

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

<u>Regarding Office Operations on Behalf of Catholic Migration</u> <u>Services Pertaining to COVID-19</u>

Catholic Migration Services is continuing to assist existing and new clients during the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak. However, we have limited our office operations to reduce health risks to visitors, staff and volunteers. For the health and safety of all, please do not come to our offices unless instructed to do so by a staff member of Catholic Migration Services.

## For Individuals with Scheduled Appointments

If you already have an appointment scheduled to meet with someone at Catholic Migration Services, a staff member from our office will contact you to discuss holding the appointment by phone or rescheduling for a later date.

### For Individuals Seeking Legal Assistance for the First Time

If you do not have an appointment scheduled and are seeking assistance, please see below for information about how to obtain immigration, housing or employment legal services.

#### Immigration

If you are not a client and are calling for immigration help, please call (718) 236-3000 in Brooklyn or (347) 472-3500 in Queens and leave a message. We will return your message and schedule a time for you to speak by phone with one of our attorneys or immigration counselors.

#### Housing

Please be advised that Housing Court has been closed since Tuesday, March 17th until further notice, except for emergencies such as illegal lockouts and emergency repairs. Please know that all evictions will be put on hold until further notice. If you are a Queens resident and have questions about evictions, rent or repair issues, please call (347) 472-3500 (Catholic Migration Services) or 311 (New York City help line).

For additional housing assistance, please contact:

Andrew Lehrer, Esq. – ext. 1026 Amy Collado, Tenant Organizer – ext. 1021 Ahren Lahvis, Paralegal – ext. 1027

#### Workers' Rights

The Coronavirus pandemic has had a devastating impact on workers. While our offices remain physically closed, Catholic Migration Services continues to provide critical legal services to low-wage and immigrant workers. In addition to providing advice and legal representation on general employment matters, such as wage theft, we are now also providing advice to workers directly impacted by this pandemic, including those with workplace health and safety concerns and those who have recently lost their jobs. Our hotline is open! *To speak with an attorney, please call (877) 52-LABOR (52267) Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. jHablamos Español!* 

#### Events

The safety of our community is our priority at all times. As a result, Catholic Migration Services has suspended all events and outreach activities including our monthly community meetings at St. Sebastian Parish in Woodside. We encourage vulnerable individuals to exercise caution and stay safe. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this health emergency.

#### **Additional Information**

For additional updates, please regularly visit the organization website and social media channels: www.catholicmigration.org www.Facebook.com/CMSBQ www.Twitter.com/CMSBQ www.Instagram.com/CMSBQ

Catholic Migration Services is an affiliate agency of Catholic Charities Brookyn and Queens.

Catholic Migration Services is located at:

Brooklyn Office:Queens Office:191 Joralemon Street, 4th Floor47-01 Queens Boulevard, Suite 403Brooklyn, NY 11201Sunnyside, NY 11104(718) 236-3000(347) 472-3500For more information, visit our website at catholicmigration.org

As of April 2, 2020