

Dear Reform Temple of Rockland Congregant,

As you may know, The Reform Temple of Rockland Youth Groups has a food drive every year on the High Holy Days. We understand that services are going to look different this year, but it is still important that we continue to provide food for people in need. Now more than ever people are struggling with food insecurity. Across New York City approximately 1.2 million people were dealing with food insecurity before COVID-19 hit, which is 11.9%<sup>1</sup> of the total population. Now, as many as 1 in 4 people across New York City are going hungry, that is 25%<sup>2</sup>. This problem exists across the country. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic more people are struggling to get food.

We understand that these may be hard times for many people, but we ask that if you can donate food these High Holy Days that you do. Any amount of food is greatly appreciated. **We will collect tuna, boxed mac & cheese, pasta, dried beans, rice, cereal & canned foods which will be donated to People-to-People, please do not donate any expired food.** As the RTR Social Action Committee does throughout the year **we will also be collecting kosher barley**, which will be donated to The Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry. Both of these locations help to feed people across Rockland County.

In past years there have been ReTRo & ReTweens members handing out clear plastic bags with this note on them at Rosh Hashanah services for people to bring back on Yom Kippur with food donations in them. Unfortunately, we are unable to do that this year. We still hope that you will participate in our food drive. **This year we will be collecting food at the Sound of the Shofar Parade on Rosh Hashanah Day Two. You will be able to "pop your trunk" at the top of the driveway on your way to the upper parking lot and we will remove your donations from your car. We will also collect food during the week of Monday, September 14 through Friday, September 18 at temple. Please call the office at 845-358-2248 or email info@RTRny.org in advance to arrange a time to drop off your donations.**

L'shana Tova,

Jadyn Turner, ReTRo President 5779-5781

Hannah Lustig, ReTRo SAVP 5780-5781

Craig Berkowitz, ReTRo RCVP 5780-5781

Grace Beck, ReTRo MVP 5780-5781

Jordan Kleinman, ReTRo FVP 5780-5781

Jessica Stone, ReTRo CVP 5780-5781

---

<sup>1</sup> "View Our Research & Financials." *Food Bank For New York City*, 27 July 2020, [www.foodbanknyc.org/research-reports/](http://www.foodbanknyc.org/research-reports/).

<sup>2</sup> Mann, Brian. "In New York City, 2 Million Residents Face Food Insecurity, Officials Say." *NPR*, NPR, 21 May 2020, [www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/05/21/860312565/in-new-york-city-2-million-residents-face-food-insecurity-officials-say](http://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/05/21/860312565/in-new-york-city-2-million-residents-face-food-insecurity-officials-say).