Media Advisory…

FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

For Immediate Release:
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Ford, State and Local Organizations to Host Free COVID Testing, Provide Life Necessities in Austin Community Nov. 8

CHICAGO – State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford, D-Chicago, will partner with the state to host a free COVID-19 community testing event on Sunday, Nov. 8 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 5051 W. Chicago Ave. in the Austin Community. In addition to testing, other community services, including a mask giveaway, haircuts for children, a pre-Thanksgiving meal and Narcan distribution will occur.

"A lot of families are facing hard times due to no fault of their own," Ford said. "Due to the generosity of our local community organizations, this event will provide hot meals, free baby formula, diapers and other life necessities. As we see a spike in coronavirus cases around our state and city, it's also more important than ever to ensure that people have access to tests. This event will be an opportunity to get checked out for free, regardless if someone has insurance."

For testing, simple nasal swabs will be used. Results are expected within four to seven days, and there will be no cost. If an individual has an insurance card, they are encouraged to bring it but insurance is not required to be tested. Participants do not need to show symptoms or be sick. Unlimited people will be able to be tested.

Meals will be provided by Black Girls Break Bread and Meridian. Healthy Place Botanicals will provide a mask give away and the West Side Heroin/Opioid Task Force with distribute Narcan. Herb's Barbershop will provide haircuts for children who are in kindergarten through 12th grade. Baby formula, diapers and other necessities will be available to families as well.

For more information, please contact Ford at 773-416-4663.

Who: State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford, Community Groups
What: COVID-19 Austin Community Testing/Community Resource Event
When: Sunday, Nov. 8; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: 5051 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago

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