

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Local healthcare clinic receives 15,000 Surgical Masks**

*Donation is part of a purchase of 30,000 surgical masks for frontline healthcare*

FRESNO, CA - Today, 15,000 surgical masks were delivered to Clinica Sierra Vista to help healthcare workers on the frontline of the coronavirus crisis. The donation was part of the 30,000 surgical masks purchased through the Central Valley Community Foundation's (CVCF) COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund. The remaining masks will be delivered to four other clinics later in the week.

"A donation of this magnitude from the Central Valley Community Foundation is vitally important as our staff continues to test patients at multiple sites between Kern and Fresno counties," said Brian O. Harris, Chief Executive Officer of Clinica Sierra Vista. "Our nurses, doctors, and support staff are on the front lines of the battle against COVID-19, and personal protective gear-- like these masks - allow our employees to feel protected, as they put themselves in harm's way to protect our families."

Central Valley clinics rely on Personal Protective Equipment to keep workers and patients safe as they test dozens of people for COVID-19 daily. The number of cases is expected to increase in the next few weeks. To date, Clinica Sierra Vista has tested nearly 600-CSV patients and tracked 32 positive cases.

"Our priority is making sure that frontline healthcare workers have the support they need to protect not only themselves, but their patients as well," said Hannah Johnson McAbee, Director of Local Philanthropy at CVCF. "This donation is possible because of the incredible support we have received from funders and local donors who realize that, together, they can make a difference during this crisis."

The COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund is made possible by individual gifts from local donors and with the support of The California Endowment, the James B. McClatchy Foundation, PG&E Corporation Foundation, the Sierra Health Foundation, CalWellness, Comcast, and Chevron. Individuals can contribute online at [www.centralvalleycf.org/donate](http://www.centralvalleycf.org/donate). 100% of individual contributions will be mobilized to support our community's most vulnerable people in three critical areas: food security, support for healthcare workers, and coordinated communication systems.

Founded in 1966, the Central Valley Community Foundation (CVCF) is a trusted community partner in California's Central Valley. Our mission is to cultivate smart philanthropy, lead, and invest in solutions that build stronger communities. Our service area includes 2 million people living in six counties: Merced, Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, and Kings. CVCF attracts investment and deploys resources to solve persistent economic, environmental, and social challenges in four key areas: education, economic development, environmental stewardship, and neighborhood renewal.

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