



CITY OF **NEWARK**
Mayor Ras J. Baraka
and the Municipal Council

COVID-19 TESTING SITES

**Tuesday - Saturday
9 AM - 3 PM**

**OPENS WED, MAY 13,
Cityplex 12
(360-394 Springfield Ave)
Walk Up & Drive Through**

(862) 257-0718
www.sunrisediagnosticlab.com
covidtesting@sunrisegoc.com
No insurance needed
No symptoms needed

**OPENS WED, MAY 13,
Mt. Pleasant Testing Site
(155 Mt Pleasant Ave)
Walk Up Only**

(862) 257-0718
www.sunrisediagnosticlab.com
covidtesting@sunrisegoc.com
No insurance needed
No symptoms needed

**Branch Brook Park
Skating Rink
(Enter on Park Ave)
Walk Up & Drive Through**

(973) 988 - 5511
Insurance required
Symptoms required

**Newark residents ONLY. Appointments are
REQUIRED for all testing sites. Masks and gloves
are REQUIRED to be worn at all testing sites.**

**NEWARK MUNICIPAL COURT NOW HOLDING VIDEO SESSIONS VIA ZOOM;
COURT WILL ALSO ACCEPT ONLINE PAYMENTS AND DISPUTE TICKETS
ONLINE**

Mayor Ras J. Baraka and Municipal Court Director Jessica Cavaco announced that the Newark Municipal Court launched three major initiatives to keep functioning in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The court began holding video court sessions via Zoom. Anyone interested in having their case heard via video can visit the Municipal Court's website and register.

The court is also now accepting online payments for criminal complaints on a payment plan. Payments can be made on www.NJMCDirect.com. NJMCDirect will still process traffic ticket payments as well. Finally, litigants are able to dispute a range of moving violation offenses carrying motor vehicle points. Please use www.NJMCDirect.com to start a dispute process and check for eligible offenses.

Key points from Monday, May 11, 2020 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:

As of May 11, 2020, the State of New Jersey the State of New Jersey has 139,945, the County of Essex has 15,602 and the City of Newark 6,332 has confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported.

Key points from Sunday, May 10, 2020 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:

As of May 10, 2020, the State of New Jersey the State of New Jersey has 138,532, the County of Essex 15,646 and the City of Newark has 6,293 confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported.

Key points from Saturday, May 9, 2020 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:

As of May 9, 2020, the State of New Jersey the State of New Jersey has 137,085, the County of Essex 15,544 and the City of Newark has 6,245 confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported.

Key points from Friday, May 8, 2020 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:

As of May 8, 2020, the State of New Jersey the State of New Jersey has 135,454, the County of Essex 15,350 and the City of Newark has 6,147 confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE WITH MAYOR RAS J. BARAKA



**Mayor
Ras J. Baraka**



**Commissioner Marcus O. Hicks,
New Jersey Department of
Corrections**



**Philip B. Alagia,
County of Essex
Chief of Staff**



**Warden William J. Anderson,
Essex County Department of
Corrections**



On Friday, May 8, Mayor Baraka welcomed New Jersey Department of Corrections Marcus O. Hicks, County of Essex Chief of Staff Philip B. Alagia and Essex County Department of Corrections Warden William J. Anderson. This was an effort share an update on the conditions of those that are incarcerated during the pandemic and the interventions in place to protect lives. This Virtual Town Hall gave an extraordinary glimpse into the efforts being set in place as our guests New Jersey Department of Corrections Marcus O. Hicks, County of Essex Chief of Staff Philip B. Alagia and Essex County Department of Corrections Warden William J. Anderson work diligently to flatten the curve.

