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Announcing New Members of C19 Coalition: A Cross-Sector Effort to Increase PPE Production and Distribution in the US

In March of this year, as the global COVID-19 pandemic took hold, the cross-sector C19 Coalition formed to help address the growing PPE shortage crisis.

By the following month, the group had grown to more than 20 organizations, companies, states, and philanthropists. At the end of April, C19 Coalition launched their <u>first round of public commitments</u>, as featured in the <u>Wall Street Journal</u>. The coalition's work has centered on three main goals:

- 1. Increasing the supply of PPE through both domestic production and international supply chains:
- 2. Enabling more accessible medical-grade PPE procurement for frontline healthcare organizations with non-profit bridge financing capital; and
- 3. Sharing data and intelligence to allow PPE supply chains to respond to demand.

Today, the coalition is proud to announce 16 new members who have made significant, ongoing commitments to the fight against COVID-19, helping to equip frontline medical workers and the general public with the PPE they need to return to work and flatten the curve.

As states reopen their economies, many regions are faced with rapidly growing COVID-19 case counts and record-high unemployment. C19 Coalition builds alliances across the vast PPE and medical supply landscape, enabling powerful collaborations to simultaneously protect public health and resume business operations. We believe PPE increases the safety of employees returning to work. We also believe we can accelerate these mutually beneficial goals through domestic PPE production, which boosts local markets while putting the country back to work in the immediate, medium, and long term.

In seeking to protect our workforces, we must take collective action to more broadly support communities suffering disproportionate impact from COVID-19 and systemic inequality, particularly in Black communities. Saving lives saves livelihoods. Together, we can use our platforms to amplify efforts assisting underserved and vulnerable communities, connect with organizations working in hard-hit regions, and raise awareness of local needs.

New coalition members include the following organizations. Full commitments can be found in detail on our <u>fact sheet</u>.

- Bella+Canvas
- California Manufacturers and Technology Association
- CoProcure
- Eagle Fabrics

- Flu Lab
- GovShop
- IBM
- Intel
- Kaas Tailored
- Masks4All
- Mission for Masks
- NationSwell
- One PPE Source
- SEKO Logistics
- SONA Development Group
- State of California

Jason Kelley, Blockchain Services General Manager, IBM said, "IBM Rapid Supplier Connect and the C-19 Coalition is a whole that is even greater than the sum of its parts. Our solution combines trustworthy verification of corporate identity with real time inventory visibility, both of which are lacking in the chaotic and brittle supply chain for critical goods. We are thrilled to be partnering with C-19, bringing new flexibility to supply chains, to help the public and private sector better work together to ensure supplies are routed to where they are needed most."

Pia Wilson-Body, **President**, **Intel Foundation said**, "At Intel, our purpose is to enrich the lives of every person on earth. That's why we are excited to appoint two Intel employees, one full-time project coordinator and one part-time product engineer, to help CMTA manage and source non-medical personal protective gear. We believe we are stronger together and we are honored to do our part to ensure a safe reopening of California through CMTA's innovative model."

Molly Dillon, Principal, C19 Coalition said, "Many regions of the country are only beginning to see the worst of COVID-19 infection rates. C19 Coalition is proud to continue to work to bring together the vast landscape of those creating PPE and other necessary supplies. At a time of record-high unemployment, we believe PPE is not only needed to allow Americans to go back to work safely, but domestic production of PPE can actually put Americans back to work in the immediate, medium, and long term."

Eric Ries, CEO, LTSE and Co-Founder, C19 Coalition said, "This virus declines linearly but grows exponentially. That is why C19's work is so important. We need PPE to make sure our frontline workers are safe and so we can continue the fight against COVID."

For any questions about the C19 Coalition, or if you are interested in joining, please contact molly@c19coalition.org or fill out this form.