

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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United Way
of Central Oklahoma

NewView Oklahoma and United Way of Central Oklahoma team up to provide PPE for partner agencies

Oklahoma City, OK (June 8, 2020) – As Oklahoma City reopens for business amid the COVID-19 pandemic, many nonprofits are struggling to find the personal protective equipment (PPE) necessary to safely serve their clients. Thanks to the United Way of Central Oklahoma’s COVID-19 Response Fund and its partner agency NewView Oklahoma, all 73 United Way partner agencies in central Oklahoma, Canadian and Logan counties have access to the PPE they need, including gloves, masks, sanitizer, infrared thermometers and more.

United Way of Central Oklahoma president and CEO Debby Hampton said she first realized the dire need for PPE after visiting a United Way partner agency that was distributing food and other resources in the middle of the coronavirus pandemic. After learning the organization was running out of masks and gloves and unable to find large quantities of the supplies, she found herself in the parking lot, calling anyone who might have access to PPE.

“The lack of access to adequate PPE is just one more challenge for our nonprofits while providing critical services to record numbers of clients,” Hampton said. “I knew United Way had to help.”

Thankfully, United Way agency NewView Oklahoma was already providing PPE to state and federal agencies and first responders, and had begun supplying new PPE products amidst the pandemic through its employment program for individuals who are blind and visually impaired.

“We’re uniquely set up to adapt to this crisis,” said Lauren Branch, NewView president and CEO. “We are honored to partner with United Way to provide PPE to fellow agencies. This is what being a United Way partner agency is really all about.”

Through the partnership, United Way of Central Oklahoma is funding \$83,000 of PPE through its COVID-19 Response Fund for partner agencies that have requested the supplies. Beginning June 9, New View will offer curbside pickup of PPE orders at their manufacturing facility for United Way partner agencies.

****MEDIA ALERT****

NEWVIEW AND UNITED WAY PROVIDE CURBSIDE PPE PICKUP FOR PARTNER AGENCIES

NewView will be providing curbside pickup for PPE for local United Way nonprofit partner agencies. Media are invited to attend, please contact Jana Steelman at 405-523-3534 or jsteelman@unitedwayokc.org to arrange.

When: 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Thursday, June 11

Where: NewView Oklahoma, 501 N Douglas Ave., Oklahoma City
(Pickup will occur at the main entrance on east side of facility)

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About NewView Oklahoma

NewView Oklahoma is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1949 with a mission to empower individuals facing vision loss, maximizing their opportunities to live life without limits through all stages of life. They achieve this mission through employment, low vision rehabilitation and community outreach. NewView Oklahoma is the leading employer of the blind and visually impaired individuals in Oklahoma and provides the only comprehensive low vision rehabilitative services in the state. Visit online at www.newviewoklahoma.org or follow on [Facebook](#) and on [Twitter](#).

About United Way of Central Oklahoma

United Way of Central Oklahoma researches human needs within the communities of central Oklahoma and directs resources to accountable health and human services agencies to meet those needs by improving the health, safety, education and economic well-being of its most vulnerable citizens. For more information about United Way of Central Oklahoma, please visit www.unitedwayokc.org or call (405) 236-8441.