



The Hospital Cooperative

500 South 11th Ave., Suite 503
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www.hospitalcooperative.org

For Immediate Release:

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Area Hospitals Support Mask Usage in the Communities

Mask Usage will help decrease COVID-19 transmission

The 17-member hospitals of The Hospital Cooperative (Co-op) have dedicated numerous hours caring for those affected by COVID-19. After observing the spread of COVID-19 in the region, it is clear that wearing a mask helps prevent the transmission of COVID-19 along with physical distancing and handwashing. **It is our position that everyone should wear a protective facemask when out in public, consistent with CDC guidelines.**

While our primary focus is health care, we are also community members who want to see our local economy and school districts thrive. We understand the significant hardship lockdowns have on local businesses, and the impact school closures have on our children and families. We want to avoid lockdowns and focus on practical solutions.

Masking has been proven to significantly slow the spread of COVID-19. It is as simple as that. The choice is ours; wear masks, slow the spread, keep businesses open and give our schools the best possible environment for re-opening, or do nothing while COVID-19 sweeps through our communities.

Researchers from hospitals, universities, the private sector, and government agencies have concluded that masks could be one of the most powerful and cost-effective tools to stop COVID-19 and accelerate the economic recovery. There is universal agreement, however, that masking alone will not be enough to stop the pandemic. Masking is most effective when combined with physical distancing, frequent handwashing, testing, and coordinated contact tracing.

At the Co-op hospitals throughout East Idaho and West Wyoming, we stand united and our employees and visitors will be wearing masks. We hope you will join us.

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The Hospital Cooperative is 501(c)3 non-profit hospital consortium with 17 member hospitals located from Central Idaho to West Wyoming. The mission of The Hospital Cooperative is to strengthen regional health care by providing support and increasing value to members through shared resources, knowledge and information. With guidance from an executive board of 17 hospital leaders, the staff members of The Hospital Cooperative plan and organize programs and activities that enable member hospitals to accomplish more together than would be possible alone.

Bear Lake Memorial Hospital
Montpelier, Idaho

Bingham Healthcare
Blackfoot, Idaho

Cassia Regional Hospital
Burley, Idaho

Caribou Memorial Hospital
Soda Springs, Idaho

Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center
Idaho Falls, Idaho

Franklin County Medical Center
Preston, Idaho

Lost Rivers Medical Center
Arco, Idaho

Madison Memorial Hospital
Rexburg, Idaho

Minidoka Memorial Hospital
Rupert, Idaho

Nell J. Redfield Memorial Hospital
Malad, Idaho

North Canyon Medical Center
Gooding, Idaho

Portneuf Medical Center
Pocatello, Idaho

Power County Hospital District
American Falls, Idaho

South Lincoln Medical Center
Kemmerer, Wyoming

Star Valley Health
Afton, Wyoming

Steele Memorial Medical Center
Salmon, Idaho

Teton Valley Health
Driggs, Idaho



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Driggs, Idaho

Founded in 2000, THC works to bring efficiencies to hospitals and focuses on group education, best practice development, grant writing, and group purchasing.

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