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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**LOCAL CHAMBERS DISTRIBUTING THOUSANDS OF MASKS TO BUTTE COUNTY BUSINESSES**

*The Chico, Oroville, Paradise and Gridley Chambers of Commerce are doing a massive mask giveaway to local businesses to help Butte County employees and shoppers stay safe!*

Chico, CA June 11, 2020 – Local businesses are opening up across Butte County and the use of masks is a key strategy for moving forward safely and wisely to minimize the spread of COVID-19. The North Valley Community Foundation, Feather River Health Foundation and all four Chambers of Commerce in Butte County have teamed up to offer businesses a way to encourage every member of the community to participate and keep the number of cases low.

Local business owners are required to follow state and local regulations to keep their employees safe, and the goal of this mask giveaway is to help make that happen. Masks will be given away to businesses so that they have them on hand to provide to customers who don't have one.

The masks were purchased by North Valley Community Foundation and Feather River Health Foundation. They were purchased from new local business [Salus Supply](#). Salus Masks are non-medical, source control face masks and are reusable and washable. The message that NVCF, Feather River Health Foundation and the local Chambers are trying to get across to the community is that *"I wear a mask to protect you, and you wear a mask to protect me."*

*"Wearing a face covering decreases COVID-19 transmission, protecting all of us and all of our local businesses. It is especially important to protect business employees as they are in direct contact with the public,"* stated Dr. Andy Miller, Butte County Public Health Officer.

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A Public Service Announcement about this program highlights business owners from Chico, Oroville and Paradise, along with members of Butte County Public Health encouraging the use of masks by all Butte County Residents.

While we all know intellectually that wearing masks is a key part of keeping everyone safe, making it a normal part of the plan every day is not always easy. The partners involved in this project want to help remove at least one of the challenges that can come with requiring employees and customers to wear masks.

The plan for distribution to businesses is first come, first served:

- Date: Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>
- Time: 2-4 p.m.
- Location: Chico Chamber, Oroville Chamber, Gridley Chamber, Paradise Chamber
- CURBSIDE PICKUP

According to the company's website, Salus non-medical, source control face masks are authorized by the FDA under an Emergency Use Authorization for use as source control by members of the general public as well as health care professionals in healthcare settings to help prevent the spread of infection or illness during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NVCF has distributed nearly \$900,000 in grants for coronavirus relief in Butte, Glenn, Tehama and Colusa counties. For more information on the NVCF's Coronavirus Rapid Response Fund or to donate, see [www.nvcf.org/coronavirus-covid-19-rapid-response](http://www.nvcf.org/coronavirus-covid-19-rapid-response).

**Community Impact Partners:**

**Legacy:** Alleivity Employer Solutions, California Water Service, Golden Valley Bank, Half a Bubble Out, Orangetheory Fitness Sierra Nevada Brewing Company

**Visionary:** Alliance For Workforce Development, California State University, Chico, Chico Area Recreation Department (CARD), Comcast Business, Dutch Bros. Coffee, Enloe Medical Center, Five Star Bank, Healthy Solutions Insurance Services, LRT Marketing Graphics Solutions, Recology Butte Colusa Counties, Results Imagery, Slater & Son Inc., Stratti, Transfer Flow, Inc., Tri Counties Bank, and Waste Management

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