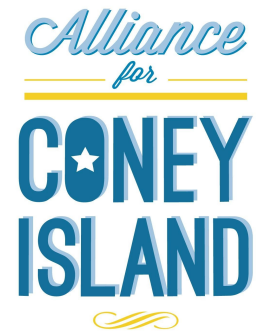


**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Coney Island To Host Free Holiday Day Meal for the Community

Coney Island will distribute free holiday meals to those in need from their local community

Coney Island, December 21, 2020 – In the spirit of giving this holiday season, the Alliance for Coney Island and Tom’s Coney Island with support from Councilman Mark Treyger, Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, State Senator Diane Savino, Assemblymember Mathylde Frontus, New York City Economic Development Corporation, NYC Ferry (operated by Hornblower), iStar, and Luna Park in Coney Island will be dishing out a holiday meal to help feed approximately 250 local families from the Coney Island community. On Wednesday, December 23rd from 3 PM to 6 PM, families are invited to pick up a fresh meal consisting of turkey, sweet potatoes, green beans, fresh fruit, and dessert at **Tom’s Coney Island** located at **1229 Riegelmann Boardwalk (corner of Stillwell & Boardwalk)**.

“The pandemic has affected every aspect of life for Coney Islanders and food insecurity has risen for many families in the area. We hope this meal ensures that they have one less thing to worry about this holiday season and are grateful for the partnership of the event’s sponsors to make this holiday meal possible.” *said Alexandra Silversmith, Executive Director of the Alliance for Coney Island.*

“Spread love, it’s the Brooklyn way. The COVID-19 pandemic has made the holiday season increasingly challenging for many families in Coney Island. However, I have been deeply heartened by how our community has come together to support each other. I am grateful to the Alliance for Coney Island and all of the elected officials and community partners who made this holiday meal possible.” *said Congressman Hakeem Jeffries.*

“Once again, the Alliance for Coney Island is stepping up to provide our neighbors in need with a sense of security and kindness this holiday season. I applaud the Alliance for always keeping the traditions and spirits high in our community.” *said NY State Senator Diane Savino.*

“I’m proud to support the Alliance for Coney Island in making sure that everyone in our community can enjoy a holiday meal. This season will be different from any that we have experienced, and I’m proud to see so many organizations in Coney Island coming together to make local families feel special. I wish everyone a joyful, and safe holiday season, and a healthy new year.” *said Assemblymember Mathylde Frontus.*

"This is the time of year when we pause to reflect on the year, spend time with loved ones, and give back to those most in need. This year, it is especially vital that we ensure that no one goes hungry during the pandemic. I'm proud to partner with the Alliance for Coney Island, Tom's of Coney Island, the NYC Economic Development Corporation, and many other local leaders to provide a holiday meal for Coney Island residents. This holiday season will be much different from normal, but I am thankful that our community has continued to come together to ensure that our neighbors have a warm, celebratory meal, safely. I wish everyone a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season and new year," **said Council Member Mark Treyger (Bensonhurst, Coney Island, Gravesend, Sea Gate).**

"Advancing a strong recovery means providing New Yorkers with much-needed resources," **said James Patchett, president, and CEO of New York City Economic Development Corporation.** "At a time when so many families are unable to come together, we're thrilled to partner with the Alliance for Coney Island to provide families with a warm meal this holiday season."

"After facing an unprecedented year that has deeply affected us all, New Yorkers continue to show their incredible strength and resilience by coming together to support their communities," **said Jeffery Brault, Associate Director of Public Affairs, Hornblower New York.** "This holiday season, Hornblower New York, operator of NYC Ferry, is proud to partner with the Alliance for Coney Island and the entire Coney Island community to provide meals to its residents and bring some much needed holiday cheer during this extraordinary time."

"We are happy to be helping local students and their families celebrate the holidays. This has been a difficult year for us as a business but we wanted to carry on our tradition of giving back to the Coney Island community." **said Jim Kokotas, owner of Tom's Coney Island**

"The holiday season is a time of giving, and this year more than ever, we are grateful that we can help feed our neighbors in our wonderful Coney Island community. We hope that these meals will nourish and comfort during these challenging moments, as well as spread a bit of holiday cheer," **said Alessandro Zamperla, President/CEO of Central Amusement International, Inc.**

Alliance for Coney Island

The not-for-profit Alliance for Coney Island, Inc. is a private-public partnership dedicated to continuing the year-round revitalization of Coney Island. The Alliance represents local businesses, nonprofits, and the community, with support from the New York City Council, the Brooklyn Borough President, and New York City Economic Development Corporation. More info at www.AllianceforConeyIsland.org.

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