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COVID-19 PPE DISTRIBUTION THROUGH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS Organizations Received Supplies to Assist Clients and Community Members

STOCKTON, Calif. – On Monday, August 24, 2020, the City of Stockton distributed hundreds of cases of face coverings, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant spray to over 20 community-based organizations in just two hours. Participating community partners arrived at the Stockton Memorial Civic Auditorium in pickup trucks, delivery vans, and larger cargo trucks to gather PPE to help their clients and community members during the pandemic.

"Personal protective supplies are not always available or affordable for our residents," said Mayor Michael Tubbs. "The city has set aside some of our COVID-19 funds to ensure Stocktonians have access to PPE to help reduce the spread of this pandemic, which has disproportionately impacted our community."

Vice Mayor Wright agreed. "The data doesn't lie. There is a critical need to decrease the spread of COVID-19 in Stockton. Getting these supplies in the hands of front-line organizations in the Stockton community will aid in this effort."

The entire Council was at the distribution event to lend support and share their commitment to using CARES Act funding to directly benefit community members who need these supplies to manage through these difficult times.

"In these unprecedented times, I hope this City effort will offset some of the costs associated with keeping our community safe," shared Councilmember Christina Fugazi. "Protective gear and hand sanitizer play a critical role in stopping this virus in its tracks."

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Approximately \$220,000 in supplies – including over 140,000 masks, 2,062 eight-ounce bottles and over 180 gallons of hand sanitizer, and nearly 200 gallons of disinfectant spray – were provided to organizations that are in daily contact with community members who are receiving services or operating businesses under COVID-19 guidance. By providing these items directly into the hands of those who need the supplies the most, community members can focus on other essential household and business needs.

"Providing these PPE supplies to our community-based organizations to distribute to our community members will help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our City," stated Councilmember Susan Lenz.

Participating organizations include: African American Chamber of Commerce, APSARA,
Business Council San Joaquin County, Children's Home of Stockton, Downtown Stockton Alliance,
El Concilio, Gospel Center Rescue Mission, Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce, Haven of
Peace, Kelly's Angels Foundation, Miracle Mile Improvement District, NAACP Stockton Branch,
Office of Violence Prevention, San Joaquin Pride Center, San Joaquin County Hispanic Chamber of
Commerce, Second Harvest Food Bank, St. Mary's Dining Room, Stockton Shelter for the
Homeless, The Child Abuse Prevention Council, and Visit Stockton.

"I'm proud of the work we have done as a Council, together with city staff, to ensure these items go directly into the hands of residents by partnering with community-based organizations," said Councilmember Jesus Andrade. "I'm especially happy to see Latino-based organizations also participating, because the Latino community has been the hardest hit by COVID over the last several months. It's important we target all high-need communities in our city."

For more information and a video of the distribution event, please the <u>City of Stockton</u>

YouTube Channel @StocktonUpdates.

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