



June 1, 2020

Dear Community and Business Leaders,

At Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center, we hope you are well during COVID-19. We remain busy caring for our patients and our community. Our health center remains open Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm, and Saturdays from 9:00am - 3:00pm, and available for patient visits, including emergency dental visits.

Since early March we've been testing our patients at the health center for the COVID-19 virus, and we were awarded a grant by Boston Resiliency Fund to expand our testing to the general public who not only have symptoms, but may have been exposed to someone with the virus. Racial and ethnic minority groups carry an overwhelming burden of illness and death in the face of this unprecedented situation. Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan, and Roxbury have some of the highest percentages of the virus, and we desperately need to have more people tested to curb the spread of this deadly virus in our community.

Harvard Street also has a Contact Tracing Team who are reaching out to people whose names are given by those who have tested positive in order to curb the spread. People who present active symptoms of a fever, chills, sore throat, shortness of breath, headaches, or nasal congestion - and who have traveled from another country or have been in contact with someone with the virus, are encouraged to contact Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center, where a member of our medical team will pre-screen them for an appointment.

- We've seen a big increase of people needing food assistance, and is open on Wednesday's from 10am - 3pm. Call 617-825-3400 to schedule a pick-up time, in addition to applying for SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps.
- For immigrants with no insurance, it does not matter, everyone is welcomed at Harvard Street!

I ask that you please ensure that your members, area residents, and employees of local businesses are aware of the above information? Please encourage your employees, customers and family to visit us, should they need testing or help. They can call with questions regarding COVID-19 testing, and for general health concerns.

Additionally, this virus has challenged people's stress levels, particularly those with young children at home, and those who have lost loved ones, or are experiencing Domestic Violence. Our Behavioral Health Counselors are available to speak with those who need support.

Together we will continue working to help our community. Thank you in advance for all that you do, for your partnership and for sharing this important information. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

In safety and good health,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stan McLaren".

Stan McLaren
President and CEO
617-822-5510
www.harvardstreet.org