



News Release

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**CCH Not Accepting Homemade Mask Donations,
Accepting Manufactured Masks from Community Business Partners**

For Immediate Release

(COLUMBUS, Neb.) – Several community groups have started sewing and otherwise preparing homemade masks. Though Columbus Community Hospital appreciates this work, at this time, CCH is not accepting deliveries or drop-offs of homemade masks.

However, CCH is accepting donations of manufactured N95 and surgical masks from its community business partners.

CCH is also encouraging all community members to practice social distancing by avoiding all unnecessary social interactions and staying at least six feet away from others. All people who are sick or have had contact with someone with COVID-19 should self-quarantine by staying home and avoiding contact with others for 14 days.

If, and when, supplies and support such as homemade masks are needed, CCH will distribute public messaging asking for donations. Acceptable masks must be tightly woven cotton, preshrunk, and lined with flannel.

For general information about the coronavirus, call 211 or the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Information Line 402-552-6645 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. CST, 7 days a week.

Community members who have visited the travel areas of concern or believe they may have had contact with someone with coronavirus should call the East Central District Health Department 2019 Novel Coronavirus Hotline. For English, call: 402-562-8960. For Spanish, call: 402-562-8963.

Additional coronavirus information is available on the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html> and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services website: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>.

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