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BROOKLYN THEATER COMPANIES ADJUST TO UNCERTAIN TIMES DURING COVID-19 CRISIS



JACK co-directors Jordana De La Cruz and Alec Duffy deliver food. Photo: Alec Duffy

By [Kevin Duggan](#)
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Full Article: <https://www.brooklynpaper.com/brooklyn-theater-companies-adjust-to-uncertain-times-during-covid-19-crisis/>

[...]

Meanwhile, in Clinton Hill, directors of the experimental and activist theater Jack have decided to repurpose their Putnam Avenue space into a [food distribution hub](#) with the help of mutual aid group We Keep Us Safe Abolitionist Network.

“We saw that we had an empty space and we knew that we wanted to be of some service to relief efforts and we had this beautiful space that could be used,” said Alec Duffy, one of the directors of the company, which closed up shop in mid-March.

Duffy and other volunteers have served about 100 families a week – mostly public housing residents – with groceries, prepackaged foods, and produce, and some artists Jack has worked with in the past have joined in on the effort, he said.

"It's a pretty tremendous and inspiring action that they're taking right now," Duffy said.

The theater company also plans to transform itself into an online civic forum, with an upcoming town hall of candidates to replace longtime local state Sen. Velmanette Montgomery on May 11.

"We've always thought of ourselves also as a civic space, not just a performance space," Duffy said.



Volunteer Samantha Johnson gets food ready for distribution at Jack. Photo: Alec Duffy