

Statement from Dr. Grace Hassid, San Mateo County Infection Control

Hello dear neighbors,

For those who don't know me personally, I am the Infection Control Officer for the County overseeing our amazing county hospital San Mateo Medical Center and its clinics. We care for anyone who comes to us, regardless of ability to pay, mostly the underserved and underinsured. Any one may be brought to our Emergency Department by ambulance if we are the closest hospital.

We are running out of critical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to keep our medical staff and patients safe from contagion. Donations of goods or money to the San Mateo County Health Foundation to purchase what we need would be incredibly appreciated at this critical time.

Ways you can help:

- 1. Donate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)***
- 2. Monetary donations***
- 3. Donate electronics for patient communication and comfort***
- 4. Donate hard-to-find household necessities for healthcare workers***

We can pick up your donations at your door, so nobody has to leave their home. Or if you prefer, you can drop them off at Hillsborough City Hall at 1600 Floribunda Ave. If you can, please place all small goods donation items in a ziploc bag (at your doorstep or at City Hall).

Our San Mateo County Health Foundation is the best place to donate any funds, a 503-C charity where **100% of donations go directly to patients.**

You can donate directly on their website here (preferred):

<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E333937&id=4>

Or on their Facebook fundraiser:

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/625852841594184/10158214263978967>

To schedule a pickup for donation items or checks, please contact San Mateo County Health Foundation's CEO John Jurow at jjurow@smcgov.org or 650-333-5634.

Here is the full list of items you can really help us with at this time:

Most critical need:

- N-95 masks
- Surgical masks
- Clear face shields
- Reusable goggles (you may have some at home from your child's high school or college chemistry classes if they are adult sizes, or even clear ski goggles)
- Fluid resistant gowns (plastic or surgical)
- Fluid resistant/nitrile gloves
- Hand sanitizer 60% alcohol
- Antibacterial wipes

Electronics for patient comfort (with chargers):

- Ipads, tablets of any kind
- Kindles
- Cell phones with removable sim cards
- Any other type of electronic entertainment/communication device

The electronics (iPads, tablets, Kindles, etc) are to help comfort our patients who are in isolation for days at a time and becoming depressed. We have very limited TV channels to save money but it makes it really difficult for patients in isolation to have anything to help pass the time and they are separated from their families and friends for days at a time.

For health care workers personal use (who do not have time to find essential items often out of stock):

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Tissues
- Antibacterial cleaning solutions (so they can disinfect any grocery items they bring home and stay healthy)

Ways to donate monetarily to San Mateo County Health Foundation:

- Online through the SMCH Foundation's website directly:
<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E333937&id=4>
- Online via the Facebook fundraiser page:
<https://www.facebook.com/donate/625852841594184/10158214263978967>
- By mail with a check:
 - Payable to: *San Mateo County Health Foundation*
 - Address:

*The San Mateo County Health Foundation
222 West 39th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403*

- You can contact **John Jurow** at jjurow@smcgov.org or 650-333-5634 to have someone pick a check up if you prefer.

Our foundation's website: <https://smchf.org/>

Thank you very much in advance for any help you can give to your County Hospital! Best wishes always for your health in getting through this unprecedented Public Health crisis by sheltering in place, washing hands for at least 20 seconds (sing happy birthday twice) while out in public, using at least 60% alcohol sanitizer and disinfecting items brought into your home.

Thanks for reading, any amount really helps to protect our community and is greatly appreciated

