



March 30, 2020

To: All Healthcare Employers under Local 2013  
Collective Bargaining Agreements,

We are hearing from members throughout the industry that they are not being given adequate supplies of the proper PPE in facilities where exposure is clearly happening and that the essentials like face mask; gloves; gowns are in extremely short supply. We have also heard that in a few facilities, the supply of essential PPE is being stored in locked supervisor's offices who are not at work and that in some cases the workers who need this PPE the most are unable to get sufficient new supplies.

We urge you to make certain you have adequate supplies of the necessary PPE to protect your workforce – our members; we also urge you to make absolutely certain that this PPE is in a place where it is readily available at ALL times to the workers on the frontlines – they are caring for the patients who in many cases either have already been exposed to COVID19 or in fact have symptoms or full blown case of COVID19.

The health care workers are the frontline to fighting this virus and if they become sick themselves due to exposure, due to a lack of the proper PPE, who will be available to care for the patients??? As blunt as it may seem – if the caregivers die from this disease – we all die from it! Stay ahead of the crisis by making certain the caregivers has the PPE they need.

We also continue to urge you to recognize their sacrifices and to implement an "Exposure / Hazard Premium" for any facility that has not done so; these caregivers ARE "Essential Workers – First Responders"... they should be properly compensated for the risk they take on to themselves and by extension, the risk to their families. We urge you to increase their pay rates during this pandemic crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis Mark Carotenuto", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Louis Mark Carotenuto, President  
UFCW Local 2013

**Louis Mark Carotenuto, President**  
**Eugene Hickey, Secretary Treasurer**  
**Marietta Real, Recorder**

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