



For Immediate Release
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PPE Needs Met by COVID-19 Regional Response Team

70,000 masks delivered week of June 1 based on survey

(June 15, 2020) – Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) continues to be an urgent need for social service organizations across the region according to research conducted by the COVID-19 Regional Response Team (C19RRT). A survey of agencies received nearly 400 responses from St. Charles, St. Louis, Madison, and St. Clair counties and the City of St. Louis. An analysis of the data enabled the research team to prioritize PPE need based on an algorithm that considered the risk to the community being served and those serving, and an organization’s current access to PPE supplies.

A total of 58 organizations received 70,000 surgical masks and usage instructions in June courtesy of the C19RRT, with distribution occurring in partnership with PrepareSTL, the United Way of Greater St. Louis, and Power4STL, also known as “The T”. The [list](#) of organizations for this first distribution can be found on the “Resources” page of the group’s web site.

“The Regional Response Team is committed to addressing the needs of socially and medically vulnerable populations in the context of the current pandemic, and we’re happy to have been able to provide PPE for frontline service providers. Partnerships and relationships allowed this to happen, and more is to come,” explained Jason Q. Purnell, PhD, MPH, COVID-19 Regional Response Team Lead, Associate Professor in the Brown School and Director of Health Equity Works at Washington University in St. Louis.

Survey participants shared their needs for multiple types of resources. The graph shows needs as reported on the May survey. Additional findings from the survey are available at <https://c19rrt.org/research/>.

About the COVID-19 Regional Response Team
Formed in response to the global pandemic, the Regional Response Team seeks to create a coordinated regional system of response to meet the needs of our most socially and medically-vulnerable neighbors. Consisting of 215 people from more than 140 organizations, you can learn about the work by visiting [C19RRT.org](https://c19rrt.org).

Current Use of PPE vs Needed PPE by Social Service Organizations, May 2020

