

Dear Partner,

We need your help. COVID-19 positivity rates and COVID-19 hospitalizations are higher than ever in our communities. We need to take action now to slow the spread to keep our communities safe, and to help relieve the pressure COVID-19 has placed on our health care workers and facilities.

We are asking our friends to do a few simple things to slow the spread that are recommended by the CDC and scientifically proven to work.

1. **Require masks in your organization.** Wearing face masks has been proven to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and reduce the number of hospitalizations and deaths. COVID-19 is spread by respiratory droplets – even from people with no symptoms. Masks stop these droplets before they reach others. We've created a [poster](#) you can use as-is or work with a printer to modify with your logo to help this effort.

We also have more in-depth education about:

- Why Wear A Mask - [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- How to Wear A Mask - [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- And a fun take on the Dos and Don'ts of Mask Wearing - [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

2. **Require social distancing.** This means asking people to stay more than 6 feet apart when entering your facility, managing traffic patterns within your facility, and avoiding gatherings of people beyond immediate family. If eating or drinking is involved, seating capacity should be reduced and tables should be spaced more than 6 feet apart. When combined with masking, social distancing can protect our communities and your workforce. You are welcome to distribute Avera's additional information about social distancing:

- Social Distancing Flier – [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

3. **Help us educate your community members about how to slow the spread of COVID-19.** Tell your families, your neighbors, your friends, and your business contacts to wear masks, socially distance, practice good hand hygiene, cover coughs and sneezes, to stay home when sick, and to avoid even small crowds beyond their immediate household.

This poster can be hung or distributed:

- Protect Yourself and Others Flier – [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

Our New Normal Business Toolkit (in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)) contains other helpful resources for our partners. For patients, we have created the New Normal Patient Toolkit (in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)), and continue to place resources on [avera.org/COVID-19](https://www.avera.org/COVID-19).

By uniting our voices, we can mitigate this pandemic once again. Please accept our humblest gratitude for helping with this urgent request.