Dear Friends,

Today, I joined three Vietnamese organizations to donate medical supplies to the Valley Medical Center Foundation -- Viet Tu Te Charity, Di Lac Temple and Viet Bay TV.

The organizations donated 1,000 N95 masks and 15,000 pairs of gloves to the VMC Foundation Headquarters in San Jose. The supplies will be distributed for use among health care workers in Santa Clara County hospitals.

I continue to be overwhelmed by the generosity of organizations and residents who are looking out for all those on the frontline of battling COVID-19 in hospitals and long-term care facilities. We need to take care of their needs so they can take care of those who are suffering with this virus.

The VMC Foundation supports the County’s Health System, the largest provider of health services to vulnerable populations in our region. And during this pandemic, the VMC Foundation has been requesting financial donations but also donations of medical supplies.

The Foundation is currently accepting NEW supplies for use by hospital staff, including N95 masks, surgical masks, face shields, gowns, disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizer and other items. To see a complete list, click here.

If you’d like to make a donation, you can also call my office at 408-299-5030 or email me at dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org.

Our office is also collecting monetary donations. To support our frontline heroes fighting COVID-19, donate at this link: https://tinyurl.com/SCCHealthcareWorkers.
Coronavirus Update

The Public Health Department will release new data today about race and ethnicity of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Santa Clara County on its data dashboard. To keep up to date with information, visit the Public Health website.

As of April 23, 2020, there are 1987 confirmed cases and 95 confirmed deaths from COVID-19 in Santa Clara County.

In the News

Did you get a chance to see recent coverage of our work in your local news? Check out the below links for some recent updates:

Mercury News: Santa Clara County death data shows 20% increase in March, suggesting more coronavirus victims than previously known

CBS: Coronavirus Update: Santa Clara County Supervisor Says Coroner Has Been Undercounting Virus Deaths

Earth Day Conference with Global Leaders - Video

As we’re continually reminded, unless we take transformative action to cut greenhouse gas emissions, the global temperature rise since the Industrial Revolution will hit 1.5 centigrade, a previously unthinkable increase. Already as part of the first major effects of climate change, up to 200 species each day are going extinct, wildfires are destroying our western forests, and historic floods threaten the coasts. Let’s use the 50th anniversary of Earth Day to mark the beginning of the next environmental success story. I was humbled to serve on a panel of global climate leaders, including the President and CEO of the World Academy of Art and Science, Gary Jacobs, Sir David King, founder of the Centre for Climate Repair at Cambridge University, and Cardinal Peter Kodwo Turkson, former president of the Vatican’s Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. You can watch the discussion here.

Upcoming Town Halls Regarding COVID-19

Tune in to KSJX 1500AM Multicultural Radio Saturday, April 25 and Saturday, May 2 from 7 to 8 p.m. Call in to the station at 408-914-0183 to get your questions answered on air. You can also text my office at 408-480-7833 in case you aren’t able to connect to the station. We will be sure to answer every question that is texted to us. These Town Halls will be in English with a recorded Vietnamese translation available upon request.
You can also join me on VietBay TV for an Online Town Hall that will be streaming on multiple platforms. The live discussion can be streamed on Saturday, April 25 and Saturday, May 2, and Saturday May 9, from 3 to 4 p.m. at youtube.com/vietbaytvkaxt and facebook.com/vietbaytv. Call in and ask your questions at 408-287-3587 or text my office at 408-480-7833.

Please join me for my Weekly Radio Town Hall series on Wednesdays focused on answering your questions about COVID-19 and what the County is doing to help residents. Tune in to KCXU 92.7 FM Wednesday, April 29, and Wednesday, May 6, from 6 to 7 p.m. Call in to the station at 408-634-8086 to get your questions answered on air. You can also text my office at 408-480-7833 in case you aren’t able to have your call connected to the radio station. We will be sure to answer every question that is texted to us.

These town halls will be in English with a recorded Spanish translation available upon request. The radio station gets coverage in the following neighborhoods: Alviso, North San Jose, Alum Rock, Little Portugal, Japantown, Downtown, Little Italy, The Alameda, Rose Garden, Santana Row, Willow Glen, Little Saigon, Evergreen, and Naglee.

For those who want to participate who do not live in these neighborhoods, you can access the live stream of this show as well as the recorded show later at this link: https://www.spreaker.com/show/santa-clara-county-radio-town-halls.

**Support Local Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The Silicon Valley Community Foundation, in partnership with the San Mateo County and Santa Clara County Office of Education, has established the COVID-19 Education Partnership, an initiative to support the needs of our local county offices of education and school districts through this unprecedented crisis.

Funding will expand the capacity of local school districts and the County Offices of Education to address immediate challenges and long-term recovery efforts related to COVID-19, including programs such as social and emotional health and wellness supports for students, distance learning support, emergency childcare centers, and family engagement strategies.

See the press release announcing this initiative here. To donate, click here.

**Update on My Plans to Support Foster Youth**

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors approved moving forward with my pilot program which would be the first in the nation to target the foster youth population with universal basic income. Under this pilot program, young people transitioning out of the foster care system in Santa Clara County, those of 21 years old and up to 24 years old, would receive unconditional cash payments of $1,000 a month from the period of June 2020 through May 2021. Foster youth in our County face unique obstacles and challenges, with a disproportionate amount experiencing homelessness, poverty, and multiple chronic health conditions. These discrepancies have only been exacerbated by our current health pandemic. This program will give foster youth the tools they need to be successful to help them achieve parity in education, employment and income.

**The YWCA Needs Volunteers**

The YWCA needs volunteers to fill important roles as it continues to help the community during the Shelter in Place. Roles include a community resource volunteer, support group volunteer, social justice volunteer, philanthropy volunteer, training volunteer and support line volunteer. For more information, contact David Giannini, Community Resource Manager at 408-295-4011 x3610 or visit www.ywca-sv.org.

For questions, you can call my office at 408-299-5030 or email me at dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org.
Stay safe,

Dave Cortese
County Supervisor, Third District

Click here to manage your communication preferences