



DHS News

Newsletter of the Allegheny County
Department of Human Services



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DHS partners with United Way to distribute masks

Thanks to a partnership with United Way, DHS has recently begun distributing four cloth masks to every client household. The masks have been purchased using CARES funds.

Approximately 25% of the 250,000 masks will be mailed directly to client homes in a package that also includes an informational card detailing the importance of wearing a mask and a resource card encouraging clients to contact United Way/PA 2-1-1 Southwest for human service needs. Both cards are translated into Spanish on the reverse side. These packages are being assembled and mailed by Life'sWork PA, a nonprofit organization that offers meaningful employment to people with disabilities.

The remaining masks will be distributed at several sites around the County, including family centers, the housing authority and senior centers.

"It's part of our mission at DHS to protect the most vulnerable citizens of Allegheny County. We felt that it was important to supply masks to as many of our clients as possible, and to get the word out about all the resources and services available through United Way and Allegheny County," said Scott Hemphill, chief operating officer. "We are all facing an unprecedented situation with the current pandemic, and that can be quite scary. We want to ensure people know where to turn to get help, and to give people the tools necessary to help our communities stay safe and healthy."