

COVID-19 surges again in Arizona: How to help

Community invited to support health care workers on the front lines of the pandemic

PHOENIX (Dec. 4, 2020) – As COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations surge once again in Arizona, Banner Health's doctors, nurses and other health care professionals are working round the clock to care for patients and slow the spread in our communities. While Banner Health is well-prepared with hospital beds, ventilators, PPE, medical supplies and equipment, the health, well-being and availability of trained health care providers continues to be the top priority.

"Earlier this year, our communities stepped up in a significant way to support our COVID-19 Response, donating more than 100,000 face masks for patients and staff, medical supplies, PPE, messages of gratitude, car parades around the hospitals, chalk art on the sidewalks, and more," said Andy Kramer Petersen, President & CEO of the Banner Health Foundation. "All of these acts of generosity and selflessness, no matter how large or small, were so meaningful and deeply appreciated. Now, we are asking for the community's support once again, specifically for the heroes working tirelessly on the front lines for our patients." Here's how to help:

Respite Rooms for Health Care Workers

Hospital workers are experiencing PPE fatigue, ongoing discomfort and skin irritation related to the constant wearing of Personal Protective Equipment, along with physical and mental exhaustion and stress. To ease these challenges, Banner has created Respite Rooms in all 16 Arizona hospitals where team members can safely remove PPE and refuel, rest and recharge with stress-reducing activities. Charitable gifts and corporate sponsorships help furnish and stock these specially designated respite spaces within each hospital. Learn more about sponsoring a Respite Room by emailing Rebecca.Simpson@BannerHealth.com.

Feeding Our Frontlines

With staffing shortages and increasing patient numbers, frontline workers often do not have time to leave their unit for a meal during their shift. You can support the purchase of pre-packaged meals available on-site to provide nourishment and convenience as they continue caring for patients, and remind them how much the community appreciates their work.

Supporting Our Staff (SOS): Crisis Assistance Fund

The Supporting Our Staff (SOS) Fund provides financial assistance to Banner Health employees experiencing financial hardship such as eviction or foreclosure, utility shut-off, loss of income due to missed work, unexpected childcare expenses, and more.

Coronavirus: COVID-19 Response Fund

As the pandemic continues, it is critically important that Banner Health has a ready source of flexible funding to address a variety of ever-changing needs related to COVID-19 across the health care system, today and in the future. These needs may include protective equipment and new safety protocols, COVID-19 testing, research and treatment options, patient support, and other resources to address the threats of this rapidly changing pandemic.

To support one or more of these needs with a tax-deductible gift, visit <http://give.bannerhealth.com/coronavirus>. 100% of your donation goes to your chosen program(s) via the Banner Health Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit (Tax ID: 94-2545356).

Established in 2001, the Banner Health Foundation engages the community and stewards charitable contributions to advance Banner Health's nonprofit mission of **making health care easier so life can be better**. Contributions are invested locally to support patient care programs and services operated by Banner's many hospitals and health care facilities across Arizona. For more information, please visit www.bannerhealthfoundation.org.

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For further information: media@bannerhealth.com

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