What the UNICEF Committee did pre-COVID

1. Handed out 1,000 UNICEF collection boxes during the two weekends before Halloween.
2. On Halloween afternoon and evening set up four tables along 7th Ave.
3. Assisted 12-18 schools each year to run Trick or Treat for UNICEF drives. They collected from $20,000 to $25,000 each Halloween.
4. The UNICEF Committee is committed to teach Brooklyn students to be good global citizens by doing more than just trick or treating for UNICEF.
5. We set up tables at school’s PTA events to teach UNICEF, handout instruction cards that we got from the NY Civil Liberties Union instructing undocumented immigrants what to say if confronted by an ICE police officer, students wrote letters to Sen. McConnell asking him to bring the U.N.’s Rights of a Child treaty for a vote on the floor of the Senate (the U.S. is the only member of the U.N. that has not passed this treaty) and handed out the U.N.’s 17 initiatives for sustainable living.

The Wrath of the COVID Pandemic

Trick or Treat for UNICEF is now virtual (no more coins or currency) and remote, children collect donations via email & social media (no more ringing doorbells with collection boxes in hand).

COVID is in every Brooklyn neighborhood. It has a heavier presence in some areas than it has in other places. Unfortunately, right now, there are no safe havens. Brooklyn schools are trying as best as they can to be COVID-free zones. They enforce quarantine rules that require cooperation and diligence. Access to schools is severely limited. It is difficult to start conversations with a school’s leadership. Fortunately, we are working well with the schools we have relations with.