



HOCKING VALLEY  
Community Hospital

LEADING THE WAY TO A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

APRIL 17, 2020

# Weekly Update

## CDC Guidelines on cloth face masks



CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

CDC also advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure.

Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

The cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance.

### How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering

Cloth face coverings should:

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape

**Should cloth face coverings be washed or otherwise cleaned regularly? How regularly?**

## INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES OF THE WEEK

*"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, 'I used everything you gave me'."*

—Erma Bombeck

*"Get correct views of life, and learn to see the world in its true light. It will enable you to live pleasantly, to do good, and, when summoned away, to leave without regret."*

—Robert E. Lee

*"When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand."*

—Henri Nouwen

*"Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts."*

—Henri Frederic Amiel

## Direct to You: From Julie Grow

I don't have any news near as exciting as I shared last week. Unfortunately, we've been met



Julie Grow, CFO

with several roadblocks this week. There are several we made it over, a few we found another way around, and others that we are still working on. We continue to look for every funding opportunity we are eligible for and determine if they are a good fit for us.

**\$100 Billion Grant Fund** – As I mentioned last week, we received our disbursement for \$556,000 of the initial \$30 Billion. We still have not heard anything about when the other \$70 billion will be distributed or how. There continues to be speculation on how these funds will be split. One encouraging sign is that every article I've read from every healthcare organization, including the American Hospital Association, Ohio Hospital Association, and other major healthcare influences have all agreed that there will be a designated pool of funds earmarked for Critical Access Hospitals.

**Payroll Protection Loan** – This is one of the areas we have faced

roadblocks. While we have received the funds, there still has been no clarification as to whether we will qualify for the loan forgiveness. Because there is no guarantee that we will be able to convert these funds to a grant, we will have to be very cautious about how we use them. This will make the phases of the return to work process much smaller and will take longer, unfortunately. We are still pushing for clarification from the US Treasury and are hopeful it will be converted to a grant. It's just that numbers people like to be sure, so I don't want to overspend just in case we have to return the funds. If we get clarification during the eight week disbursement period, we will make adjustments to the plan to increase the benefit. Otherwise, we will go with the "plan for the worst, but hope for the best" approach.

**HCAP Distribution** – We did get a bit clearer of a guideline this week on when the funds will be dispersed. This is \$1.2 million and we will likely receive it in late May or early June.

**CAH Grant** – We still haven't heard much about this grant, only that we qualify, that it is for \$90,000, and that the Ohio Dept of Rural Health has

**DIRECT, PAGE 4**

## WE NEED YOU!

Responses to the 2020 Census help decide how billions of dollars in federal funds flow into communities each year for the next 10 years for critical services.



Census results affect planning and funding decisions for communities for critical public services including:

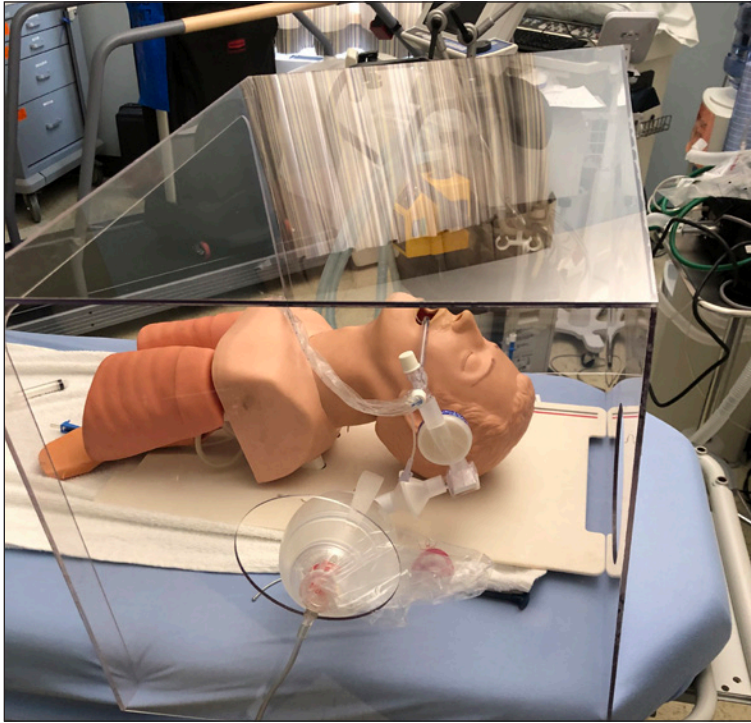
- Hospitals, health clinics, and health care services
- Emergency and disaster response, fire, and public safety services
- Schools, education programs, grants, and more
- Roads, bridges, and other public transit and infrastructure projects
- Businesses and economic development
- Housing services and programs for special populations
- Family and social services
- Water and waste management

### 3 Easy Ways to Respond

- By Phone – simply call toll free – 844-330-2020
- Online – [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov)
- Mail in your census form

HVCH Cafeteria Menu April 20-April 24				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Lasagna	Mush/Swiss		Chicken Fried	Battered Cod
Chicken	Burger		Steak	Chicken N'
Gingers	Veggie Burger	Taco & Fajita Bar	Macaroni & cheese	Noodles
Sweet Potato	Onion Rings	Nachos & Cheese	Mashed	Mashed
Fingers	Baked Beans	Corn	Potatoes	Potatoes
Cheese Stick	Broccoli	Black Beans	Cauliflower	Breaded
Brussels	Carrots	Spanish Rice	Green Beans	Zucchini
Sprouts	Tomato Soup	Chili Soup	Succotash	Broccoli
Garlic Bread			Tomato Soup	Minestrone
Broccoli Soup				Soup





## Preparing through simulation

A simulation lab has been set up in the Cardiac Stress room for providers and clinical staff to practice caring for a patient who might require intubation. There is a clear cover over the patient's head, which is meant to protect caregivers during the intubation process when exposure risk is at its highest. This simulation lab will help prepare staff for real-life emergencies, and save valuable time when it counts most.

