

A Message From
**ASSEMBLYMEMBER
HARVEY EPSTEIN**



Dear Neighbor,

You may have heard that some parts of the state are planning to reopen starting May 15th. In New York City, we're making progress on some of the key metrics used to determine when it's safe to reopen, but we're not there yet. We must stay the course, keep practicing social distancing, keep wearing our face coverings, and stay indoors as much as possible.

We are working to provide support to constituents during this difficult time, including: help with obtaining unemployment benefits, free food delivery, small business aid, questions about your child's education, and more. Please reach out to our office at 212-979-9696 and leave a message. My staff will return your call as soon as possible. You can also write to help.district74@gmail.com and we will respond as soon as possible.

See you around the district,

Harvey

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Small Business Hearing Today! And Impact of COVID-19 on Communities of Color - 5/18

Today at 10am the New York State Assembly and Senate are holding a joint hearing on the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on small businesses in New York State.

[Watch the hearing here!](#) Next Wednesday, there will be another joint hearing on the impact of COVID-19 on communities of color. [Find out more here!](#)

Our Small Business Town Hall Last Week

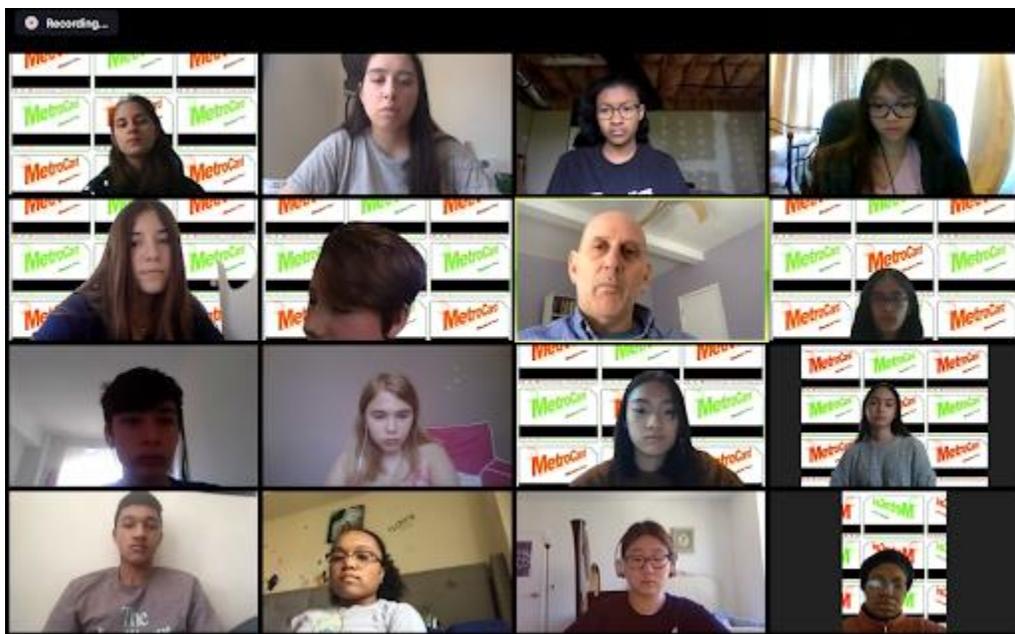


Last week, my office held a town hall on resources for small businesses in partnership with Take Root Justice, Cooper Square Committee, and Pace Small Business Development Center. We talked about issues applying for loans from the federal government, issues with PPP, and what resources currently exist. [Watch it here.](#) If you have questions, reach out to us and we can direct you toward help.

Hester Street Unemployment Insurance Flowchart

Hester Street created a flowchart to help guide you through the unemployment process. [Click here to see it!](#)

Our Youth Council Releases Report on Student MetroCard Usage



Yesterday, the 74th Assembly District Youth Council, in partnership with the Coalition for Student Transportation Justice, released a report following a survey we released last fall. The report makes recommendations regarding student MetroCard hours. [Read it here.](#)

Updated Contact Info for the Office of Rent Administration

Effective immediately, the Office of Rent Administration's (ORA) call center number will change to (833) 499-0343.

Antibody Testing

NYC will begin offering free antibody tests to 70K New Yorkers, this initiative is a partnership w/BioReference Labs. This first survey will run through late May and we'll repeat for an additional 70K in June. Priority is given to local communities, and results will be provided – in 24-48 hours.

The initial capacity will be 1,000 tests a day at each of these first five antibody testing sites:

- Brooklyn: 127 Pennsylvania Avenue
- Bronx: 4006 Third Avenue, Bathgate
- Manhattan: 21 Old Broadway
- Queens: 34-09 Queens Boulevard
- Staten Island: St. John's Villa

Important to note that these are not walk up sites. For additional information, or to schedule an appointment for a test, please visit: <http://nyc.bioreference.com/antibodysurvey> or call 888-279-0967.

Dial-a-Teacher

Dial-A-Teacher, the UFT's free homework help hotline, is once again open on Mondays through Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m.!

For the moment, the program is only able to offer help in English for English language arts (ELA) and math homework to students in kindergarten through 5th grade. They are hoping to expand to include more subjects, grades and languages soon.

To get live help from a classroom teacher, visit tutor.dialateacher.org during the hours the hotline is open, fill out the form and a UFT member will assist you.

[Find out more about Dial-A-Teacher »](#)

I also want to remind you about the coronavirus resource hub for parents on the UFT website. It's full of family-friendly entertainment, financial relief, remote learning support, free food and health and wellness resources — everything we can think of to help your family through this difficult time. We're constantly adding new information, so keep checking back regularly.

Last, don't forget that if you or your child needs to talk to a mental health professional, you can call the UFT BRAVE Hotline at 212-709-3222 on any weekday between 2:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Resources

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.

Check out our resources list [here](#).

Volunteer if You Can

If you can volunteer, please email us at help.district74@gmail.com. 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.

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.

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.

In the News

Opinion: A Public Letter to Public Officials on NYCHA - [City Limits](#)
