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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Tri-County Health Care Schedules Mask Distribution Events

*Mask initiative will provide free masks to five area communities*

**WADENA, Minn. – May 21, 2020** – Tri-County Health Care has scheduled free face mask distribution events for five area communities -- Ottertail, Verndale, Henning, Bertha and Sebeka – after providing over 2,000 masks to community members in Wadena earlier this month. This initiative is part of the goal to distribute adult and children’s masks to health care workers’ families, regional congregate living facilities and community members.

The Centers for Disease Control recommends wearing cloth face masks in public settings where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, such as in grocery stores and pharmacies. The masks are meant to slow the spread of COVID-19 and help prevent people who may be asymptomatic from transmitting it to others.

“The safety of our patients, staff, friends, families and communities continues to be a top priority,” said Ryan Damlo, Tri-County Health Care Foundation Executive Director. “We want to give everyone the opportunity to have a mask and help take a step toward our goal of slowing the spread of COVID-19 and protecting the health of our communities.”

Distribution of the free face masks will be done via a drive-thru line so community members will not need to leave their vehicles. There will be signs directing traffic to the mask distribution location.

Upcoming mask distribution dates and locations:

- **Ottertail:** May 27, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ottertail Clinic (232 MN Highway 78 N, enter by Thumper Pond off MN Highway 108)
- **Verndale:** May 27, 4-7 p.m. at the Verndale School parking lot (411 SW Brown St.)
- **Henning:** May 28, 11 a.m. to 1 pm. at the Henning Fire Hall (607 2nd St.)
- **Bertha:** May 28, 4-7 p.m., at the Bertha-Hewitt School, Door #1 (310 Central Ave)
- **Sebeka:** May 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Sebeka Clinic (106 Minnesota Ave)

#### ABOUT TRI-COUNTY HEALTH CARE

Tri-County Health Care is a private, not-for-profit health care system based in Wadena, Minnesota. It offers care services such as primary health, surgery, cancer care, diagnostic imaging, obstetrics, orthopedics and rehabilitation. Tri-County Health Care operates a hospital and medical clinic in Wadena, and serves the counties of Wadena, Todd and Otter Tail through five satellite clinics and two physical therapy clinics in Bertha, Henning, Ottertail, Sebeka and Verndale. Visit [TCHC.org](http://TCHC.org).

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