

CCSI WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Promoting Community Connections
& Sharing Resources

HIGHLIGHTS

- Addressing Basic Survival Needs
 - Where to get cash
 - Where to get food
 - Securing Housing
- Surviving COVID-19 as a working parent
- **How will we keep in touch?**
- Each **BBC** will have 1 hr virtual Zoom meetings on originally scheduled dates through May at 12-1 pm
 - [Brooklyn 4/24](#)
- **YAC meetings will be each Monday evening from 5-6 pm**
[Website Calendar Link](#)
[Zoom Meeting Registration](#)
- Upcoming CCSI Trainings:
 - [5/1 Listen. Protect. Connect. 1-3 pm](#)
 - [Zoom Registration Link](#)
- These newsletters will be delivered every **Wednesday** for the duration of the NYC Coronavirus quarantine mandates

ADDRESSING BASIC SURVIVAL NEEDS

Where do you get the things you need to survive? Whether it's finding replacement income for a lost job, food for your family now that your usual access to food has been disrupted, or securing the roof over your head, local groups as well as the city, state, and federal government are stepping in with resources during this unprecedented time. How to access these resources however, is not always straightforward. The following is a summary of what's available and how to access it.

Cash Assistance

- Economic Impact Payments (EIP) (AKA Coronavirus Stimulus Checks). A one-time payment of up to \$1,200 per adult and \$500 per child.
<https://access.nyc.gov/economic-impact-payments/>
- Unemployment - In addition to the one-time EIP, unemployment benefits have been raised by \$600/week through the end of July. Eligibility for unemployment has been expanded to include most reasons why someone would be out of work due to COVID-19:
 - Diagnosed with COVID-19
 - Being tested for COVID-19
 - Member of household was diagnosed with COVID-19
 - Caring for someone diagnosed with COVID-19
 - Caring for a child or other person who is unable to attend school or another facility that is closed due to COVID-19
 - Can't reach place of employment due to a quarantine
 - Can't reach place of employment due to a self-quarantine ordered by a medical provider
 - Workplace closed due to COVID-19
 - Became the primary breadwinner of the household because the head of the household died of COVID-19
 - Scheduled to start work but don't have a job due to COVID-19
 - Quit a job because of COVID-19
- To apply for unemployment or for more information go to:
https://labor.ny.gov/ui/how_to_file_claim.shtm

Where to get food

NYC DOHMH COVID-19 Food Resources

<http://nyc.gov/getFood>

Call Emergency Food Hotline: 866-888-8777 or 311 for 24/7 information on locations and hours for the nearest food pantries and community kitchens.

NYC Department of Education (DOE), [Grab and go meal locator](#) at DOE schools throughout NYC

City Harvest COVID-19 Food Locator. This map shows locations that are currently distributing food, free of charge, throughout NYC during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://www.cityharvest.org/food-map/>

Staying Sheltered

For renters and landlords:

On Friday, March 20, the Governor issued an order declaring an eviction and foreclosure moratorium for 90 days, or until mid-June.

https://www.righttocounselnyc.org/moratorium_fa

For essential workers trying to prevent infectious spread:

The City of New York's COVID-19 Hotel Program provides select individuals and groups (e.g., healthcare workers) a place to stay to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

At this time, this program is available to you if you are employed or volunteering to provide care and/or provide services (clinical or nonclinical) in a healthcare, community-based or home-based setting within New York City where you are at risk of being exposed to or contracting COVID-19, and may not be able to temporarily live at home in order to minimize exposure. This can include (but is not limited to): physicians, nurses, home health aides, social workers, maintenance staff, food service, etc.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/get-help/covid-19-hotel-program.page>

Overview of eligibility for benefits in [English](#) & [Spanish](#)

Awesome Home

Education Links:

- [Math Game Time](#)
- [Teaching Remotely for Grades K - 12](#)
- [Science for Kids](#)
- [Unite for Literacy](#)
- [TurtleDiary e-learning for kids](#)
- [PBS KIDS](#)
- [Starfall](#)
- [All-in-One Homeschool](#)
- [Thinking Games – Easy Peasy All-in-One Homeschool](#)
- [Funbrain](#)
- [Storyline Online](#)
- [Prodigy Game](#)
- [DISCOVERY #MINDBLOWN](#)
- [AmazingSpace](#)
- [National Geographic Kids](#)
- [TIME Magazine for Kids](#)
- [Khan Academy](#)

Links to NYC DOE

Resources:

- [Free Meals](#)
- [DOE Student Accounts](#)
- [Remote Learning Device Request](#)
- [Learn At Home Main Page](#)
- [Chancellor's Message to Families](#)
- [DOE Middle School Enrollment](#)
- [High School Offer Letters & Waitlists Updates](#)
- [DOHMH COVID-19 Guidance for Colleges](#)

Don't agonize, organize.

—Florynce Kennedy

Parenting, Teaching, and Working in the Time of Coronavirus

It's now been more than a month since the NYC Schools closed their doors to help encourage the practice of social distancing. It has been more than four weeks since the state has enforced social distancing generally through the PAUSE initiative.

To borrow a viral quote, "We are in the same storm, but we're not in the same boat." Each of us are impacted by COVID-19, but the nature of that impact is vastly different.

During all of our BBC meetings this month we've set aside time for members to share how the stay at home orders have impacted both them personally and their work. The most consistent response has been the challenge of parenting, teaching, and working all at the same time. And it has been all parents sharing that reality, whether they identify as a family advocate or not, or even whether they identify as the parent of a child with complex needs.

A couple of weeks ago a blogger penned an article with the title "[The Parents are Not All Right](#)" - a brief snippet:

"What's amazing to me is how consistent this struggle is among every parent I talk to. The texts and social media posts bouncing around my circle all echo each other. We feel like we're failing at both. Our kids don't just need us — they need more of us. Our kids are acting out, abandoning the routines they already had, dropping naps, sleeping less, doing less — except for jumping on top of their parents, which is happening much more.

We're letting them watch far greater amounts of screen time than we ever thought we'd tolerate. Forget homeschooling success — most of us are struggling to get our kids to do the basics that would have accounted for a Saturday-morning routine before this pandemic. The particular struggle reflects the most privileged perspective — that of two fully employed adults, sharing the burden, without fear of losing our jobs.

Put another way, I'm not worried about how I'm going to feed my family — I'm just worried about getting my son to eat something besides a donut for two days straight. But it's precisely the privilege of this vantage point that in a way makes it so stark. This is the best-case scenario?"

It would be easy to say that we can all empathize now parent to parent with the challenges that family advocates in our city experience in a non-pandemic world, but again same storm, different boat. On top of the struggles outlined above our family advocates still have to hold space for other families. What I will say is that in this time, the simplest most effective thing we can remind each other of is that we are not alone. The challenges may be different, but the feelings are the same.

We can all use whatever support that is out there to get through this, and there is a lot of good information available regarding resources to help us navigate this time. The staff at CCSI are working to provide this information to you in a way that's user-friendly.

Please check out our brand new support page here: <https://ccsinyc.org/covid-19/>