## MASKS

Yes. They should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use.

### How does one safely sterilize/clean a cloth face covering?

A washing machine should suffice in properly washing a face covering.

### How does one safely remove a used cloth face covering?

Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their face covering and wash hands immediately after removing.

### Should I still stay 6 feet away from people while wearing a cloth face covering?

Yes. Wearing cloth face coverings is an additional public health measure people should take to reduce the spread of COVID-19. CDC still recommends that you stay at least 6 feet away from other people (social distancing), frequent hand cleaning and other everyday preventive actions. A cloth face covering is not intended to protect the wearer, but it may prevent the spread of virus from the wearer to others. This would be especially important if someone is infected but does not have symptoms.



## Unique visitors at HVCH

Patients at HVCH received a surprise Easter morning visit from alpacas, Hershey and Sy! Hershey and Sy are both males, Hershey being 2 years old and Sy 6 years of age. They are two different kinds of alpacas, one a Huacaya and the other Suri. They spent their Easter morning going room to room outside patient windows spreading some Easter cheer. We want to thank Dan & Cammie Starner and their children for taking the time to remember patients and staff at HVCH over the holiday weekend!

Later this week, miniature horses Whiskey and Jag, both 14 years old, also stopped by to see patients. We want to thank Hickory Ridge Farm, owner Karen Stalford, and staff - Amanda Thompson and Chrissy Rovers, for bringing the horses and spreading some cheer to our patients!



## DIRECT

applied for it on our behalf.

**Telehealth Grants** – There are 2 different telehealth grants we are exploring. We have already started collecting all of the current expenses incurred to get telehealth visits up and running, and we are now looking into other broader ways we can utilize telehealth in the future that would qualify under this opportunity.

**Rural Health Grant** – This is certainly one of frustration. This week we were made aware of a grant for rural hospitals that the Ohio Hospital Association (OHA) is responsible for distributing. The first tier of the grant is for \$28,000 and then you can apply for additional funds. Here's the interesting part... WE WERE NOT CLASSIFIED AS RURAL for the purposes of this grant by the Ohio Hospital Association! This means we do not qualify. Are you kidding me? We continue to push OHA to reconsider and are very disappointed that they did not recognize the flaw in their determination method. If nothing else, we will ask them to take a drive to the beautiful Hocking Hills... maybe that will make them realize there is nothing "urban" about the area in which we live. I am sure my frustration is showing through on this one. I will allow you to use your imaginations on the words and comments coming out of our mouths when we learned of this yesterday.

**BWC Rebate** – As I mentioned last week, the Governor approved a BWC rebate in the amount of our 2018 premiums. We should receive \$87,000 in the next 2-3 weeks.

**Accelerated Payment Program** – We have been

funded for our Accelerated Payment from Medicare. This was \$4 million. This is an interest free loan for 12 months. Our plan for this money is to keep it in our investment account earning interest income and to use it as an internal line of credit. For example, if we know we are getting the \$87,000 BWC rebate in May, but we would like to use the money sooner, we would "borrow" the \$87,000 from these funds and then replace them when the money is actually deposited into our account. This will allow us to have better control of cash flow and a backstop if it is needed on a short term basis. There is a push from the American Hospital Association to turn these funds into a grant rather than a loan.

**FEMA Grant** – We have filled out the initial paperwork for the FEMA funding and are in the process of gathering our qualified expenses. FEMA will reimburse up to 75% of costs associated with Covid-19 response.

I know that some of this isn't the news we would like and it seems like we always have to fight so much harder for every dollar that comes our way. But I assure you, the entire finance and Senior Leadership Team is doing everything possible to make sure we get the funding we deserve. I encourage you to reach out to anyone who will listen to share our story, to make sure everyone know the impact our hospital has on this community, our staff, and our patients. You are our biggest advocates. Together we are a voice that WILL be heard. Thank you for the difference you make!

## BRINGING HEALTHCARE TO YOU

Telehealth services available for family,  
pediatric & psychiatric patients

Avoid the waiting rooms and connect with a provider from the comfort of your home. Just call our providers' office and schedule an appointment.



HOCKING VALLEY  
Community Hospital

**We are accepting new patients!**

**Family Practice: 740-385-0202**

**Pediatrics: 740-385-3069**

**Psychiatry: 740-385-2197**







# HOCKING VALLEY Community Hospital

## OUR MISSION

*To provide our community an unparalleled patient experience through world class service that is both compassionate and professional.*

## OUR VISION

*To provide extraordinary care close to home now and into the future.*

HVCH is a critical-access hospital located in the city of Logan, Ohio, which serves residents in Hocking and surrounding counties. With more than 325 employees, our staff is here to serve the residents and visitors of our Hocking Valley community through various ancillary and emergency care services. HVCH is Joint Commission accredited, and we offer a wide range of primary, acute, and rehabilitative services. We are pleased to provide 24-hour emergency services to our patients through our ER and Urgent Care. Additionally, our surgical center, rehabilitation center, physical therapy clinic, pain control and wound clinic, imaging, laboratory, cardiovascular/cardiopulmonary, sleep clinic, geriatric psychiatric, and oncology services are also available. We are proud of our facility. HVCH is affiliated with OSUWMC, improving healthcare services to the Hocking and surrounding counties in the areas of general surgery and orthopaedics. HVCH also is a part of the Ohio State Health Network.