

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Jeff Wardwell 831-759-1880

Hospital Foundation Delivers 5,000 Masks to Most Vulnerable Populations

SALINAS, CA, April 21, 2020 – The Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital Foundation delivered personal protective equipment to local community-based organizations to help protect frontline volunteers and the at-risk populations they serve.

Jeff Wardwell, Chief Philanthropy Officer of Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System and Tiffany DiTullio, Executive Director of Blue Zones Project Monterey County identified non-profit organizations with immediate need for earloop style masks. The Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital Foundation leveraged its affiliation with the Hospital to secure favorable pricing on 5,000 earloop masks and distribute today to six non-profit organizations.

“This is an incredible example of how the people of Monterey County continue to care for their community,” said Jeff Wardwell, Chief Philanthropy Officer at Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System. The opportunity our Foundation has been given to provide this level of direct impact would not be a reality without them. Our community volunteers and our most at-risk populations will be safer because of their commitment. “

Distribution was as follows:

- Dorothy’s Place (2000)
- Salvation Army (500)
- Meals on Wheels (500)
- Alliance on Aging (500)
- YMCA (200)
- ITN (100)

SVMH Foundation is encouraging its generous donors to give to the organization’s Greatest Needs Fund. Donations are being used to support efforts to keep dedicated volunteers and the people they serve safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. Blue Zones Project Monterey County was instrumental in identifying organizations most in need at this point in the pandemic.

“Aligning community partners in a way that elevates the good work being done in our community is an important focus of Blue Zones Project Monterey County,” said Blue Zones Project Monterey County Executive Director. Tiffany DiTullio. “When individuals have the opportunity to engage in their community, great things happen.”

The targeted give-away of 5,000 masks is the first of many direct impact projects the Foundation is spearheading to provide relief to those who need it most to support public safety during the crisis. <https://www.svmhfoundation.org>

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About Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System

Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System (SVMHS) is an integrated network of health care programs, services and facilities. At the core of the System is an acute care, public district hospital licensed for 263 beds. Several distinct specializations and programs at SVMHS include the Regional Heart Program, the Stanford Cardiac Surgery Program at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, the Comprehensive Cancer Center, a Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit operated in partnership with Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Joint Replacement Center, Regional Spine Center and Sleep Medicine Center. Salinas Valley Memorial features advanced imaging and diagnostic tools, including the Ryan Ranch Center for Advanced Diagnostic Imaging and the Nancy Ausonio Mammography Center. Salinas Valley Memorial employs more than 1,800 people; its medical staff includes more than 300 board-certified physicians across a range of specialties. For more information, visit www.svmh.com.