

I want to share with you an email I received from one exemplary community member. She has forever been a "What can I do for Franklin" person.

I'll start with my response.

Wow. I hear from many people who are in similar, but as you recognize, not quite the same situation as you. Most of them beseeching me to allow their business to open. Yours is the most balanced letter I have received. It tells me of your plight yet is measured with social responsibility. It is in essence loaded with, YOU. The community centered person you have always been. I salute you. I have faith in you. I wish I could hug you.

Here is her original email.

Dear Mayor Kramer,

I am emailing you to share some of my thoughts with you regarding the reopening of businesses in Franklin Township. First of all, I want to convey how impressed I am with your leadership during this crisis. I think seeing your posts on social media and having the facts and data stated so clearly has been very helpful to me and I want to thank you for all of the information you are providing every day. Regarding the data being shared, the numbers are concerning to me. In my industry, I am trying to make sure that I am completely prepared for reopening and I have many concerns about the health and safety of my team, clients, and the community. This is a difficult position to be in. On one hand, I have health concerns about reopening, and on the other hand, I am concerned about the business surviving without being able to be open. UFO Salon & Spa has been a part of the community for 42 years. We have always had the best interest of the community in our hearts and we will continue to keep the community at the forefront of our decisions. I have already conveyed to my team that we will not reopen just because we can. I think it is important to base my decision on science and data. There are some very real challenges that I face as a hairstylist and salon owner. One of the biggest

challenges in my industry is remaining socially distant. This is just not possible to do. When working, I am in very close contact with my clients. Aside from healthcare, I believe my industry is one of the only industries that touches people. I am writing to you to convey the unique challenges and risks that my business poses in keeping our community safe and healthy. I ask you to please consider having personal care businesses such as mine, in the last phase of reopening.

I have been researching the guidelines set forth by other states that have already opened to see what they are putting in place as they begin to reopen. I am researching the guidelines for disinfection and what types of procedures will most likely need to be put in place in my salon to protect everyone. I plan to have strict policies prepared and communicated to the public and my team, so we can do our absolute best to prevent the spread of disease. I worry about my ability to continue to supply myself with the PPE necessary to keep myself, my team, and my clients safe. I also worry about my ability to keep a supply of disinfectants such as bleach, wipes, and other necessary cleaning supplies to keep my workspace disease-free. Many of these items at this time are hard to get and if they are available there is a wait time.

Regarding reopening, the new guidelines that I have been reading about will decrease my ability to service as many clients as I typically see, which greatly reduces my income. There will also be additional costs to run my business, such as having to supply PPE and new disinfection policies. My dilemma is twofold; I am concerned about health risks and I am concerned about my business. This is a tough position to be in, yet I still believe salons should be in the later phases of reopening. My industry is very divided in this belief. I know many salons do not feel that they can survive this closure and I am sensitive to that as well, but I know many clients are desperate to get their haircut and that is also understandable. The truth is that salons have the most potential

to spread disease, especially COVID-19. We, as licensed professionals have been trained to mitigate the risk and still, we cannot completely prevent the spread because we touch people to provide services. I want you to know that when the salon reopens, we will do everything we possibly can to protect the community. I also wanted to provide you with some insight from my perspective and ask that when decisions are made about reopening, that you are aware of all the factors that I have mentioned.

Thank you for your time,

Stephanie Daniel

UFO Salon & Spa

798 Easton Avenue

Somerset, NJ 08873

ph [\(732\) 828-2881](tel:(732)828-2881)

text (732) 735-9053

info@ufosalon.com