



10/01/2020

Board of Trustees

Founders

Morris Bailey

Joe Cayre

Stanley Chera A"H

Trustees

Ezra S. Ashkenazi

Jeffrey Beyda

Eli Harari

Alan Shamah

Dear Community Member,

At the time of this writing there have been more than fifty community members hospitalized in the past 3 days due to COVID-19 and that number is rising. At the time of their hospitalization those admitted had been residing in Brooklyn/Deal/Manhattan. Tragically, our community has seen two deaths from this dreaded disease during that time period.

The infection rate in our area of Brooklyn is over six times the average. Our Community is in the midst of a serious health crisis

Last night a call was held among 70 community members that included most institution Presidents and/or Board Members and their head Rabbis. Also on the call was a group of community doctors who have been working closely with Dr. Mitchell Katz, President and CEO of NYC Health & Hospitals, and is the person who the city relies on when making decisions regarding closures, openings, and collaboration on safety measures. Our doctors briefed our group on the alarming COVID-19 uptick that is happening in our community, and to help put a plan together of a unified community wide response.

It is important you know that the NYC Mayor's office is working in full **cooperation** and **collaboration** with our Doctors and lay leaders to ensure both the safety and health of our community members, while remaining as flexible as possible to avoid or lessen any potential shutdowns. On the recommendation of the City and our Doctors we must take the following actions on our own that will help slow the spread of COVID-19 within our community.

Our community needs to get tested immediately ("Test & Trace")

Anyone who has NOT tested positive for COVID-19 should IMMEDIATELY get tested. Our team has been working with the city and is in the midst of setting up numerous testing sites, with no fee to you, that provide state of the art testing options. Additionally, the labs that will process these tests have been instructed by The City to prioritize them for a quick turnaround. Lastly, the city has generously offered our Doctors 8 rapid Abbot testing machines in support of this effort. SBH has compiled a list of testing facilities in our area that are currently open. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for that information. Additionally, we have currently outfitted the following locations to handle the community-wide testing, opening on Monday:

1. The Center:

Dates: Oct 5th - Oct 16th

Hours: 11am – 7pm (Mon – Thurs) & 11am - 3pm (Fri)

2. Flatbush Yeshivah Elementary School:

Dates: Oct 5th - Oct 9th

Hours: 10am – 6pm (Mon – Thurs) & 10am - 2pm (Fri 10/9)

Enter through the East 10th doors.

As more locations open up, we will provide the necessary details.

Board of Directors

Aimee Bailey

Bobby Dweck

Eddie Falack

Sam Haddad

Yvette Hiday

Gitta Kaplan

Norman L. Jemal

Maurice Levy

Ricky Novick

Jesse Salem

Sarah Sarway

Allan Shalam

Joey Soffer

Jesse Sutton

Emily Anteby

Director of Operations

Victor Dweck

Marketing Director



Why Mass Testing?

Board of Trustees

Founders

Morris Bailey

Joe Cayre

Stanley Chera A"H

Trustees

Ezra S. Ashkenazi

Jeffrey Beyda

Eli Harari

Alan Shamah

- As explained to us by the city and our Doctors there are only two ways to bring an uptick like this back under control: Shut Down, or Test & Trace.
- Mass testing is used to identify asymptomatic cases and other COVID-19 positive cases so they can self-quarantine and other exposed people can be contacted so they don't go on spreading the infection to others community members or family.
- Mass testing will give the most accurate picture possible of our infection rate and its direction up or down, so that the medical professionals can make the proper decisions based on the best data possible
- If you are in NJ for the Holiday for *only a few days* and plan to return to Brooklyn, the city advises you may test in NJ and register with your Brooklyn address. If you live in NJ or plan on staying in NJ for a more extended period *register your NJ address*.
- Please include household help in testing
- If you have a pre-existing condition that has prevented you from leaving your home, you should not leave your home to get tested.

Board of Directors

Aimee Bailey

Bobby Dweck

Eddie Falack

Sam Haddad

Yvette Hiday

Gitta Kaplan

Norman L. Jemal

Maurice Levy

Ricky Novick

Jesse Salem

Sarah Sarway

Allan Shalam

Joey Soffer

Jesse Sutton

Other Measures:

- Everyone MUST wear masks, while in public AT ALL TIMES and indoors when with others. Masks are now required in our area by law.
- If you test positive, now more than ever, it is your duty and responsibility to notify people that you have been in contact with. There is NO SHAME in contracting a contagious virus.
- Gatherings of many people, even many family members, is discouraged until it becomes safe again to do so.
- If you have been positive for COVID in the past, this does not exempt you from mask and distancing guidelines, you can still act as a transmitter of the virus to others.
- Minyanim ideally should be moved to outdoor venues
- Enclosed tents are considered INDOORS
- Sukkot are considered closer to an indoor environment than an outdoor one, so implement the same distancing and masking as you would indoors.
- Please get your Flu Shots in consultation with your personal doctor

We understand that this is a difficult time. We live here too. We hope that by taking these actions and making some sacrifices we can mitigate our risk and avoid preventable loss of life, while simultaneously giving our schools the best chance of staying open so that our children's lives can return to as close to normal as possible under these difficult circumstances.

Emily Anteby
Director of Operations
Victor Dweck
Marketing Director