



BCS Community Alliance (BCSCA) Delivers Over One Hundred Thousand Dollars in Medical Equipment and Supplies

- **Two months after starting activities, the 15 health institutions that have asked for support have received equipment and supplies.**
- **As the pandemic progresses the needs of frontline medical personnel and health institutions continue.**

Los Cabos, BCS. June 27, 2020 – The Baja California Sur Community Alliance (BCSCA) continues with its commitment to provide PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) for frontline health personnel and supply supplemental medical resources to manage the COVID-19 pandemic in Baja California Sur. As of June 15, just over two months after the activities of the Alliance (BCSCA) began, \$100,000 dollars in equipment and medical supplies have been delivered to the 15 institutions that have requested support; including the Red Cross in Los Cabos and La Paz, the hospitals assigned to COVID treatment by the BCS Health Secretariat, and the public health care hospitals and clinics of IMSS and ISSSTE, and naval installations.

Since its founding, the Alliance (BCSCA) established that a third of its fundraising goal would be allocated to provide complementary medical aid, supplementing the needs of the health institutions responsible for managing the pandemic. Marisa Comella, member of the Alliance (BCSCA) council, comments that “initially the focus was on ensuring that frontline personnel dealing with COVID patients had the necessary PPE to carry out their tasks safely.”

The logistical effort for the procurement of personal protective equipment has been titanic since there is a great demand for this type of articles worldwide and the geographical location of Baja California Sur requires both import and delivery efforts, in addition to the complexity of finding the necessary items with specific characteristics for use in health institutions treating COVID patients. The most complicated and expensive to source have been overalls and N95 masks, Comella said.

In these two months of work, more than 115 thousand pieces of N95 respirators, double and triple layer facemasks, surgical coats and gowns, nitrile and latex gloves, safety glasses and goggles have been delivered; as well as antibacterial gel and other sanitation supplies. In addition to this, the Alliance has ordered more than \$350,000 dollars of new equipment, including testing supplies and hardware, which is of great importance as the economy in BCS reopens and mobility increases.

The Alliance's commitment is to continue supplementing the needs of the health sector in BCS during this pandemic, adjusting the approach according to the evolution of this crisis. Initially the priority was the supply of protective equipment, as things have evolved, now there is a need for equipment to perform COVID screening tests. The members of the Alliance (BCSCA) continually work to respond in a timely and transparent manner to the requests they receive from the health institutions across the state and plan a coordinated strategy to respond to the challenges that this health crisis represents for our community.



ABOUT BCSCA: The Baja California Sur Community Alliance (BCSCA) is a coalition of 191 philanthropic and assistance organizations, and private companies, working in coordination with state and municipal authorities and the armed forces form the state's safety board. The BCSCA is a citizens' initiative without any affiliation to political parties, that is formed in response to the crisis caused by the effects of the presence of COVID-19 in our state and addresses the needs of equipment and supplies for health institutions and the food crisis that affects thousands of families in BCS.

The BCSCA has three main goals:

1. That all people in BCS to have enough food during the COVID-19 crisis.
2. To help provide equipment for frontline health personnel to manage the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. To be a permanent support network that may be activated during future emergencies.

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