COVID-19 GUIDANCE for NYC CBO STAFF & CLIENTS

TEST WHEN A PERSON IS:
• Symptomatic or has a history of symptoms (e.g. fever, cough, and/or trouble breathing), particularly those 70+, with a compromised immune system or underlying health condition; or
• Has close contact (within six feet) with a someone known to be COVID-19+; or
• Subject to precautionary or mandatory quarantine; or
• Employed as a healthcare worker, first responder, or essential worker who directly interacts with the public while working; or
• Told by a clinician that conditions warrant testing

TWO TYPES OF TESTS
1. A viral test tells you if you have a current infection (usually via nose swab). These tests are free for everyone. You do not need to have insurance. Results available in about 48 Hours.
2. An antibody test tells you if you had a previous infection (via blood). It detects whether a person’s immune system has made antibodies (protective immune proteins) in response to exposure to the virus.

UNDERSTANDING TEST RESULTS
• If you test positive for COVID-19 by a viral test, know what protective steps to take if you are sick or caring for someone.
• If you test negative for COVID-19 by a viral test, you probably were not infected at the time your sample was collected. However, that does not mean you will not get sick. The test result only means that you did not have COVID-19 at the time of testing.
• If you test positive for COVID-19 antibodies, the test may not be able to show if you have a current infection, because it can take 1-3 weeks to make antibodies after symptoms occur.
  • We do not know yet if having antibodies to the virus can protect someone from getting infected with the virus again or how long that protection might last.
• If you test positive or negative for COVID-19, no matter the type of test, you still should take preventive measures to protect yourself and others.
NYC TESTING PAGE:  https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/resources/covid-testing.page
TESTING SITE SEARCH ENGINE:  https://my.castlighthealth.com/corona-virus-testing-sites/