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EDUCATION PROFILE

Stand up and be Counted

It's that time of the decade when we are called to be counted as part of the U.S. Census. This month, we all should have received an official 2020 Census letter at our homes with details on how to respond.

Since 1790, and every 10 years thereafter, the practice of counting each household in the United States will help determine how our communities, our city and our state will receive funding for resources over the next 10 years. It's easy, it's safe and it's important for our community. And, for the first time, if you choose, you can respond online at my2020census.gov.

As New Yorkers, we each need to make our presence known and be counted, so that our city will get its fair share of federal funding to support our schools, roads and public services in our communities. The demographic data is used by



The U.S. has counted its population every 10 years since 1790. Respond online, or by mail; they both count!

businesses to determine, for example, where to build new food markets, and by emergency responders to locate injured people after natural disasters.

The census population tally determines the number of congressional seats and Electoral College votes to appropriate to New York and other states. States and

localities also use census numbers for redistricting or the drawing of political boundary lines for government districts.

When you respond to the census, your answers are kept anonymous. They are used only to produce statistics. You will be asked questions such as:

- The number of people living or staying in a home on April 1, 2020.

- Whether the home is owned with or without a mortgage, rented or occupied without rent.

- A phone number for a person in the home.

- The name, sex, age, date of birth and race of each person in the home.

- Whether each person is of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin.

- The relationship of each person to a central person in the home.

There is no question about citizenship on the census form. The Census

Bureau also never asks for Social Security numbers, bank or credit card information, money or donations, or anything on behalf of a political party. Everyone living in the United States is supposed to be counted by the census, whether they are citizens or not. Everyone has the duty and the opportunity to stand and be counted.

Join me in completing the census so we can get the resources to support what we count on most in our communities.

Dr. Claudia V. Schrader is president of Kingsborough Community College (KCC) located in beautiful Manhattan Beach, Brooklyn. Kingsborough Community College is committed to enhancing learning opportunities for the Brooklyn community. Visit www.kbcc.cuny.edu to learn about the classes, certifications and degree programs offered at KCC.