



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Paul Quinn College Opens COVID-19 Testing Site *School Announces "Safe For My City" Campaign*

DALLAS – June 15, 2020 – In response to the COVID-19 global pandemic, Paul Quinn College has partnered with the [City of Dallas](#) and [Lyda Hill Philanthropies](#) to open a free COVID-19 testing site on the school's campus in Dallas (3837 Simpson Stuart Rd, Dallas, TX 75241). The testing site is part of [Paul Quinn's "Safe For My City"](#) campaign that also features a protective face mask and food giveaway. Walk-up testing will begin this Thursday, June 18 and Saturday, June 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is scheduled to be available going forward on **Tuesdays** and **Saturdays** through the month of July. The food, which is being provided in cooperation with [Minnie's Food Pantry](#), and masks will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis to all (regardless of whether they are being tested).

"The Quinnite Nation is committed to doing its part in the fight against COVID-19. Having watched people we know and love suffer from this scourge, we have a unique understanding of the threat the virus poses," said Michael J. Sorrell, President, Paul Quinn College. "We agree with the doctors and scientists who have stated that direct action – via testing, wearing masks, and social distancing - can and will make a difference in this fight. We are looking forward to supporting the City of Dallas and everyone else who is working tirelessly to save lives and protect our community."

"Safe for My City" was created with generous support from [Lyda Hill Philanthropies](#), [The City of Dallas](#), [Minnie's Food Pantry](#), and [DiVenture Marketing](#). The campaign is being hosted in partnership with the [Tenth Episcopal District AME Church](#), [Texas State Representative Toni Rose](#), [Dallas District 8 City Council Member Tennell Atkins](#), The Highland Hills Community Liaison Association, [Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce](#), [Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce](#), [United to Learn](#), [St. Philip's School and Community Center](#), [KIPP Texas](#), [The Hockaday School](#), [St. Mark's School of Texas](#), [Parish Episcopal School](#), [The Episcopal School of Dallas](#), [Baller Mom Meals](#) and multiple youth sports organizations, including [AKR Texas Summitt](#), [Bridge Basketball Skills Academy](#), [Drive Nation](#), [Team F.O.E.](#), [DC Sports](#), [Southern Assault](#), [Midlothian Wildcats](#), and [Hoopville](#).

While the testing site will target residents of the Highland Hills and Wilmer-Hutchins communities, youth athletic teams, families with school-aged children, and those involved in the Black Lives Matter protests, everyone is welcome to stop by to be tested and pick-up a food box and mask. To be tested, individuals will need to have access to a valid telephone number as test results will be shared within three to five days via telephone call or message.

According to [The Dallas Morning News](#) and city data, there have been 25,992 confirmed positive COVID-19 cases in North Texas and 14,232 COVID-19 cases and 284 deaths in Dallas County alone. Of those, 302 were new cases reported in Dallas County on Saturday, June 13.

The community is encouraged to use the hashtag #SafeForMyCity and share their pictures and stories related to COVID-19 and the campaign on their social media pages to further encourage people to get tested.

For more information about the campaign and for downloadable social graphics and flyer, please visit www.pqc.edu/safeformycity or call (214) 379-5549.

For more information on how to support the giving of masks and food to families in need, or to [donate](#), contact Lola Esmieu, Special Assistant to the President of Paul Quinn College (pesmieu@pqc.edu).

About Paul Quinn College

Paul Quinn College, one of the most innovative small colleges in America, is a private, faith-based, four-year, liberal arts-inspired college that was founded on April 4, 1872 by a group of African Methodist Episcopal Church preachers in Austin, Texas. The school's original purpose was to educate freed slaves and their offspring. Today, Paul Quinn has become a model for urban higher education by focusing on academic rigor, experiential learning, and entrepreneurship. The College proudly educates students of all races and socio-economic classes under the banner of its institutional ethos, WE over Me. Its mission is to provide a quality, faith-based education that addresses the academic, social, and Christian development of its students. The College's president, Michael Sorrell, has been named one of Fortune Magazine's World's Greatest Leaders in 2018 and the Male President of the Year by HBCU Digest three times. For more information on how to partner with Paul Quinn College, please visit <http://www.pqc.edu/>.

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