Thank you for your continued participation in our coalition, attention to critical communications, and your support of our communities. The Staten Island Not For Profit Association and our Staten Island Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) coalition have been actively following the updates about Coronavirus (COVID-19) and its impact on our communities. We continue to monitor the situation closely via our partnerships with the NYC Department of Health and NYC Emergency Management. For the latest resources, check those sites, the CDC, our website, the SI COAD Facebook page, and sign up to join our SI COAD listserv.

If your organization has immediate questions or concerns, please contact one of these helplines:
- NYS Governor’s 24/7 hotline: 1-888-364-3065
- For NYC residents with questions/concerns: call 311
- Direct Health + Hospitals helpline for those without a primary health care provider and/or no insurance: 1-844-NYC-4NYC (1-844-692-4692)
- For general assistance on emotional wellness & mental health: 1-888-NYC-WELL (1-888-692-9355) or text WELL to 65173
- General NYC coronavirus text updates from NYC Emergency Management: Text COVID to 692-692
- For health care providers: there is a specific line for reporting & questions. There are also weekly NYC/NYS DOH COVID-19 provider update calls. Let us know if you need more info.
- For Community- and Faith-Based Organizations: NYCEM & NYC DOH are also hosting weekly COVID-19 informational update calls. Email for more information.
- If you have trouble getting through, please contact admin@sinfpa.org as we have direct communications with state/city health offices and can direct your queries appropriately.

See additional resources below, for tips and guidance on preparing, communicating and staying safe and healthy for your community organizations, education, faith-based, human services and other service providers, as well as smaller medical and health care practices. As the situation is rapidly evolving, please check these sites frequently for updated guidelines, communications and resources.

**Resources for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-2019)**
- [NYC Department of Health Coronavirus general info and FAQs for non-clinical CBOs](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/coronavirus-2019.page) (includes fact sheets, posters, various languages, guidance for community partners, businesses and non-healthcare settings, homeless shelters, congregate settings, schools/families, employers, colleges/universities)
- [NYC Health+Hospitals](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/coronavirus-2019.page)
- [CDC: Coronavirus Disease 2019](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/) (includes links to travel notices, latest US cases, guidance for providers on evaluating patients to be tested)

**Additional Guidance & Resources for Communities & Nonprofits** (including business best practices and policies, trainings/workshops, webinars and planning tools)
- [Lawyers Alliance for NY Guidance for Nonprofits](https://lawyersalliance.org/nyguidancenonprofits/) including [Legal Alert for Nonprofits Employers](https://lawyersalliance.org/nyguidancenonprofits)
- [Human Services Council of New York](https://www.hscny.org/) (for HHS providers, working with families, childcare providers)
- [Nonprofit New York](https://www.nonprofitny.org/)
- [New York Disaster Interfaith Services](https://www.nydisasterservices.org/)
- [Culture Active in Disasters](https://www.cultureactiveinedisasters.org/) and [National Coalition for Arts Preparedness and Emergency Response](https://www.artsprep.org/)
- [TechSoup](https://www.techsoup.org/)
Remember FACTS, NOT FEAR. ALERT, NOT ALARM.
Most important: Do not panic. While the outbreak is a serious public health concern, the majority of those who contract the coronavirus do not become seriously ill, and only a small percentage require intensive care. By following some basic steps, you can help reduce your risk and do your part to protect others.

1. You can help keep our communities informed, and focused on facts, public health and safety. It is important that we separate facts from fear, and guard against stigma, discrimination and racism. There are a lot of social media posts and news reports that are not rooted in science and are offensive, demeaning, and racist.

2. The Health Department also encourages all New Yorkers to practice the same precautions that they would during any cold and flu season. You should still get your flu vaccine if you haven’t yet - it’s not too late. Although the flu shot will not protect you from COVID-19, it will help prevent the flu which has similar symptoms to this coronavirus. Staying healthy will help alleviate undue pressure on our health systems and resources.

3. Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve, not your hands. Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water not available. And do not touch your face with unwashed hands.

4. Help promote these messages by displaying posters from the Health Department. You can order free copies by calling 311, or visit nyc.gov/health/coronavirus to print on your own.

5. The Health Department does not recommend wearing a face mask if you are healthy. Face masks are only recommended if directed by a health care provider, though it is important to respect our neighbors who choose to wear them.

6. At this time, most New Yorkers do not need to: limit travel within the city, change where they purchase food or how they prepare it, or avoid public gatherings and public transportation though you should work to reduce the amount of physical social interaction and avoid crowds to help limit the spread of virus. Those at high risk (over 65yrs of age, immuno-compromised, with underlying diabetes, heart or lung conditions, etc.) should stay home as much as possible, stock up and take precautions.

7. If you are planning any travel outside the US, visit CDC’s Travelers' Health webpage for the latest travel health notices.

8. If you feel sick, stay home. If you are experiencing fever, cough and/or shortness of breath, and/or traveled to an area where COVID-19 is spreading, and/or have been in close contact with someone who has traveled to any of those areas or has been exposed, call your health care provider first before going to the doctor or hospital. Your provider will work with the Health Department to determine if you need COVID-19 testing. There are no specific vaccines or treatments available for this novel coronavirus, or any other coronavirus. However, medication and vaccine research is underway.

9. Hospital staff will not ask about immigration status and medical care is not a “public benefit” under the public charge test. If a member of your community does not have a doctor or insurance, they can visit an NYC Health + Hospitals facility. Spread the word that undocumented people should not avoid medical care if they require it.

10. Remind your community and networks that rumor control and regular situational awareness are essential. Please get your information from trusted sources like NYC DOHMH (Department of Health & Mental Hygiene) and/or the CDC. You can also join the DOHMH listserv specifically for COVID-19 updates by emailing DOHMH Community Partner Engagement and asking to be added.