

DEKALB COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT / DEKALB COUNTY HOMELAND SECURITY

Press Release: *Our Healthcare Workers and First Responders Need Masks*

4/5/2020

Many in our community have been asking us at the Health Department how they can be of help with our COVID-19 response. We are in need of cloth face masks for the healthcare workers and first responders in our area. We would like to reach out to local individuals, churches, sewing groups, etc., that would like to serve our community.

The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), which is part of Catholic Charities and the Homemakers Club working under the Purdue Extension, are partnering to provide kits to area residents to sew masks. If interested in picking up a kit (20 masks) or would like a mask pattern, call Catholic Charities (contact information and hours of operation are below).

These groups are currently in need of some supplies to furnish the kits. They need 1/8" – 1/4" elastic, 1/2" twill tape, biased tape, and sewing thread. If you would like to donate these items they can be dropped off at Catholic Charities.

Various types of mask patterns are also available on line. If you choose to use your own pattern and supplies, we ask that you use prewashed fabric. Some masks call for elastic and it is currently in short supply. If you choose to make tie masks, keep in mind that the ties are generally 18 inches long. Please remember that these masks will be used by both men and women and different sizes will be needed.

PLEASE DROP OFF ALL FINISHED MASKS at Catholic Charities at 107 West 5th Street, Auburn, IN 46706 Monday – Thursday 8 am – 4 pm. If possible, please call ahead 260-925-0917 to make sure of the availability of supplies or to get additional directives.

We appreciate the community support as we all work together unified.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark Souder, DeKalb County Health Officer
Cheryl Lynch, DeKalb County Health Department
Jason Meek, DeKalb County Homeland Security