you only need to apply one time to be eligible for funding. [Apply here](#).

The Small Business Legal Relief Alliance is providing legal assistance to small businesses and nonprofits struggling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Who is eligible?

- (1) Small businesses
- (2) Self-employed
- (3) Nonprofits
- (4) Cooperatives

What issues can SBLRA assist with?

1. Loan & Grant Programs (What programs are right for me and how do I apply?)
2. Tax (What are the tax implications of raising funds for employees?)
3. Commercial Leases (Do I need to pay rent next month? How do I negotiate?)
4. Contracts (What to do if the crisis prevents me or another party from performing?)
5. Employment (What should I consider if I need to let employees go?)
6. Insurance (Does my policy cover loss of income?)
7. Intellectual Property (How do I protect my work and trademarks?)
8. Other General Business Issues Interested?

Contact any of us at the email addresses below:

VOLS: microenterprise@volsprobono.org

IMPACCT: dale_charles@impacctbk.org

Julian Hill: <https://takerootjustice.org/areas/capacity/> and 929-506-0303

Legal Aid Society: communitydevproject@legal-aid.org and 212-426-3000

Legal Services: <https://www.legalservicesnyc.org/what-we-do/covid-resources> and 917-661-4500

Lawyers for Good Government launched a COVID-19 Small Business Remote Legal Clinic - learn more here: <https://www.lawyersforgoodgovernment.org/covid-smallbusiness>

Grants for Cultural Organizations: The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has issued guidance on applying for the \$75 million it was allocated in the CARES Act. If a nonprofit cultural organization has received NEA support in the last four fiscal years, they are eligible to apply for a direct grant. [Apply](#) by April 22!

Financial Empowerment Guidance: New York City Financial Empowerment Center counselors are available to support those experiencing financial challenges. Book an appointment [here](#).

One Week of Free Groceries: The Department of Probation, Neighborhood Opportunity Network (NeON) Nutrition Kitchens, in partnership with the Food Bank of NYC and the NYC Young Men's Initiative (YMI) have opened five kitchens – one in each borough – to distribute free food, available to any New Yorker who needs it visit [here](#).

COVID-19 Resource Guide for Immigrants: NYC has put out a resource guide specifically for immigrant communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please visit [here](#). Please help by passing it along. Also, FYI, this week is Immigrant Heritage Week!

For DACA Recipients: For help renewing your application call ActionNYC at 1-800-354-0365 (we may even be able to help you out with the renewal fee). More info from the MOIA Commissioner can be found here: <https://twitter.com/NYCImmigrants/status/1247633689657454593>

Job Opportunities at H+H: NYC Health and Hospitals needs workers to help transport patients, clerical staff and cleaning staff. You can apply today at <http://nyc.gov/coronavirus>. Spread the word: <https://twitter.com/NYCMayor/status/1249371220811952136>

NYC COVID-19 Engagement Portal: DOITT has developed a [portal](#), to help guide the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The portal is available in 11 languages and allows New Yorkers to self-report COVID-19 information and will help New York City both better communicate with affected people and identify areas that may need enhanced response. Inputs are confidential. People without internet access or who need help, can call 311.

Tutoring: Edumate is connecting NYC public school students with free, virtual tutoring in this time of need.

- Students and families, sign up here: students.edumatenyc.org
- Potential tutors, sign up here: tutors.edumatenyc.org
- For more information about our program, visit edumatenyc.org

Supplies:

Please visit our website for information on ways New Yorkers can get and offer help with all issues related to COVID-19: [Help Now NYC](#).

Individuals, Organizations or Companies offering to [DONATE PPE](#).

Companies with stock on hand offering to [DONATE or SELL medical supplies and equipment](#), or Local manufacturers looking to [begin producing supplies](#) (e.g. gowns, masks, ventilators, face shields). Those offers will be vetted and the city will follow up if there is interest.

Food and other non-medical donations should go through [donateNYC](#). Anyone who wants to donate can call: 1-833-NYC-0040.

Information about space: NYC is still identifying and standing up new hospital capacity. We are particularly interested in private spaces that may not be yet on our radar. For those you know who have space they want to offer, please have them fill out this space survey here: [Share Your Space Survey](#).

Mental Health Resources: This is a stressful time for New Yorkers. Resources are available for New Yorkers by contacting 1-888-NYC-WELL or Texting "WELL" to 65173. For more information visit [NYC Well](#).

Friendly Visiting Program: We're also connecting older New Yorkers who are feeling isolated with friendly volunteers to talk with over the phone. Tell your constituents they can call 212-AGING-NYC (212-244-6469).

Family Justice Centers: While the centers are physically closed, anyone can call any of our borough centers for help with safety planning, mental health and planning, legal help, or help in connecting to law enforcement agencies. For more information please visit the website [here](#) or call our 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-621-4673.