



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 25, 2020

MEDIA ADVISORY

House of Mercy to coordinate efforts of making 5,000 reusable surgical face masks for nearby hospitals

Manassas, Virginia - House of Mercy has approximately 150 volunteers helping throughout the year, which is a huge number of people who are no longer able to give of their time and talents while our donation center and thrift store is shut down to anybody but employees. We want to mobilize those volunteers, along with everyone else in the community, who is at home and looking to make a meaningful contribution.

We know there is a major shortage of medical supplies to help protect healthcare workers as they battle this pandemic. House of Mercy's mission calls us to help in any way possible. One of the Corporal works for Mercy is to visit the sick. Of course we can't physically visit the sick during this time, but we can help the healthcare workers protect themselves while they are taking care of the sick.

House of Mercy will be coordinating an effort to create 5,000 reusable surgical masks and donate them to nearby hospitals. We are looking for people to donate material, help cut material at home and sew the actual masks. We are hoping that if we can come together in a virtual assembly line, we can collect masks to help protect thousands of medical staff during this time. We are already hearing news stories of hospital administration doing this in places like Washington where they are already experiencing shortages. We want to relieve the hospital administration of this burden by bringing the community together in preparation for those excessive needs here in Prince William County. We are in search of a partnership with any local craft stores who would like to assist us in this effort. If you would like to help, please contact House of Mercy at 703-659-1636 or email masks@houseofmercyva.org.



We will need donated fabric (100% cotton), elastic, fabric scissors, volunteers to cut fabric, volunteers to sew the masks and cash donations to help purchase materials and keep our food pantry open.

As a reminder, House of Mercy's food pantry is still open for business and we are prepared to stay open as long as our pantry still has food. Our Pantry hours are Monday-Friday, 10:00am - 4:00pm. We are still distributing food and accepting food and monetary donations from the back door at our building during these hours. Our Thrift Store and Donation Center remains closed, which leaves a large gap in our normal incoming revenue. Any help our donors and the community can offer to help fill that gap during this difficult time is greatly needed and appreciated.

ABOUT HOUSE OF MERCY

House of Mercy is a 501(c)3 nonprofit working to provide food, clothing, education and prayer to those in need in our community. We are work with over 350 families per month through our food pantry and thrift store to help with basic needs.

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