

Podiatrist Campaigns for PPE for Healthcare Workers at NYC Hospitals



Reem Sheikh, DPM, an attending podiatrist at NYC’s Harlem, Lincoln and Metropolitan Hospitals, and surgery faculty at NYCPM, became concerned about possible shortages of PPE at the hospitals, and the young mother turned to her source of support – Facebook mom groups – for help. Posting on a Friday night at midnight, her pleas for masks, goggles, and face shields immediately resulted in donations of 40 pair of goggles and 300 masks, all hospital-grade; she brought them directly to the hospital.

She’s continued her pleas and now has a team of volunteers, which has started a GoFundMe campaign that’s raised over \$17,000 to date. She and the team vet products and buy only certified US hospital-grade protective gear that she distributes to her colleagues, and for which the providers are very grateful. It’s a stressful situation – all the healthcare providers are doing “everything,” she says. Attendings, PAs, residents, and nurses are all on the front lines. People can help by going to the GoFundMe page, Emergency Relief for NYC Doctors (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/1y7pdjv99c>). As for Dr. Sheikh, she is humbled by the response: “Moms get things done.”

Watch coverage of her story originally broadcast on CBSN.
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jur0Bsu0Ae0>)

Her story also appeared in Parade
(https://parade.com/1018377/nicolepajer/how-to-donate-ppe/?fbclid=IwAR0V75s7d6oKzQUPTecyw-GT9e-IOMHaKuU_tz0qa8X4smjCWH32mWXU8d68),

Podiatrist Campaigns for PPE for Healthcare Workers at NYC Hospitals, *cont'd*



Harlem Hospital workers show off the new masks they've received thanks to Reem Sheikh's efforts.

as well as the website at Des Moines University,

<https://www.dmu.edu/news/2020/04/ppe-crowdfunding-campaign-created-in-new-york-ny/?fbclid=IwAR2odHeoRce8XtFv3WCO1vd06kLZRtXVMgYZjpQL6g3M8JW6y-s0U5v-wYA>

Dr. Sheikh, an instructor in the NYCPM department of surgery, completed her residency at NYCPM and is a 2012 graduate of the DMU College of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery.