ADDRESSING PPE SUPPLY ISSUES

Protecting healthcare workers, who are on the frontlines of the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic, is a top priority of Illinois hospitals and health systems. Hospitals and health systems are working every day, with public and private partners and stakeholders, to make sure that their healthcare workers have the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) they need to be safe and healthy, and to comply with the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Illinois Department of Public Health. As part of the Illinois hospital community’s ongoing efforts to secure PPE, the Illinois Health and Hospital Association has compiled a brief overview of available approaches to address PPE supply issues.

PPE DONATIONS AND MANUFACTURING INITIATIVES:
STATE OF ILLINOIS AND CITY OF CHICAGO

STATE OF ILLINOIS

- To donate PPE, contact ppe.donations@illinois.gov. For more information about donating PPE, go to https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/serve/Disaster/Pages/COVID-19-PPE-Donations.aspx
- Some companies are re-purposing their manufacturing facilities and production lines to produce needed PPE. If you want to manufacture or donate PPE, reach out to the Illinois Manufacturers’ Association (IMA) at https://ima-net.org/illinois-request-for-essential-supplies. IMA has been designated by the State to coordinate this effort.

CITY OF CHICAGO

In Chicago, which has the most COVID cases in Illinois, officials have established a donation process to help hospitals and healthcare workers in the city: The Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) is coordinating multiple opportunities for individuals, organizations and businesses to donate or sell medical supplies and PPE:

- Donate medical supplies and PPE: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvyyVhh3cESMfs54o0JvquChs6WI3vsI0EbgBGx5on4vtoaw/viewform
- Donate other products or professional services: https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home/resources.html?#donation-information
- Sell medical supplies and PPE: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1nzsE3yhLeWVAPlvS1doik57pJRJOEth64IWOgWRYPr4/viewform?edit_requested=true
The American Hospital Association’s 100 Million Mask Challenge is a nationwide campaign, calling on manufacturers, the business community and individuals to coordinate efforts—including facilitating new relationships with hospitals and health systems—to rapidly produce needed PPE on a large scale for our nation’s healthcare heroes. For more information, go to: https://www.100millionmasks.org

Building on the 100 Million Mask Challenge, HealthEquip, a new app-powered resource, matches hospitals in need of PPE with organizations donating PPE. HealthEquip was developed through a partnership with Microsoft, Kaiser Permanente, consulting firm Kearney, Merit Solutions and UPS. Organizations with available PPE can register at HealthEquip. https://www.healthequip.com/

Battelle is offering hospitals and health systems an N95 decontamination service at its Waukegan facility. Through federal funding, Battelle is offering this service at no cost to healthcare providers using the Battelle CCDS Critical Care Decontamination System (high concentration vapor hydrogen peroxide). https://www.battle dobattelle-ccds-for-covid19-satellite-locations

Resilinc, in collaboration with Stanford Healthcare and Premier Inc., is proud to announce the launch of The Exchange at Resilinc, an online platform for the healthcare industry, where procurement groups interact with vetted peer organizations to identify, locate and exchange critical supply items. Each organization can list items they need and offer those they can spare in exchange. https://theexchange.resilinc.com

Project N95 is the National Clearinghouse for critical PPE and medical supplies. We protect healthcare and frontline workers by matching procurement teams with vetted suppliers. https://www.projectn95.org/

Healthcare Ready (formerly Rx Response) was established in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina by the trade associations comprising the bio-pharmaceutical supply chain and the American Red Cross. During the Katrina response, millions of dollars in monetary and pharmaceutical donations were distributed by various non-profit and response organizations, as well as the private sector, with little coordination between them. Since its creation, Healthcare Ready has helped companies, government agencies, and other organizations quickly and effectively address healthcare supply chain concerns before, during and after disasters. https://healthcareready.org/

The Association for Healthcare Resource and Materials (AHRMM) is collaborating with Global Healthcare Exchange (GHX) using the same tools, expertise and processes leveraged by its Vendormate solutions to vet non-traditional suppliers offering PPE supplies. The Vendormate process has been in place for more than 15 years and is a trusted source of information to credential new vendors. The process includes information such as sanction searches, validating tax IDs, reviewing financial snapshots and business licenses/certifications. All suppliers are being reviewed through the Vendormate solution using the Fraud Abuse Control Information Systems
(FACIS) Level 1M search which is considered the minimal “best practice” and includes all federal level data. Searches are being performed against agency sources of information including Office of the Inspector General, System for Award Management, and the Food and Drug Administration. FACIS Level 1M also includes state level Federal Healthcare Entitlement Program (FHEP) related data. https://www.ahrmm.org/covid-19-resources-non-traditional-suppliers-offering-ppe-and-other-critical-supplies