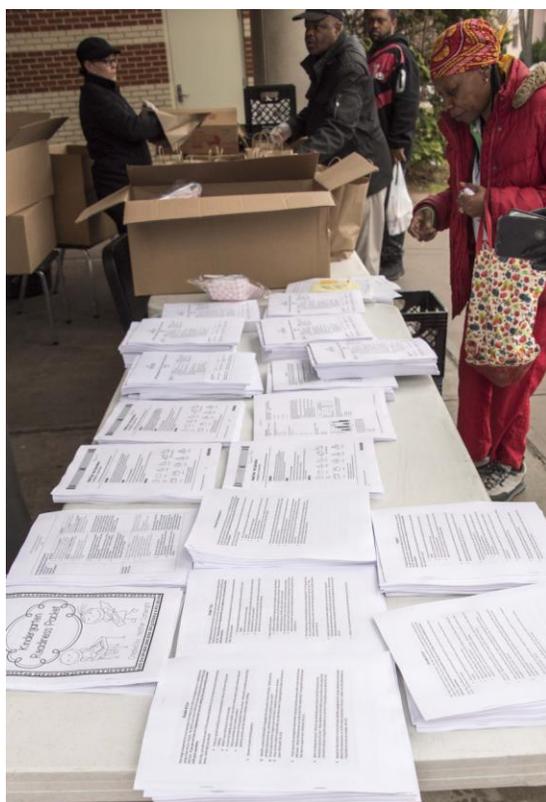


Exploring Asylum Hill - COVID-19 responses in Asylum Hill

Saint Francis Hospital has been visibly busy over the last several weeks dealing with the escalating issue that is COVID-19. Especially here in Asylum Hill, but also throughout the region they are a primary line of defense in dealing with this pandemic. People are coming from the surrounding towns to get tested.



The drive-thru testing tents and the Malta House truck are open from 9:00am seven days a week in front of the Gengras Building. Anyone seeking a test is required to have a Doctor's prescription and a photo ID. Results from each test will be sent to the prescribing physicians where patients can learn from them, usually in less than a week.



Meanwhile on the other side of the campus, the COVID Field Hospital is going up in the parking area of the O'Connell Emergency Entrance, and will be functional by the time this is being read. It will only be used as conditions necessitate.

Additionally, free hot or cold lunches and packed breakfasts were originally being given out daily to all school-age children up to 18 years old by the Hartford Board of Ed at the Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Club at 170 Sigourney St. Then, beginning on the 23rd, they moved the Asylum Hill location to Hartford Public High School, and it is expected to continue for the foreseeable future. Also, this past week Chromebooks were being given out to enable e-learning, but as of 10:00 am last Friday, the entire supply in the district was distributed. Technology-free learning (work-sheets and other printed materials) will continue to be made available. More information is available at

<https://www.hartfordschools.org/distancelearning/>

In terms of the soup kitchens and other food distribution, Food Share continues to provide groceries according to their regular schedule at the rear parking lot of 60 Gillett working with the Asylum Hill Family Center, and Grace Lutheran Church is giving all who come by a bag of cooked food, salad dessert and bread each Friday in lieu of the Gathering.