

PEOPLE FOR  
THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT  
OF ANIMALS

July 29, 2020

The Honorable Chris Abruzzo  
Chair of Derry Township

Dear Mr. Abruzzo,

Greetings from PETA. As cases of COVID-19 continue to spike in Derry Township and throughout Dauphin County, putting public health at risk, I'm writing with a lifesaving suggestion: Encourage all residents to eat vegan. PETA stands ready to help them make the switch by offering resources such as our [free vegan starter kits](#) and our [free vegan mentor services](#). We'll also be sending you a box of dairy-free chocolates in the shapes of chickens, frogs, and bats—the only kind of “animals” that can be eaten compassionately and safely.

COVID-19, swine flu, avian flu, mad cow disease, SARS, Ebola, and AIDS are all linked to the production or consumption of meat, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warns that approximately 75% of recently emerged infectious diseases affecting humans originated in other animals. As long as animals are bred, confined in their own filth, and slaughtered, it's not a matter of *if* another pandemic will occur but *when*.

Fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and other wholesome vegan foods are cholesterol-free, generally low in saturated fat, and high in fiber and other nutrients, and they can even prevent—and in some cases, reverse—life-threatening diseases as well as boost immunity. In fact, Corinne Bush, science director of the American Nutrition Association and a representative of the Personalized Nutrition & COVID-19 Task Force, [advises people to eat plenty of produce in order to boost their immune system and ward off COVID-19](#) and other health problems. Dr. Mehmet Oz agrees, pointing out that fruits and vegetables “enhance your immune response,” [and he shared antioxidant-rich smoothie recipes on TODAY](#).

We're ready to help Derry Township residents turn over a healthy new vegan leaf, so please let us know how we can be of assistance. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Tracy Reiman  
Executive Vice President  
People for the Ethical Treatment of AnimalsWashington, D.C.  
1536 16th St. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-483-PETALos Angeles  
2154 W. Sunset Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90026  
323-644-PETANorfolk  
501 Front St.  
Norfolk, VA 23510  
757-622-PETABerkeley  
2855 Telegraph Ave.  
Ste. 301  
Berkeley, CA 94705  
510-763-PETAInfo@peta.org  
PETA.org

## Affiliates:

- PETA Asia
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