



**MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Aaron Fallon  
afallon@city-buffalo.com

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## **MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN ANNOUNCES IMPORTANT UPDATES TO BUFFALO'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

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*The goodwill keeps going in the City of Good Neighbors*

Buffalo, NY – Mayor Byron W. Brown thanked Dave Gordon of Dave's Christmas Wonderland stores for donating 10,000 masks to protect vulnerable residents during the COVID-19 emergency. The masks will be distributed to residents in need by volunteers in the Good Neighbors Network, Mayor Brown's new initiative designed to support residents during this crisis.

Mayor Brown stated, "At a time of so much uncertainty due to the Coronavirus, I am pleased that we can continue to count on each other to be good neighbors and be there for one another. Every day, there are acts of generosity that support neighbors in need throughout the City of Buffalo and Western New York, which is why we will always be known as the City of Good Neighbors."

### **Parking reminder**

Mayor Brown reminds City residents to cooperate with the City's alternate parking rules. Please obey the "No Parking 6 pm Thursday to 6 pm Monday" signs. The alternate side parking is needed to ensure that emergency vehicles can get down those streets.

### **Post-pandemic: How residents can help Buffalo recover from COVID-19**

The City of Buffalo's Census response rate is closing in on 45% and Mayor Brown continues to urge all residents to complete their questionnaires to help secure hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding needed to help the City recover in the aftermath of the COVID-19 emergency. The City's census response rate, as of May 7th, stands at 44.3%. Please complete your questionnaire today at [2020Census.gov](https://2020Census.gov).

### **COVID-19 Testing Available for all Essential City Employees**

Mayor Brown urges all essential City of Buffalo employees who are concerned about exposure to make an appointment to get tested for COVID-19. The tests are available at the following location without requiring a prescription from a primary care doctor:

New York State Drive-Thru Testing Site

125 Perry Street

Open daily, 8AM – 6M

Schedule an appointment by calling 888.364.3065 or go to: [covid19screening.health.ny.gov](https://covid19screening.health.ny.gov)

### **Kaleida Health expands testing**

Kaleida Health today announced that it has expanded its COVID-19 testing to include anyone in the general public, who is interested or needs it, regardless if they are symptomatic or not. The expanded testing is designed to accommodate residents who believe that they may have been exposed to or are at risk for COVID-19. Residents must get a prescription

from their primary care doctor in order to be tested. Testing is done at three sites and results can be returned in approximately 48 to 72 hours. To schedule an appointment visit <https://www.kaleidahealth.org/coronavirus>. For related questions, call Kaleida Health's Coronavirus Hotline (716) 859-3222, which is open daily from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

### **A national spotlight on new Love Your Block Community Response Fund**

As Mayor Brown continues to encourage community groups to apply for the new Love Your Block Community Response Fund, the grant program, aimed at supporting community efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the City of Buffalo, was featured in the latest Cities of Service Newsletter. The newsletter features the innovative ways mayors across the country are building stronger cities. The new Love Your Block initiative awards mini-grants, much like the original Love Your Block program, but instead of supporting neighborhood beautification projects, this program supports efforts that will help stop community spread of COVID-19.

Qualifying community-based groups, block clubs or neighborhood organizations can apply for these mini-grants, of up to \$500, for projects that will fund efforts to help slow community spread or support frontline workers. These grants are made possible with support from Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). Applications must be submitted by June 29, 2020. For more information on the Love Your Block Community Response Fund, visit [buffaloveyourblock.org](http://buffaloveyourblock.org).

### **Helping families in need**

On Friday, May 8th, the Belle Center will be giving away bags of free groceries to families in need at 104 Maryland Street. The distribution runs from 9 am to 1 pm.

### **Order TODAY: Get your Mother's Day Brunch Baskets at the Broadway Market**

The Friends of the Broadway Market District, Inc. are offering a \$40.00 Mother's Day Brunch Basket filled with Broadway Market goodies. Included in the basket are bacon and breakfast sausage from Lupas Meats and Camellia Meats, one dozen eggs, braided bread and coffee cake from White Eagle Bakery, strawberries and red and green peppers from Lewandowski Produce and a 1/2 dozen pierogi from Babcia's Pierogi. Baskets including 4 steaks and a pound of cooked shrimp with cocktail sauce are also available for \$60.00. Orders must be placed no later than Friday, May 8th, at noon. To place and pay for your order, call 716-896-7163. Baskets can only be picked up on Saturday, May 9th, from 1-4 pm.

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