



NEWS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

VALERIE A. ARKOOSH, MD, MPH, CHAIR
KENNETH E. LAWRENCE, JR., VICE CHAIR
JOSEPH C. GALE, COMMISSIONER

Contact: Teresa Harris | Public Affairs Manager | 610-278-3062 | tharris@montcopa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Montco Commerce Department and Office of Public Health Partnering with New Alliance of Chambers of Commerce to Distribute PPE Kits to Small Businesses

Norristown (October 1, 2020) – As part of Montgomery County’s response to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Board of Commissioners has approved the purchase of 12,000 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits to be distributed to small businesses throughout the County. This initiative, a collaborative effort between the Montgomery County Commerce Department and the Office of Public Health in partnership with the newly formed Alliance of Montgomery County Chambers of Commerce (Alliance), will begin in October and continue into November.

“Our local chamber members’ investments, support, and expertise have enabled us to provide critical service to our region during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Dr. Valerie A. Arkoosh, Chair, Montgomery County Board of Commissioners. “We are committed to helping as many businesses, families, and industries as possible endure the financial hardship caused by the pandemic so they can continue to return to work safely and sustainably.”

The kits will include face masks, face shields, sanitizer, a thermometer, and other crucial COVID-19 mitigation and protection equipment along with #MaskUpMontco window clings and documents that provide COVID-19 information and guidance. CARES Act funding received by Montgomery County financed the kits.

“PPE is vital for businesses, their employees, and their customers and visitors. Providing these supplies to small businesses saves them time and money they’d otherwise use to procure PPE and allows them to do what they do best and keep their businesses going,” said David Zellers Jr., Director of Commerce. “We’re grateful and appreciative of the help from the Alliance of Montgomery County Chambers of Commerce to get these kits out into all of our communities.”

The Alliance members will be distributing the no-cost kits to both members and non-members of each Chamber throughout the County. Kit shipments of approximately 1,500 will begin arriving in early October and will be allocated among the participating Alliance members. Businesses with 50 or fewer employees will be eligible for one to five kits based on total employees and while supplies last.

“The strength of our business community is crucial to the fabric of our communities,” said Janet Panning, Interim Administrator, Office of Public Health. “The last seven months have been challenging, and Montco businesses have not just endured during these changing times but have exceeded all expectations to lead our community efforts to stay well and stay strong.”

For more information on Montgomery County’s response to COVID-19, visit www.montcopa.org/COVID-19.
For more information on the Montgomery County Commerce Department, visit www.montcopa.org/Commerce.
For more information on the Montgomery County Office of Public Health, visit www.montcopa.org/Public-Health.

The members of the Alliance of Montgomery County Chambers of Commerce are Eastern Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, Hatfield Chamber of Commerce, Indian Valley Chamber of Commerce, Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, Norristown Chamber of Commerce, Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce, Spring-Ford Chamber of Commerce, The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Montgomery County, TriCounty Area Chamber of Commerce, and Upper Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce.

###