

SENT ON BEHALF OF SACHI A. HAMAI, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

To all employees:

As we enter the latest phase of the COVID-19 crisis, our Los Angeles County workforce continues to shine. Every day you are stepping into new roles as disaster service workers, serving on the frontlines as first responders, and keeping vital services operating.

I continue to be amazed and impressed—but not surprised—by the County family’s can-do spirit in the face of this pandemic. Your selfless devotion to public service has always been part of what drives us as a County, and I couldn’t be prouder of all you have already accomplished.

At the same time, I am also deeply saddened that our County family has lost two of our own to COVID-19. One employee worked in the Internal Services Department and the other in Correctional Health Services. These losses hit us hard, and I’d like to extend my sincere condolences to their loved ones and colleagues at this difficult time.

As our County family mourns the loss of these colleagues, we join 296 other families in Los Angeles County who have also lost loved ones, and thousands more who have been infected, including members of our workforce.

Unfortunately, we know that many other families will suffer losses and illness before this pandemic has run its course.

That’s why it’s so important for all of us—on the job and in our personal lives—to pay close attention to the Safer at Home orders issued by our Health Officer. As you may be aware, the Safer at Home directives have been [extended through May 15](#), and there is a new requirement that essential workers—including County employees—wear [cloth face coverings](#) when we interact with each other or the public on the job. This requirement takes effect on Wednesday, April 15.

To facilitate compliance and safeguard our employees’ health, we’ve ordered cloth face coverings for our County workforce. Employees should work through their department managers to receive these supplies. (Please be aware that these cloth face coverings are not the same as N95 respirators and surgical masks; it’s very important that those resources be reserved for our healthcare staff and workers who provide care to people who might have COVID-19 or other communicable diseases.)

The Health Officer’s orders are intended to keep us focused on doing what it takes to save lives in Los Angeles County. We know that our [physical distancing efforts are paying off](#), so please—let’s stick with it and stay Safer at Home, for the sake of ourselves, our loved ones and our communities.

This is not an easy time for any of us in L.A. County. To make things a little easier, I’d like to call your attention to a wonderful program that the Department of Mental Health is making

available to all County employees, free of charge, to help manage the stress so many of us are experiencing.

It's called Headspace. It's a digital platform with more than 1,000 hours of guided, educational content to promote mindfulness, relaxation, empathy, restful sleep and overall wellbeing. County employees can [enroll here](#) for a free Headspace subscription. If you have any questions, please refer to [these FAQs](#) or email Headspace at teamsupport@headspace.com.

I hope you will make some time to care for yourself, your family, your friends and your neighbors every single day, as we work through this crisis together. A little kindness goes a long way.

With respect and admiration,

Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles County