

From: Mayor Elicker



Photos from a Westville sidewalk.

Dear employees,

Thank you for your patience as we navigate the changing landscape of work and life during this global health pandemic. It has been particularly challenging to communicate as these changes are happening almost as fast as we can sit down to summarize. To stay up to speed about what is going on, please visit the COVID-19 specific page of the [City website](#). In the coming week, we will be building out an employee-specific section of this web site to help navigate as we work to evaluate the essential functions of government in a time of crisis and work to protect our employees and our community. We will also plan to communicate by email at least once a week. If someone you know is not receiving these emails, please have them connect with their supervisor/department head to ensure that we have up to date contact information.

We will work together as a community to confront this very challenging situation. It's at times like these that we define what kind of community we are – New Haven is a community that works together, that supports each other, that does our part as individuals for the benefit of the whole.

The faces of our response.

Our employees have been amazing. It's impossible to reflect the truly remarkable and extraordinary work that our staff has been doing to keep everyone safe, try to continue the critical operations of government, and plan for this crisis. We want to begin to recognize some of that hard work and a job well done.



Kayla Wallace, MS

*Project Manager, Emergency Management & Homeland Security
Chief Administrator's Office*

Kayla is a project manager who works on planning and project coordination and reporting for our CAO's Office of Emergency Management. During the emergency, she has stepped up and is keeping everyone organized and triaging problems of every type while keeping a smile on her face.

Jenifer Vazquez, DNP, RN, CPTC



*Director of Public Health Nursing
New Haven Health Department*

Jen and her team of School Nurses have been activated as responders in this crisis. They are staffing our public health information line 203-946-4949, doing outreach to vulnerable populations & facilities, and checking in on those who have had a risk exposure to COVID-19. Nurses are known for their bedside manner & calming effect; their response in this crisis is invaluable.



Paul Ferretti, Andrew Barbara, Sal DeMatteo, Dom Bibiaso & Tom DeLucia

*Local 287 Food Service Drivers
New Haven Board of Education*

An old adage says, “An army marches on its stomach.” We would not have been able to launch our [Grab & Go Meals](#) program without our crack logistics team. As soon as the schools' closure was announced they worked into the weekend to set up the 37, now 38 schools for service - moving coolers, delivering supplies, and then ensuring that the meals are at each site every day. To date, we have delivered approximately 16,000 meals.

Jessica Criscuolo

*Payroll Supervisor
Finance Department*

Many of the functions of city government that we often take for granted are essential even in a time of crisis. Jessica, all the payroll clerks throughout the city, and our IT staff were hard at work this week to make sure that all our full-time employees still received their paychecks. While we did not print paystubs for direct deposit, remember you can still access those through the [employee self-service portal](#).



Refuse Employees

*Pictured: Jayquis Brock, Reginald Bell and Driver Jose Encarnacion
New Haven Public Works*

One thing that is certain is we want to keep our City clean and sanitary. Our refuse workers have heeded the call and we continue our regular operations. While we have modified to a more “social distance” in our work routines we continue to get the job done. Thanks for your hard work.

News You Can Use:

Employee Assistance Resources

In these challenging times, we recognize that the current health situation can create additional concerns for you and your family. No one knows the extent of how this may play out, but the uncertainty related to it may be difficult to handle. Keep in mind that there are things you can do to help prevent the spread of this illness. Although we may feel overwhelmed by events following prudent recommendations for limiting the spread of this illness are helpful.

We can control how we react to these difficult circumstances, and effective management of stress is an important component of that. We want to remind you that the city offers an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) that offers free counseling and is available for you and your family members to help cope in these uncertain times. You can reach them at 800-864-2742.

Stay healthy,

Justin