City of Newark Mask Giveaway Friday, May 8, 2020



Masks will be distributed at each location from 12 PM – 3 PM

North Ward

Vince Lombardi Center of Hope
201 Bloomfield Ave

Central Ward

271 So. Orange Ave

South Ward

Weequahic High School
279 Chancellor Ave

West Ward

Speedway Academies
701 So. Orange Ave

East Ward

East Side High School
238 Van Buren St

**PLEASE BRING A VALID ID WITH PROOF OF
NEWARK RESIDENCY. MASKS WILL ONLY BE
GIVEN TO NEWARK RESIDENTS.**



MAYOR BARAKA ANNOUNCES MORE GRANT AWARDS FROM SMALL BUSINESS EMERGENCY FUND

Mayor Ras J. Baraka announced the second and third round of awards under the City's Small Business Emergency Fund, to support small businesses directly impacted by Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

There were 26 grantees from throughout the city, and grants ranged from \$5,000 to the maximum grant amount of \$10,000. Grants for these rounds totaled \$228,800. This brings the total grants to date to 39 comprising a total of \$391,900.

The businesses in these rounds employ a total of between 66 and 138 workers. They represent a cross section of Newark's small business community including food and eating establishments, nightlife, technical and business services, printing, trucking, contracting, haircutting and more. Applications closed on April 30. (Awardee list attached)

"Newark's small businesses have been devastated by COVID-19," Mayor Baraka said. "Newark moved immediately to help them while the state and federal government were ramping up additional programs. It is clear from the strong response to this program, that much more funding is needed to meet the need. As we seek additional public funds, I again call upon other major Newark businesses to join Prudential in contributing to this fund.

With \$2 million earmarked for this program, the grants provide working capital for operating costs, payroll, accounts payable, inventory, equipment, rent, taxes, licensing or other business-related expenses. Under the direction of the Newark Department of Economic and Housing Development, the program is administered by United Way of Greater Newark. Invest Newark provides partnership and technical assistance to the small businesses applying for this and other federal, state and local programs.

To qualify, businesses needed to have a physical establishment located in Newark; have 10 employees or less; show loss of income directly tied to the Coronavirus crisis; and businesses that owe any money to the City have their applications placed at bottom of list.

“We are thrilled to be able to provide this support to our small business community,” said Catherine Wilson, President and CEO of the United Way of Greater Newark. “These awards are going to make a huge impact for small business owners. We look forward to making additional awards over the next several weeks.”

Key points from Thursday, May 7, 2020 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:

As of May 7, 2020, the State of New Jersey the State of New Jersey has 133,635, the County of Essex 15,215 and the City of Newark has 6,092 confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported.

CITY OF NEWARK DISCUSSES NEW CONTACT TRACING PROGRAM

Nearly 300 volunteers have been trained by Mayor Ras J. Baraka's Contact Tracing Task Force to telephone residents suffering from the virus and their families to investigate with whom they had contact, both before and after becoming infected. This will enable the city to develop databases to slow the spread of the virus; to protect the most vulnerable populations; monitor populations difficult to track; and clear frontline workers for continued work. This tracing data will also help Newark develop strategies on how, when and where to reopen businesses and begin its economic recovery.

Dr. Mark Wade, M.D., Director of Health and Community Wellness, and Berlyne Vilcant, Chief Disease Investigator, will discuss how the program works.

The Newark Contact Tracing Task Force is led by Newark Alliance CEO Aisha Glover. It will utilize methods used by medical scientists for almost 50 years to both understand and potentially inhibit the spread of infectious disease. The City's strategic alliance with Partners In Health, a global public health organization which has led contact tracing efforts to battle Ebola and H1N1 viruses, will play a critical role. The first global use helped eradicate smallpox in 1977 and has since been used to identify the source and spread of recent communicable diseases such as HIV, Ebola and SARS. Through contact tracing, a pandemic can eventually be brought under control.

NEWARK CITY WORKERS ANSWER THE CALL TO PACKAGE AND DELIVER THOUSANDS OF MEALS



With the organization and precision of an industrial assembly line, Newark City employees packaged 8,000 meals Wednesday to distribute to 2,000 residents in less than 90 minutes.

It was the second week of a City program to keep people fed – and safe -- during the COVID-19 lockdowns and, next week, the crew will do it again.

