4.23.20 Notes from the Governor’s Briefing:

Statistics:
- Total hospitalizations = 15,021 as of yesterday
- Curve continues to go down
- Net change in hospitalizations and intubations is down
- New COVID Hospitalizations = 1,359 (Has been flat for the last several days)
- 438 lives lost (403 is hospitals, 35 in nursing homes)

Long Term Questions:
- Will there be a second wave?
  - COVID is expected to lessen during the summer, but a possible second wave is possible in the fall causing worries about dealing with COVID and the Flu.

Nursing Homes:
- Nursing homes require PPE as well as temperature checks for staff
- COVID residents must be isolated
- Separate staff must transfer COVID residents within facility to another long-term care facility, or to another non-certified location
- All residents and family members must be notified within 24 hours if any resident tests positive for COVID or any resident suffers COVID related death
- COVID positive residents must be readmitted only if they have the ability to provide adequate level of care under DOH and CDC guidance
- DOH is partnering with AG James to begin investigations for violations
  - Nursing homes must immediately report to DOH actions they have taken to comply with DOH and CDC directives
  - DOH will inspect facilities that have not complied with directives, including separation policies, and inadequate PPE
  - If DOH determines that facilities failed to comply, DOH will immediately require facility to submit action plan and facility could be fined $10K per violation or potentially lose operating license.

Testing:
- Governor reiterated the need to test, trace and isolate and find those who test positive for antibodies so convalescent plasma can be donated
- Testing will help inform our infection rate and reopening strategy
- Sample size of 3,000 has been used
- More testing will be done in African-American and Latino communities in NYC
- Testing will begin in public housing developments today
- Will work with Rep. Jeffries and Velazquez to partner with churches and increase testing sites

Antibody Study:
- Today, Phase I results are available from 3,000 surveys collected over two days in 19 counties and 40 localities across the state.
  - No one under age 18 was surveyed
  - People are surveyed in grocery stores and other public locations
  - 13.9% tested positive for having the antibodies
  - Preliminary data shows that if infection rate is 13.9%, death rate may be lower than some estimates
    - This means 2.7M infected statewide
    - With approximate 15,5000 total fatalities (not considering in-home deaths), the death rate is about 0.5% of people infected

Finances:
- Governor stated that using the bankruptcy route as Senator McConnell has suggested is not a good way to go because if states like NY, CA, and MI declare bankruptcy the national economy would fail.
- “How ugly a thought” for Senator McConnell to suggest that blue states suffering
from Coronavirus should not be bailed out.
- Now is the time for humanity and decency, there is no time for politics.
- NY puts in more money into the federal pot than it receives
- Kentucky receives more federal funding than it puts into the federal pot
  so which state is getting bailed out?

Q&A:

Correctional Facilities:
- There are 263 prisoners who have tested positive for COVID
- DeRosa stated that cases in prisons are not as prevalent as projected, however
  precautions are being taken.
- Same testing standards are applied in prisons

Testing:
- Contact tracing is not the "be all, end all" but it is essential

Nursing Homes:
- Nursing homes have been complying with reporting, but have had issues due to
  the current situation
- If a nursing home cannot provide adequate care, the patient must be transferred
  - If an adequate facility cannot be found, they must contact the DOH
- PPE has been given to nursing homes
  - As of about two weeks ago homes have received 417K masks, about 1K gowns,
    and 5K gallons of sanitizer

Schools:
- Rochester Superintendent is looking at resigning in June,
  - District was given close to $30M in the budget

Work Force:
- Non-essential workers home are still being paid
- DeRosa stated that NYS has paid out $2.2B to over 1M people who have applied for
  unemployment
  - 1.4M NYers will be collecting unemployment
- NY has rolled out new system to apply for PUA to make more streamlined
- 3K people have been recruited to assist with unemployment issues
- Gig workers are the only ones with outstanding unemployment cases