



Humbled and inspired by community donations

And a word from Mister Rogers

“We’re all in this together” is so much more than a coronavirus rallying cry, as so many people are proving through caring acts and deeds. Nowhere is this more evident than in the donations made to Kaiser Permanente Southern California patients, physicians, and employees.



“Our commitment to the communities we serve underlies everything we do, it’s been inscribed in our mission since Kaiser Permanente began,” said John Yamamoto, VP, community health, government relations, and community engagement, Kaiser Permanente Southern California, Health Plan and Hospitals. “It’s always been a two-way street, but that’s never been more evident than now. Our hearts are warmed by the outpouring of donations that we are receiving.”

A few recent examples

- Our SEIU UHW labor partners have donated masks and are working with their business partners to switch their manufacturing to produce critical PPE.
- A robotics team in San Diego and a computer science teacher in Garden Grove are using 3D printers to make face shields for donation to Kaiser Permanente hospitals and others. The teacher, Eric Henninger, has turned his home into a mini factory for this labor of love, and is training others with 3D printers to do the same.
- EcoATM Gazelle, which reconditions pre-owned electronics, has donated hundreds of iPads to hospitals including Kaiser Permanente Ontario Medical Center. iPads have become a precious means of communication between patients and loved ones separated by social distancing.
- A local Denny’s delivered breakfast and lunch to the Woodland Hills Medical Center.
- The West Covina Unified School District donated 21,600 masks to Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center, part of the district’s emergency stockpiles. Baldwin Park also received generous PPE donations from the local school district and the Hope Center Foundation.

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- Major League Soccer's Los Angeles Football Club partnered with BODYARMOR, Clif Bar, and Old Spice to hand out 8,000 bottles of sports drinks, 50,000 bars and gels, and 1,000 personal-hygiene kits to staff and patients at Kaiser Permanente and other groups.
- de Toledo High School donated thousands of much-needed N95 masks to Kaiser Permanente Woodland Hills Medical Center from an unused stash procured for wildfire smoke protection in 2019. [Story here](#).
- Deliveries from local Subway® outlets and pizza parlors are a welcome sight at numerous Kaiser Permanente Southern California medical centers.
- Perhaps most heartwarming are the children's hand-drawn artworks. These life-affirming cards of gratitude and hero recognition are often shuttled to KP facilities with parents, to be shared with entire departments. We will soon be introducing a program for medical centers to share this idea.

Grateful isn't a strong enough word

"These humbling, inspiring demonstrations of care truly motivate our people during this extraordinarily demanding time. Grateful just isn't a strong enough word," continued Yamamoto, "but on behalf of all Kaiser Permanente Southern California physicians and employees, I extend my most heartfelt thanks to all who have given so generously."

As Mister Rogers said

As Mister Rogers said, in times of trouble, "Look for the helpers." We don't have to look far. They are all throughout our Southern California neighborhood.