



Jewish Federation OF GREATER HOUSTON

May 8 PM - Jran Email

Dear Jran Community:

Today, we will go over updates from the City and County, resources from the Federation, and review what the Governor really says about going out and wearing masks.

Updates from the City and County

The Houston Health Department is announcing [new drive-thru free testing sites](#). You can call 832-393-4220 to get a code and directions. The City of Houston and Harris County have opened all testing sites to the general public and you do not have to have symptoms to get tested.

Council Member Abbie Kamin has teamed up with the Federation, ERJCC, and the Meyerland Super Neighborhood to provide free ***face masks to anyone this Sunday, May 10th, from 2 p.m.-4p.m. at the ERJCC main campus.*** Please stop by and help spread the word!

Recap of Yesterday's Conversation Starter and Last Call for PPE Needs Survey

In case you missed it, you can find a [recap of yesterday's conversation starter](#) on reopening our Jewish institutions on the Federation's website, along with the draft guidelines and the Harris Public Health signs.

Monday at 5 p.m. we will be closing the mask and other personal protective equipment [survey](#). If you would like to take advantage of the cost savings of a bulk purchase, please fill out the survey so we can get an idea of needs.

Staying Home While Opening Up

There has been a lot of questions and concern about the Governor's recent orders allowing a phased reopening of businesses across Texas. As a reminder, the first part of the [Governor's order](#) states:

“...every person in Texas shall, except where necessary to provide or obtain essential services or reopened services, minimize social gatherings and minimize in-person contact with people who are not in the same household.

People over the age of 65, however, are strongly encouraged to stay at home as much as possible; to maintain appropriate distance from any member of the household who has been out of the residence in the previous 14 days; and, if leaving the home, to implement social distancing and to practice good hygiene, environmental cleanliness, and sanitation...

Individuals are encouraged to wear appropriate face coverings...”

There you have it folks. Although businesses may (but don't have to!) open, we are still being asked to stay home and wear masks if we venture out.

In Other News...(ear buds in, volume up!)

Singers Adam Kantor, Rona-Lee Shimon, Dudu Aharon, and Layan Elwazani recorded a very touching version of Leonard Cohen's "[Hallelujah](#)" in English, Hebrew and Arabic. It is a beautiful tribute to Cohen's original (which really isn't Cohen's original, Revisionist History does an [interesting deep dive](#) into that), and I think it showcases the creative ways people have found to reach out across the globe, while physically apart.

Take care this Shabbat and continue reaching out to each other,

Jackie

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