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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VisionCorps Begins Face Mask Production for Use During Pandemic; Awarded State and Local Orders

(Lancaster, PA.) June 3, 2020 – VisionCorps is now producing non-surgical, reusable face masks to help during the COVID-19 pandemic, and has been awarded production orders and contracts by Lancaster County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

“We started looking at face mask production when it became clear that face masks were required and being used during the pandemic,” said Dennis Steiner, president and CEO of VisionCorps. “We already had a sewing production line and were able to transition and ramp up quickly to begin producing masks. We are averaging around 400 masks a day now and expect to soon be producing about 2,500 each week.”

A recent order with Lancaster County calls for VisionCorps to produce 50,000 masks, said Steiner. The face masks are also available for purchase by Commonwealth of Pennsylvania agencies and entities, and VisionCorps is one of the few mask producers listed on [UniqueSource](#), the required sourcing for products and services purchased and used by state departments and agencies. VisionCorps is completing state contracts for masks, and expects additional business opportunities.

“Our masks are made of cloth and elastic and can be washed and reused. They meet mask specifications put out by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) guidelines,” said Steiner.

The new face mask production is part of the VisionCorps’ Enterprise Group (EG) production lines, creating employment opportunities primarily for individuals who are blind or vision impaired. The EG business lines also help fund services for people who are blind or vision impaired in Lancaster, Chester, Lebanon, York and Adams Counties.

VisionCorps’ mask production line partnered with Dutchware, a local company, in a new collaboration to cut out the patterns for the face masks.

“We are happy to partner with Dutchware,” said Steiner. “We send them rolls of material and they use their laser cutters and stacking equipment to cut out mask patterns. We just received 22,000 squares of material back from Dutchware which we will use to make 11,000 masks.”

Nonprofits and other tax-exempt groups are invited to contact VisionCorps at orders@visioncorps.net to purchase face masks. The masks are available in packs of 50 and can be purchased through the [Commonwealth's UniqueSource website](#). Organizations who need smaller quantities may be interested in working with another group and sharing the face masks.

About VisionCorps

[VisionCorps](#) serves more than 2,000 individuals who are blind or vision impaired in Lancaster, Lebanon, York, Adams and Chester counties, through rehabilitation services and/or employment opportunities. The Enterprise Group focuses on employing people who are blind in manufacturing, food processing and administrative services. [VisionCorps Foundation](#), the fundraising arm of VisionCorps, provides grants, scholarships, and program support for people with vision loss. VisionCorps also partners with Pennsylvania Vision Foundation to facilitate access to free vision exams and basic frames and lenses for low-income families. VisionCorps also houses The Steinman Eye Clinic, home to [Yealy Eye Care of Lancaster](#), providing diagnostic eye care services at a need-based minimal charge.

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