This show of workforce muscle happened at the JFK Recreation Center after 11 pallets of food donated by HelloFresh, the nation's food kit leader, were dropped off by trucks from Table-to-Table, a company that distributes food to centers where there is need.

“We were expecting about 50 employees to show up, but we ended up with 100,” said Amiri “Middy” Baraka, Jr., the Chief of Staff for Mayor Ras J. Baraka, who organized the work detail. “This was great. We did it fast. We got the food and got it out to the people. I think it shows the spirit of our City workers.”

This new collaboration is one of several going on in the City and numbers of meals being delivered or handed out is staggering. Audible, the digital listening company headquartered in Newark, is supporting downtown restaurants and feeding residents each day through a \$1 million initiative called Newark Working Kitchens. In a just a few weeks of operation, Audible and the downtown restaurants have delivered about 35,000 meals to elderly, disabled and low-income residents of Newark. City government, with help of the police and fire divisions, has supplied about 150,000 meals and the Board of Education has done an equal amount.

The assembly line method of the new initiative is taken directly from HelloFresh's own production playbook. On the JFK basketball court, tables were set up as stations for various ingredients: protein, dairy, grocery and produce. Bags went down the line, with busy hands packing four meals per bag. Then the bag went to be labeled and sealed, then moved out for delivery.

One of the drivers was Hasani Council, an aide to Councilman John James and son of Pat Council, the City's Director of Recreation, Cultural Affairs and Senior Services. Like all other City employees, he was there to “help my community and make sure people get fed.”

All employees were offered surgical masks and gloves and had their temperatures taken before being allowed to work in the gym. When the food was dropped off, they went to work, breaking down pallets and loading tables with designated ingredients. When that prep work was done, the assembly line kicked into gear and full bags began to mount, getting ready for delivery.

The delivery drivers had addresses and phone numbers of people receiving food and would call them when it arrived so they could retrieve it quickly from their steps or doorways. Carts of meals went out the door to waiting cars with almost no confusion.

“We were organized,” Chief Baraka said. “It showed the way we got this done.”

Both HelloFresh and Table-to-Table have been longtime partners with the City. Table-to-Table director of operations Jennifer Nelson said her organization has delivered over 3 million meals to Newark over the years, while servicing food banks and soup kitchens.

The City workforce will again package about 8,000 meals for 2,000 residents next week and will keep up that pace until at least June. As the crisis continues, and the most vulnerable population remains wisely sheltered in place, the need for this volume of meals will continue.

Key points from Wednesday, May 6, 2020 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:

As of May 6, 2020, the State of New Jersey has 131,890, the County of Essex 15,053 and the City of Newark has 6,014 confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported.

MAYOR BARAKA: RE-OPENING TOO FAST WILL BE ‘LETHAL’ TO OUR COMMUNITY



Across the country, there is intense economic pressure to have the states begin to open businesses and public spaces. We've seen repeated demonstrations in places like Michigan and Texas in defiance of their governors' shelter-in-place orders as public restlessness grows.

As mayor of a largely African American and Latino community, I feel this swell of political maneuvering and popular opinion will be lethal to our communities.

Most health experts say we should see a decline in new COVID-19 cases for a period of 14 days before a state or local government considers the first stage of re-opening. Even then, the situation is precarious, and a new spike would necessitate another shutdown. Here in Newark, we are seeing declines, but they are not sustained enough. We need to make data-driven decisions based on contact tracing and testing, but nowhere in the country have those tools be utilized on a grand enough scale to make a grand-scale decision.

On Saturday, New Jersey State Parks and our Essex County Parks were opened for passive use, as were golf courses, with the caveat that masks must be worn, and social distance maintained.

These announcements, along with reports that 31 states are re-opening in stages, is putting pressure on urban Mayors like myself in that they give our residents the idea that this COVID-19 crisis is passing, and they can go back to working and playing as usual.

