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Dear Neighbor,

The weather is starting to turn. It really feels like spring and the temptation to spend time outside is high. I urge you to take every possible precaution if you venture outdoors, including wearing a face covering and practicing social distancing. You may not be in a high-risk category for contracting COVID-19 but please consider how your behavior might impact those who are.

**This Thursday a testing site will open on Avenue B for a short time and by appointment only! Check out the information below so that you can make your appointment as soon as possible.**

**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](mailto: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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**In This Newsletter:**

1. Upcoming events
  1. PPE distribution Thursday 21st at 10:00 AM at Stuy Cove and Friday the 22nd at 12:00 pm at 6th Street and Ave D
  2. Sixth Street Youth Programs
2. Testing Site Opening on Avenue B
3. Sixth Street Community Center Free Foodbag Distribution
4. Hester Street Unemployment Insurance Flowchart
5. Quick Tips About Unemployment Insurance and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance
6. Suspension of Alternate Side Parking Regulations
7. Joint Legislative Hearing on the Disproportionate Adverse Impacts of COVID-19 on Communities of Color
8. Open Streets
9. Air Conditioners for Low-income Seniors
10. Volunteer time to help New Yorkers
11. Financial Hardship Info for Kips Bay Court and Stuy Town Peter Cooper Village Residents

12. Coronavirus Testing Sites
13. How to Vote in the Elections on June 23rd
14. Domestic Violence Resources
15. Civil Legal Services
16. Henry Street Helpline
17. Resources and Ways to Help

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## Upcoming Events

### *PPE Distribution*

I will be joining Councilmember Powers on **Thursday the 21st at 10:00 AM at Stuy Cove** to distribute personal protective equipment, including gloves and masks. Stop by if you can and remember to wear a face covering and socially distance when you arrive.

I will also be joining with State Senator Hoylman and Councilmember Rivera on **Friday the 22nd at 12:00** to distribute PPE on **6th Street and Ave D.**

### *Sixth Street Youth Programs*

Welcome to another week of SSYP Virtual Workshops! This week we will be baking chocolate chip cookies, hosting a games hangout for kids to reconnect and have fun, and doing a watercolor and mindfulness workshop! Pls. reply to this email (laura.sixthstreet@gmail.com) to sign up! Meeting details will only be shared once we get your RSVP!

Workshops this week:

- Tuesday, 5/19: DIY Cooking: Making Chocolate Chip Cookies w/ Terrence!
- Wednesday, 5/20: SSYP Digital Hang - Games w/ Laura!
- Thursday, 5/21: Watercolor and Mindfulness w/ Laura!

***Make sure to check out our calendar to see what's coming up! Help us spread the word about SSYP workshops to family and friends outside of Sixth Street!***

***All SSYP workshops are sliding scale \$5-25. No one will be turned away for inability to pay. For each workshop, please Venmo the facilitator directly.***

Terrence's venmo: @Terrence-Arjoon

Laura's venmo: @LauraALangner

Please feel free to reply to this email with any new workshops you'd be interested in having us add to our weekly offerings! We look forward to hearing your feedback.

Sending good health to you and your families. We can't wait until the day we can all reunite!

Laura & the Sixth Street Team

### **Additional Notes:**

#### [COVID Resources](#)

Needs for Free Food Delivery in LES/Alphabet City or EV: pls email [jen@sixthstreetcenter.org](mailto:jen@sixthstreetcenter.org) or fill out [bit.ly/LESMutualAid](https://bit.ly/LESMutualAid)

For Special Requests and Needs: [EastVillageNeighbors@gmail.com](mailto:EastVillageNeighbors@gmail.com), 917-994-1074

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### Testing Site Opening on Avenue B

This Thursday, May 21st, SOMOS Community Care is opening a COVID-19 testing site at St. Brigid - St. Emeric Church at 119 Avenue B (between 7th and 8th Sts). **This testing site will only be open until this Tuesday. You must call to make an appointment first so please do so immediately as this is a short window of time.** The number is 1-833-SOMOSNY (1-833-766-6769).

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### Free Foodbag Distribution



SIXTH STREET COMMUNITY CENTER  
LES MUTUAL AID & EV NEIGHBORS

# community foodbag distribution

weds. & thurs. at 11 am  
638 e 6th st.  
bet. ave b & c

if you are homebound and need food visit:  
[bit.ly/ssccfoodbag](https://bit.ly/ssccfoodbag)  
questions email [jen@sixthstreetcenter.org](mailto:jen@sixthstreetcenter.org)  
or text 917-969-9494

[www.sixthstreetcenter.org](http://www.sixthstreetcenter.org)  
for updates: @sixthstreetcc  
(instagram & twitter)

BIG THANK YOU TO OUR FOOD DONORS  
HUNGRY MONK FOOD TRUCK & CITY HARVEST

Wednesdays & Thursdays at 11 am \*subject to change next week\*

Sixth Street Community Center

638 E 6th Street, Between Avenues B & C

\*\*\* For homebound seniors, immunocompromised or folx who are unable to

leave their homes for any reason, you can fill out a form for delivery here [bit.ly/ssccfoodbag](http://bit.ly/ssccfoodbag).

For questions, email [jen@sixthstreetcenter.org](mailto:jen@sixthstreetcenter.org).

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### **Hester Street Unemployment Insurance Flowchart**

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

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### **Quick Tips About Unemployment Insurance and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance**

#### **TRADITIONAL UI**

- Don't file your claim until you have all the information required to file – missing information will delay your benefit payments.
- Be sure to have the Federal Employment Identification Number (FEIN), NYS Employer Registration Number, and legal name and address of your employer. This information can be found on your W-2 or your Record of Employment from your employer.
- Include your mobile phone number, plus email and home addresses that you have access to, on your application. We may reach out through all of these channels, and failure to reply could delay benefits.
- The fastest and most reliable way to receive your benefits is through direct deposit. Have your correct routing and bank account number to register for direct deposit when you apply.
- Now – and going forward – we will contact claimants through text and email when they are able to certify for weekly benefits. Ensure that you receive all the benefits that you are entitled to by certifying EVERY week that you are unemployed at [labor.ny.gov/signin](http://labor.ny.gov/signin).

