



# Jewish Federation OF GREATER HOUSTON

April 14 PM - Jran Email

Dear Jran Community:

Today we will cover City of Houston updates, SBA loans, and ways to continue supporting local restaurants.

## **COVID 19 Testing Sites and City Updates**

Today, Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo announced [two new “pop-up” COVID19 testing sites](#), bringing the county’s daily testing capacity to 700. Together with the City of Houston, our area will have the ability to test 1,000 per day.

- The two temporary sites will start in Humble and Tomball and rotate around the city
- Each will have the ability to test 100 people per day
- The Texas Department of Health and Human Services has a [COVID19 drive-thru testing map](#) where you can put in your location and find all sites near you

Mayor Turner will be holding [daily press conferences](#). Here is a breakdown of what was discussed today:

- Mayor Turner announced 40 new cases of COVID19 in the City and 5 new deaths
- Since opening the City’s COVID19 testing center to the public, the call center has been overwhelmed with demand for unique codes
  - They will be capping the unique codes to 1,000 per day
  - They were at 800 code by 1 p.m. today
- Dr. Presse, the City of Houston Health Authority, stated there is an increase in the inconsistency of reporting due to back logs at testing sites (private and public) and the processing labs
  - Looking at the day-over-day reports is not as helpful as looking at longer trends
- Chief Buenik from the City of Houston Office of Public Safety and Homeland Security is asking for PPE donations for City personnel
  - Can email [donations@houstonOEM.org](mailto:donations@houstonOEM.org) and they will arrange to pick up supplies
- Hospitals within the 9 county Greater Houston Area are still within their capacity
- The City has 250 home-based tests for vulnerable persons (via a public-private partnership)

Harris County also set up [a field hospital at NRG park](#). This is in anticipation of a surge of COVID19 positive cases, with an initial capacity of 250 and a maximum capacity of 2,000 beds. Currently, area hospitals are still within their capacity, but officials anticipate that in the coming weeks the Houston area might see “peak” COVID19 infections. The Texas Medical Center has been [ramping up their capacity](#) the past couple of weeks and has been [producing modeling of equipment needs](#) based on the effectiveness of the Stay Home, Work Safe order.

You can save a trip to a testing site by using the Harris County [self-assessment tool](#). The County Judge is reminding people that you do not need a confirmed test to treat yourself for COVID19. The COVID19 test is merely a diagnostic tool, not a vaccine. If you think you have COVID19, treat yourself like you do and call your primary care physician for guidance.

### **SBA Loans – Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Update**

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has updated its application process for the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL). There is a [new streamlined application](#) that businesses and organizations must fill out even if you have already filled out the EIDL early in the process. The EIDL process has been messy from the beginning and demand for the loans far exceeded the capacity, so the SBA has gone back and adjusted the application and rules. One of the big changes came yesterday afternoon when the SBA announced that the \$10,000 advance will be limited to \$1,000 per employee. So, if your organization has less than 10 employees, you will not be eligible to receive the max advance amount. There are also reports that [EIDL funds are taking a lot longer to deposit](#) into accounts. Something to keep in mind as you wait for Federal relief.

[Faith-based organizations are eligible](#) to receive EIDL funds.

Representative Lizzie Fletcher will be hosting a [small business webinar on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 12 p.m.](#) that will address some of these issues.

If you have any questions or need guidance on the SBA loan process, please [let me know](#). We have volunteers willing to help guide you through the process.

### **Take Out Tuesday (Yes, it's a thing)**

Today is #takeoutTuesday! Don't forget, our [Kosher](#) and [Jewish-owned restaurants](#) are open for business and several are offering Passover friendly items. If you don't want to order take out for yourself, you can feed medical professionals in the Texas Medical Center through [Feed the Front Lines](#), and [Give InKind Meals](#).

### **Resources**

- The Jewish Federation of Greater Houston's COVID19 resource page can be found [here](#).



# Jewish Federation

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- Harris County has a list of resource [here](#).
- The Harris County COVID19 Case tracker can be found [here](#).
- Volunteer Houston Continues to update their COVID19 resource page [here](#).
- Houston City Council Member Abbie Kamin is keeping a list of local resources [here](#).
- Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher has developed a small business resource guide. You can find it [here](#).
- The University of Houston has developed a resource book for the Houston area. You can find it [here](#).

## In other news...

There has been a lot of talk about self-care and home workouts during the Stay Home orders. The [Nike Training Club app](#) is offering free workouts and celeb favorite [Peloton is offering a free 90 day trial](#) for their app. But the best free workout making rounds on social media has got to be the one from Yoweri Museveni, the President of Uganda. After discouraging people from running and working out in groups, President Museveni took to the Internet to [show people how to properly train alone](#) (in sweats and with photographers!) and it's pretty great.

If you need me, I'll be jogging from my couch to my fridge...

I hope you find time to earn your #takeoutTuesday after a long jog around your living room,

Jackie

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