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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hamilton County Distributes PPE for Essential Heroes in Over 300 Organizations

HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO – Protecting and supporting first responders, healthcare providers, and human service workers is of the utmost importance to Hamilton County leadership, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. After receiving much-needed personal protective equipment (PPE) from various sources, including the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), the State of Ohio, and items generously donated from local businesses and residents, it was evident to Hamilton County leaders that more needed to be done to secure the necessary PPE for our local heroes on the frontlines of COVID-19.

To supplement the need for additional resources, Hamilton County leadership, including Administration, Hamilton County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (EMHSA), the Purchasing Department, and support from Hamilton County Public Health, took swift and decisive action to spend a portion of Hamilton County’s allotment of CARES Act funding directly on the purchase of PPE.

To date, Hamilton County **has committed \$1,750,000** of CARES Act funding to procure enough PPE to fulfill **675 orders for use by 342 different organizations** providing essential services to the public. Items that have been received and/or purchased include: N95 masks, surgical masks, cleaning supplies, thermometers, eye protection, gloves, etc. Because distribution of these resources requires much effort and organization, EMHSA has established a long-term operating plan for the continued distribution of PPE materials through the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as moving forward in preparation for a potential future COVID-19 resurgence.

Nick Crossley, Director of Hamilton County EMHSA, says of this effort, “We are proud to be part of a system that is able to provide critical supplies in this unique crisis to our communities, healthcare providers, community nonprofits, congregate care facilities and our most vulnerable populations.”

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