New Jersey is a microcosm of the nation and the landscapes they govern are very diverse in geography, population density and demographics. They must make decisions that somehow apply to all their constituents and this is an impossible task.

The “greater good” is an elusive target. What might be good for the people who want to hike in the 30,000 contiguous forested acres of Stokes and High Point State Parks in sparsely-populated Sussex County, may not be good for the people who crowd the Branch Brook Park basketball courts off Clifton Avenue in Newark.

Residents of Newark and other highly impacted cities must understand this for their own safety and the safety of their families and friends. The density of our populations forces us to gather outdoors in more confined spaces. Our stores are more crowded, our streets are more crowded and our parks are more crowded. For our cities, the question to re-open must take our population density and demographics into account, no matter what the rest of the country is doing.

There are some very important facts I would like to share with the residents of Newark and other urban centers as their restlessness grows under shelter-in-place executive orders.

The City of Newark has more COVID-19 deaths than 14 of New Jersey’s 21 counties. These are not just outlying rural counties of far west and far south New Jersey. Five of the counties – Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Somerset and Ocean – have urban centers or are in commuting distance to New York or Philadelphia, and each have populations equal or greater than Newark.

Right now our greatest growth in COVID-19 infections is among essential personnel, including our police, firefighters, health workers, and others who come in contact with the public daily -- bus drivers, store clerks, cafeteria workers, sanitation workers -- all those people who take risks everyday to make our lives feel a little more normal. Wearing masks and gloves and practicing the best social distance they can doesn’t make them immune. That’s evidence of the danger that remains in our community and we should remain on high alert.

The most recent statistics from the American Public Media Research Labs show COVID-19 mortality rate is nationally 2.7 times higher for African-Americans than whites. In Washington, D.C., the death rate for blacks is six times higher.

Perhaps worse, the black death rate per 100,000 is soaring. Just a few weeks ago it was 23 per 100,000 cases of COVID-19 cases among African-Americans. It is now 28, per 100,000. In Washington, D.C., the rate is six times higher.

This is a lethal disease for African-Americans, who historically have much less access to quality health care and healthy food, leading to the co-morbidity trifecta of obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure. For Latinos, the numbers aren't as striking but still higher than for whites. The bottom line is that this contagion is hitting communities of color harder and if we rush into opening our cities and abandon our shelter-in-place and social distancing strategies, it will continue to devastate us.

At this moment, our communities require more patience, more discipline and a greater feeling of community and responsibility to one another. I continually urge my residents to do this, as a matter of life and death.

Key points from Tuesday, May 5, 2020 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:

As of May 5, 2020, the State of New Jersey has 130,593, the County of Essex 14,891 and the City of Newark has 5,965 confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported.

CITY OF NEWARK CONDUCTING COVID-19 TESTING FOR NEWARK RESIDENTS ONLY BEGINNING ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, FROM 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M., AT BRANCH BROOK PARK ROLLER SKATING RINK

The City of Newark will offer COVID-19 testing to Newark residents by appointment starting on Wednesday, May 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Branch Brook Park Roller Skating Rink, located at 7th and Clifton Avenues. Residents should enter through the Park Avenue entrance.

The site will have drive-up and walk-up options and testing will be done by appointment only. Residents have to clear CDC requirements for testing during registration process. To schedule an appointment, residents should call: **973-988-5511**.

Residents scheduled for testing must wear a face covering, gloves, bring a valid ID, show proof of Newark residency (driver's license, utility or phone bill), and have an insurance card with them. All insurances will be accepted, including Medicaid and Medicare.

These efforts are part of Mayor Baraka's comprehensive strategy for widespread testing and contact tracing.

Key points from Monday, May 4, 2020 Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update:

As of May 4, 2020, the State of New Jersey has 128,269 cases, the County of Essex has 14,621 and the City of Newark has 5,860 confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported.

MAYOR BARAKA ANNOUNCES COLLABORATION OF CITY LEADERS TO DEVELOP REOPEN AND RECOVERY STRATEGY

Mayor Ras J. Baraka announced the collaboration of city leaders to create policies and strategies on how to continue to move Newark forward when the COVID-19 threat lessens.

