



Rabbi Yaakov Hopfer
President

11 Tishrei 5781
September 29, 2020

To Our Beloved Community,

The last few weeks have brought a significant increase in the number of COVID19 cases in our community. These additional cases have affected both young and old alike, including some community members who are quite ill and in need of *Rachamei Shamayim*. We must once again exercise heightened vigilance and care. With the upcoming Yom Tov of Succos we must take additional steps to stem the tide of communal spread. Containing the spread will help ensure that our yeshivos and schools can open after Yom Tov. This is of utmost importance for our precious students and their parents. We therefore ask for our Shuls and community members to adhere to the following points:

1. Shuls should exercise heightened vigilance in the organization of minyanim. Social distancing, masks and frequent hand-sanitizing are required. Some Shuls may choose to move minyanim outdoors if this would be more conducive to a safe davening experience.
2. While hosting out of town family is a source of Simchas Yom Tov for many, we are in the midst of a pandemic. We ask that you strongly consider refraining from hosting out of town guests. However, should you choose to host, please note that out of town guests who want to attend any of our local Shuls or minyanim must be tested (and receive a negative result) prior to Yom Tov.
3. Anyone who has had an exposure, has come from a high exposure community, yeshiva/institution or is currently quarantined should not come to Shul, and should not join or create minyanim (including outdoors).

Please consult your Rav with any questions or clarifications of the above-mentioned points.

Please know that these requests and rules stem from a deep care and concern for our entire community. We daven fervently for an end to this pandemic and a restoration of the normal rhythms of life. We know that the Ribbono Shel Olam watches over us and B'Ezras Hashem if we put in the appropriate hishtadlus and exercise abundant caution, the precious men, women, and children of our community will IY'H remain healthy and vibrant.

Wish best wishes for a beautiful and simcha filled Yom Tov of Succos,

Yaakov Hopfer
On behalf of the Vaad HaRabbonim