

AMAZING PEOPLE DOING AMAZING THINGS

This forum is designed to highlight *amazing efforts* by staff during our Covid-19 response, including the exceptional care and support that is being provided to our patients, community, and each other.

The following was submitted by Loree Hazard, Director, Health Systems Planning



Pictured from left: **Loree Hazard, Claudette Lavigne, Leslie Varrelman, Linda MacDougall, Deb Ryan, Joanne Connolly.**

Several weeks ago, as part of our organizational preparedness for the current public health crisis, our Coronavirus Preparedness Team identified a critical need for obtaining personal protective equipment (PPE) for the safety of our staff. Our department, Health Systems Planning, Advancement Operations, and the Hospital Help Center, was compelled to help. My team, **Claudette Lavigne, Leslie Varrelman, Linda MacDougall, Deb Ryan, and Joanne Connolly**, set out to centralize requests for PPE donations from businesses and the community.

We made calls to more than 600 businesses in our region, particularly those who use PPE in their work processes, asking for their support through donations of PPE. We identified online sources as well, which yielded numerous donations. Some of the searches also brought us down roads we never expected, to businesses that had transformed their manufacturing processes to produce PPE for health care workers. At each turn the responses we received were overwhelmingly positive. Everyone wanted to help! We developed relationships and made new friends – and soon the donations began pouring in.

We are grateful to those in our community who are sewing masks using donated material from Foss Manufacturing in Hampton; for donations of face shields made by Monster Troupe in Portsmouth and Alene Candles in Milford; to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard that is manufacturing face shields and intubation boxes for donating; to several local distilleries that are making and donating hand sanitizer, and to Great Bay Community College for donating a truckload of PPE. We also want to thank **Rong Wang**, AuD, Core Audiology & Otolaryngology, for helping us obtain over 1,000 masks and other PPE items from a Chinese Temple. We wish we could mention everyone who is supporting our organization, but the list is endless!

We continue to receive generous donations on a daily basis to our drop-off locations at the Hampton Inn on Portsmouth Ave in Exeter, and Stratham BMW on Portsmouth Ave in Stratham. We have partnered with **Colin Laverty**, Project Manager, Facilities, who has been quite the hero -- picking up the donations and bringing them back to the Hospital campus where they are catalogued and stored. We also have been working closely with **Judy Fisk**, Senior Secretary, Materials Management, who has helped coordinate the pick-up and drop-off efforts.

In addition to procuring these donations, our team has also vetted over 100 sources for purchasing PPE, and has provided that information to our Materials Management and Purchasing team -- **Dwayne Bowen, Mike Luba, Wayne Stevens, and John Kern**. These sources came from our employees and the community, and we very much appreciate the leads. Our team continues to vet additional PPE sources as well.

The donations and team work has been quite amazing! We are in awe of the compassion, generosity, and desire to help that has been shown by local businesses, our community, and those throughout the seacoast region. The process has been extremely rewarding and is a true testament to what we can achieve working *together as one*.