Called the **Newark Reopening and Recovery Strikeforce**, the task force will build off the unprecedented cooperation between government, the private sector and organizations during the COVID-19 crisis and continue to work collectively to solve problems.

Mayor Baraka, a strong advocate of guaranteed income policies, is especially interested in ways to help people escape economic insecurity, and, as an educator, for ways to implement the newfound educational technology and resources for our children to use when they return to school and are no longer sheltered in place.

“The way we live, the way we do business, the way we teach and how we interact have changed because of this crisis,” the Mayor said. “New industries will emerge and there will be opportunities to innovate that we must embark on. This is an opportune time to be innovative and accomplish things that we have never done before, and we can do this and much more through comprehensive planning and pragmatic solutions.”

The co-chairs of the Newark Reopening and Recovery Strikeforce are *City of Newark* Chief of Staff Amiri Baraka, Jr. and *Newark Alliance* CEO Aisha Glover.

Committees within the strikeforce focus on public health, economic recovery, data collection and analysis, education, arts, community outreach and engagement, and communications (list of chairpersons below):

- **Public Health Committee**, co-led by Dr. Perry N. Halkitis, Dean of the *Rutgers School of Public Health* and Michellene Davis, Executive Vice President and Chief Corporate Affairs Officer of *RWJBarnabas Health*
- **Economic Recovery Committee**, led by Lata Reddy, Senior Vice President of Diversity, Inclusion & Impact at *Prudential*
- **Data Collection and Analysis Committee**, led by Phil Scott, Director of Engineering for the *City of Newark*
- **Education Committee**, led by Ron Chalusán Batlle, Director of the *Newark Trust for Education*
- **Arts, Recreation and Culture Committee**, led by Linda Harrison, Director and CEO of *Newark Museum*
- **Community Outreach and Engagement Committee**, led by the Honorable Mildred C. Crump, President of the *City of Newark Municipal Council*
- **Communications Committee**, led by Kay Sarlin Wright, Director of Corporate Affairs and Communications for *Audible*

Due to the city’s composition and needs, Mayor Baraka and the Newark Reopening and Recovery Strikeforce are taking direct action to adapt to the necessary challenges to prepare for life after COVID-19, including what recovery will mean to the community.

**MAYOR BARAKA LAUNCHES CITY-WIDE COVID-19 TESTING
FOR NEWARK'S ENTIRE HOMELESS POPULATION**
Initiative is first of its kind of New Jersey; Those who test positive will be quarantined

NEWARK – May 4, 2020 – Mayor Ras J. Baraka and the City of Newark announced the launching of a program to offer mass COVID-19 testing to its entire homeless population. The program is the first of its kind in the state of New Jersey and perhaps the nation.

The testing began today at an airport hotel with which the City partnered last month as part of Mayor Baraka's \$1 million investment in rapid, short-term housing for Newark's most vulnerable residents. That initiative was designed to get residents without addresses in safe quarters to help slow the person-to-person COVID-19 spread among those living outdoors and the people with whom they come in contact.

"This was a critical part of our strategy," Mayor Baraka said. "We had to get our residents without addresses off the street and inside for their own safety and the safety of others. We were able to encourage many of them to come indoors, and today we start testing those who have so far been asymptomatic, to gather more data about how this disease has spread.

At the airport hotel all 194 residents will be offered tests today. Later in the week, there will be testing at the largest Newark homeless shelter and eventually residents at all 21 shelters will be offered tests. Once the results are back, anyone who has tested positive will be quarantined for 14 days under medical supervision, unless they need to be hospitalized, and then returned to their original shelters.

The testing will be done by the City's Department of Health and Community Wellness Mary Eliza Mahoney Federally Qualified Health Center, under the direction of Dr. Mark Wade, the head of the department.

Dr. Wade estimated there are about 2,200 residents without addresses in Newark and under Mayor Baraka's program more than 1,800 are being sheltered daily.

