

August 6, 2020

The global support for the people of Lebanon has been overwhelming in the wake of the devastating explosion that took many lives, injured countless people and destroyed homes and businesses in a heavily populated area of Beirut on the evening of Tuesday, August 4, 2020. My thoughts and prayers, along with those of our community, are with Lebanon as recovery efforts continue. Queens County has a long connection to Lebanon, with a number of our residents having family and friends in Lebanon, now and throughout Queens County's history.

Making the tragedy even more challenging is the COVID-19 pandemic. Safety practices are part of the recovery efforts, treatment of the wounded, assisting the survivors, and grieving lives lost. The comfort of loved ones and the support of the community is how we as humans cope with heartbreaking situations, and the pandemic puts people at risk as they work to recover victims, deal with the loss of homes and properties, and mourn the loss of life.

Be sure to reach out to your network of friends and family with loved ones in Lebanon – they could use your support during this harrowing time.

If you would like to support the relief efforts, please consider a donation to the Lebanese Red Cross:

<http://www.redcross.org.lb/SubPage.aspx?pageid=1370&PID=158>

Be safe everyone,

Mayor David Dagley



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