

May 11 PM - JRAN Email

Dear JRAN Community:

Today, we will go over updates from the State, City and County and town hall information from Representative Lizzie Fletcher.

Updates from the State, City and County:

The City of Houston is reporting 229 new cases of COVID19 today and 6 additional fatalities, including a minor between the ages of 10-19. Dr. Umair Shaw, Executive Director of Harris Public Health, addressed COVID19 in children in today's #askHCPH video. Basically, while children are less likely to have complications, it is not impossible and we are not out of the woods yet.

Both the Mayor and County judge continue to promote wearing face coverings while out in public and practicing social distancing. Even the White House has established mandatory face covering rules for the West Wing after two staffers tested positive for COVID19 over the weekend. As a reminder, the Harris County Face Covering Order is still in effect until May 26th. Although the Governor removed the enforcement portion of the order, it is still the law to wear a mask when out in public.

The City of Houston has teamed up with BakerRipley to offer rental assistance to those in need. Landlords must register for their tenant to take advantage of the opportunity. Applications will open on May 13th and rental assistance can be used for April and May's rent. You can find more information at houston/RentAssistance.org or call 832-390-2018.

The State of Texas has a <u>dedicated website</u> for COVID19 information. Here you can find the State's testing sites, case counts, support, and volunteer opportunities. As a reminder, the official Harris County case counts and COVID19 tracker can be found in the <u>SETRAC website</u>. Additionally, the Governor issued a <u>directive</u> to the Texas Health

and Human Services Commission to test 100% of the residents and staff in State nursing homes for COVID19.

Telephone Town Hall with Rep. Lizzie Fletcher

U.S. Representative Lizzie Fletcher will be hosting a telephone town hall on Wednesday, May 12th at 7:10 p.m. to go over updates from the Federal, County and City level. Rep. Fletcher will join Dr. Umair Shaw, Executive Director of Harris Public Health; Marvin Odum, Houston Recovery; and Texas State Representative Armando Walle, Harris County Recovery. You can RSVP here.

In other news...(ear buds in, volume up!)

You guys know by now that I'm a fan of music to get us through this pandemic. I've been featuring a lot of creative ways people are using to make some wonderful new songs to carry us though. Many of us caught the Platt Brothers' rendition of "Ahavat Olam" from the Global Celebration of Israel a couple of weeks ago. Well, a few days ago, Ben Platt (of the *Dear Evan Hansen* fame) released a new song, "So Will I" that was written and produced during the pandemic. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did!

Take care and continue checking in on your neighbors,

Jackie

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