#### **PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE (PUA)**

- Don't file your claim until you have all the information required to file – missing information will delay your benefit payments.
- Have your last available NYS tax return and/or 1099 available.
- Include your mobile phone number, plus email and home addresses that you have access to, on your application. We may reach out through all of these channels, and failure to reply could delay benefits.
- The fastest and most reliable way to receive your benefits is through direct deposit. Have your correct routing and bank account number to register for direct deposit when you apply.

- Now – and going forward – we will contact claimants through text and email when they are able to certify for weekly benefits. Ensure that you receive all the benefits that you are entitled to by certifying EVERY week that you are unemployed at [labor.ny.gov/signin](http://labor.ny.gov/signin).

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### **Suspension of Alternate Side Parking Regulations**

The de Blasio Administration has announced that Alternate Side Parking Regulation suspensions will be extended through Sunday, May 17, 2020. Regulations will resume from Monday, May 18–Sunday, May 24, 2020 for a citywide clean sweep, after which suspensions will continue for another two weeks through Sunday, June 7, 2020.

Please note there will be two suspensions during the clean sweep week: Thursday, May 21, 2020 and Sunday, May 24, 2020 as scheduled on the ASP calendar for Solemnity of the Ascension and Idul-Fitr (Eid Al-Fitr).

The City may extend the suspension based on street cleanliness and workforce availability. Any New Yorker under isolation who has received a ticket can appeal to the Department of Finance and should provide medical documentation or testimony, which will be taken into consideration when their case is reviewed.

Payment at parking meters will remain in effect throughout the City.

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### **Joint Legislative Hearing on the Disproportionate Adverse Impacts of COVID-19 on Communities of Color**

Yesterday, the Assembly joined with the Senate to hold a hearing to assess the impacts of COVID-19 on communities of color to better understand the disparate impacts on the services, industries, and health care systems in these communities. I'm appalled at how our city and state have failed these communities in this crisis.

This crisis has shone a spotlight on the systems and structures of inequality that have led to the uneven impact of COVID-19 on New Yorkers of color. We are still in the midst of this crisis and we must act quickly to develop solutions in the short term. The fact is that the disparate impacts of COVID-19 on communities of color did not happen overnight -- they are the product of long-term inequalities that have unfortunately been systematized. I hope we can use this moment to push for the radical changes we need to ensure this never happens again.

One thing is for sure: we cannot wait for the federal government to provide the aid we will need to rebuild. We must reject the anticipated cuts to social services and instead raise taxes on the wealthiest in our state to generate the revenue we badly need to support New Yorkers in this moment.

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### **Open Streets**

Please submit suggestions of streets in our community that could safely be closed with staffing of community partners [here](#). Submitting an application does not guarantee acceptance. Please submit separate applications for each corridor you are proposing to pedestrianise in your community. Email [openstreets@dot.nyc.gov](mailto:openstreets@dot.nyc.gov) if you have any questions.

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### **Air Conditioners for Low-income Seniors and NYCHA Residents**

The City is investing \$55M to purchase over 74,000 air conditioners and have received \$20M from the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). 22,000 air conditioners will go to NYCHA residents and other eligible New Yorkers will be identified by NYCHA, DFTA, and HPD. HRA and city caseworkers will also conduct direct outreach. Installations will start next week!

Assistance will also be available for summer utility bills. 450,000 New Yorkers can receive a subsidy on summer utility bills, which are typically 20-30% higher in summer due to A/C. The City is petitioning the Public Service Commission to double their current commitment to subsidize summer bills, increasing customer benefit by \$160 over the summer, and we may also use potential stimulus funding for summer A/C.

NYC Mayor, De Blasio, NYCHA and Con Edison have committed a total of \$16.5 Million towards purchasing and installing AC units for NYCHA seniors.

The AC units will be made available to all seniors (60 years or older), persons with mobility impairments, or on life sustaining equipment who do not already have an AC units. The program will be targeting approximately 22,000 households.

Qualified households will be receiving robocalls with more information starting May 15th.

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### **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](mailto:help.district74@gmail.com).

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### **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](mailto: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.

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### **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](http://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.

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### **How to Vote in the Elections on June 23rd**

To prevent the community spread of COVID-19, all registered voters may apply for an Absentee Ballot to vote in the upcoming June 23, 2020 elections.

All of us affected by COVID-19, please visit <https://nycabsentee.com/> and check the box for "Temporary Illness" on the application. The definition has been temporarily expanded to include those affected by COVID-19 and/or the potential of contracting the virus.

If you need help getting a ballot write to my office at [help.district74@gmail.com](mailto:help.district74@gmail.com) and my staff or I will respond as soon as possible.

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### **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](http://www.opdv.ny.gov) to confidentially chat with a professional at any time of day or night.

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



HENRY STREET  
**HELPLINE**

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](mailto:microenterprise@volsprobono.org)

IMPACCT: [dale\\_charles@impacctbk.org](mailto:dale_charles@impacctbk.org)

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

Legal Aid Society: [communitydevproject@legal-aid.org](mailto: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>

A nationwide program to help small businesses affected by COVID-19

**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](https://students.edumatenyc.org)
- Potential tutors, sign up here: [tutors.edumatenyc.org](https://tutors.edumatenyc.org)
- For more information about our program, visit [edumatenyc.org](https://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.