"I think we have collectively been successful in helping these residents without addresses to understand the gravity of the COVID-19 crisis and are getting them to safety, which is not always an easy thing to do," Dr. Wade said. "This has been a novel, life-saving approach and I don't know of another major city in the country that has done this."

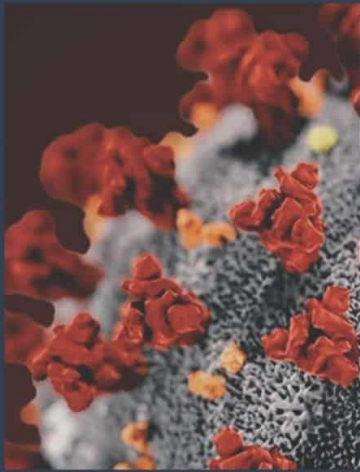
This initiative is collaboratively supported by Salvation Army, Bridges Inc. Outreach and Engagement, the Newark Homeless Coalition, the Essex Continuum of Care and the Newark Homeless Commission.

Dr. Wade also said the City will utilize a new, less intrusive anterior nasal swabbing method that will be more comfortable for the residents, quicker to apply and safer for the medical staff. Every staff member at every shelter will also be tested.

Dr. Wade said the City's Contact Tracing Task Force will handle any new positive cases from the homeless testing, to try to follow the patterns of where they have been and with whom they have had contact. The task force will begin its expanded work tomorrow with hopes of tracing about 500 cases a day.

“This is what we need to truly understand this disease, how it is spread and what we must continue to do to stop it,” said Mayor Baraka. “Contract tracing is one of the most important weapons we have.”

COVID-19 TESTING TO BEGIN AT BRANCH BROOK PARK SKATING RINK

<p>CITY OF NEWARK Mayor Ras J. Baraka and the Municipal Council</p> <p>COVID-19 TESTING</p> <p>BEGINNING WEDNESDAY MAY 6</p> <p>THEN EVERY TUES-SAT</p> <p>9 AM - 3 PM</p> <p>BRANCH BROOK PARK ROLLER SKATING RINK (7TH AND CLIFTON AVES)</p> <p>ENTER AT PARK AVE</p> <p>NEWARK RESIDENTS ONLY</p>	 <p>DRIVE THROUGH AND WALK-UP BY APPOINTMENT ONLY</p> <p>973-988-5511</p> <p>RESULTS IN 24-72 HRS</p>
<p>All insurances accepted including Medicaid and Medicare. Residents have to clear CDC requirements for testing during registration process.</p>	<p>Face covering, gloves, valid ID, proof of Newark residency, and insurance card REQUIRED</p>

The City began COVID-19 testing on Wednesday, May 6, at Branch Brook Park Skating Rink from 9am - 3pm. Newark residents are welcome to set an appointment once they clear the CDC requirements for testing during their registration process. **YOU MUST** have face covering, gloves, a valid ID, proof of Newark residency, and your insurance card.



FIGHT FEAR **SAVE A LIFE**



**DON'T LET FEAR OF CONTRACTING
CORONAVIRUS PREVENT YOU FROM
SEEKING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.**

**IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE BECOMES SICK
GET HELP!**

CALL YOUR DOCTOR OR GO TO A HOSPITAL

**NEWARK BETH ISRAEL
MEDICAL CENTER
201 LYONS AVE
NEWARK, NJ 07112
973-926-7000**

**UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
150 BERGEN STREET
NEWARK, NJ 07103
973-972-4300**

**ST. MICHAEL'S MEDICAL
CENTER
111 CENTRAL AVENUE
NEWARK, NJ 07102
973-877-5000**

**COLUMBUS
HOSPITAL
495 N 13TH ST
NEWARK, NJ 07107
973-587-7777**

When to Seek Medical Attention

If you develop **emergency warning signs** for COVID-19 get **medical attention immediately**.

Emergency warning signs include*:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

**This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.*

