



For Immediate Release

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Rotary Club of Long Beach Distributes 3,755 Face Shields to Long Beach Skilled Nursing Centers and Other Local Frontline COVID-19 Workers

Long Beach, CA – Today, at the Long Beach Yacht Club, a team of Rotarians led by Rotary Club of Long Beach President Mollie Beck distributed 3,722 Face Shields to four organizations. The medically approved face shields were assembled by Rotarians participating in “Project Shield”, a Rotary District 5320 effort to provide frontline COVID-19 workers with much needed personal protection equipment. The face shields were distributed as follows:

- 3,532 to Wil Williams, President of the Long Beach/ South Bay Chapter of the California Association of Healthcare Facilities to be distributed to Long Beach Skilled Nursing Centers
- 100 to the Rotary Club of Los Alamitos/ Seal Beach for distribution to others on the front line
- 50 to Don Rodriguez, CEO of Boys and Girls Clubs of Long Beach, for childcare staff caring for children of essential workers
- 40 to Rhiannon Acree, CEO/President of Cambrian Homecare, for personnel who are caring for recently discharged COVID-19 positive patients

“Long Beach Rotarians appreciated the opportunity to help frontline COVID-19 workers who have been working tirelessly,” said Rotary President Mollie Beck. “Members of our Club donated over \$7,000 to purchase face shield components, then they assembled them here at the Long Beach Yacht Club,” said Beck.

Accepting 3,532 face shields on behalf of the Long Beach/ South Bay Chapter of the California Association of Healthcare Facilities, Wil Williams said, "Skilled nursing facilities have carried a significant burden of caring for at-risk patients during the pandemic crisis and their employees have been dedicated to taking care of the most vulnerable patients. This generous donation from the Rotary Club of Long Beach will help keep the staff and residents of the 24 Skilled Nursing Facilities in Long Beach safe and we are grateful for their support."

Joining Rotary President Mollie Beck were Steve Hockett and Tina Berry who headed up the Club's project. Under their leadership, over 45 Rotarians gathered in a special workshop setting provided by Long Beach Yacht Club General Manager Bret Coad. Work parties assembled the face shields in a safe socially-distance environment.

BACKGROUND:

Project Shield

In response to urgent medical community needs for personal protection equipment (PPE), 1,700 members of the 48 Rotary Clubs in Rotary District 5320 purchased, assembled, and are distributing medically approved face shields throughout Southern California. As of May 4, district-wide funds have been raised for assembly of 65,000 + face shields.

Faces Shield Assembly in Long Beach

Over 45 Long Beach Rotarians and friends assembled face shields over several sessions at various sites in Southern California following social distancing guidelines set forth by Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia and the Long Beach Health Department. Assembly sessions were organized and conducted at all times with volunteer safety in mind. Volunteers were scheduled for specific work party times and volunteer attendance was limited to ensure appropriate assembly station distances.

Funding

As of May 4, members and friends of the Rotary Club of Long Beach have donated \$7,444 for the purchase of 3,722 face shields.

Face Shields

A local medical materials supplier made face shield kits available to Rotarians at cost, \$2 each. The face shields are lightweight, medically approved, and manufactured in Ontario, California, for use in medical and senior care facilities.

The Rotary Club of Long Beach is the oldest service club in Long Beach, the largest Rotary Club in District 5320, and among the top 50 in the world. The Rotary Club of Long Beach is comprised of approximately 300 Long Beach business and community leaders whose motto is "Service Above Self".

Current President, Mollie Bennet Beck, is the 103rd President of the Rotary Club of Long Beach.

For more information about the Rotary Club of Long Beach: www.rotarylongbeach.org