

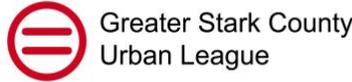


Ohio | Manufacturing
Extension Partnership

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Greater Cincinnati Urban League | Miami Valley Urban League



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAGNET Partners with The Urban League to Donate Hand Sanitizer to Communities Across Ohio to Help Fight the Spread of COVID-19 in Black Communities

CLEVELAND, June 26, 2020 – MAGNET, the *Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19* and local manufacturers are working with The Urban League to donate 1000's of gallons of hand sanitizer to help fight the pandemic in Black and minority communities across Ohio.

“Black communities across America have sadly borne the brunt of this pandemic, laying bare tragic systemic disparities that mean Black people have a much higher risk of being hospitalized and dying from COVID-19. This is our small way of doing something to help in the fight against the pandemic and systemic racism,” said Dr. Ethan Karp, President & CEO of MAGNET.

MAGNET is partnering with The Urban League of Greater Cleveland, which has brought together a distribution network including six other Urban Leagues affiliates across the state: Akron Urban League, Columbus Urban League, Lorain County Urban League, Greater Stark County Urban League, Greater Warren Youngstown Urban League, and the Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio. Each kit contains three one-gallon bottles of hand sanitizer, as well as a dozen small, refillable, dispensing bottles. The Urban League chapters will give the hand sanitizer kits to minority owned businesses, community organizations, and faith-based organizations.

“The Urban League of Greater Cleveland is pleased to be recognized as a trusted partner in the Black and minority community, as well as a conduit to our Ohio Council of Urban Leagues across the state. Together, we have tentacles that reach deep into our communities. We know where the needs are and can employ strategies with partners to deploy the kits where they are most needed. Thank you to MAGNET and the local manufacturers who connected with our network,” said Marsha Mockabee, CEO of the Urban League of Greater Cleveland.

With economic difficulties and hand sanitizer shortages impacting many communities, the hope is that these donations will get hand sanitizer into the hands of people who need it to stay safe. Procter & Gamble donated the hand sanitizer. Cleveland Whiskey donated its services to bottle and process the sanitizer into kits. Axiom, a manufacturer of plastic containers with operations in Columbus, donated bottles. MAGNET donated pour spouts and cartons and brought all the partners together to make this happen.

“The Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio started a campaign entitled, “Mask What Matters, Protecting our Community,” to distribute PPE to people in Cincinnati and Dayton. We’ve distributed over 25,000 facemasks over the past two months. With this partnership, this will allow us to partner with black and minority-owned businesses to give them the critical supplies needed to stay safe. We are

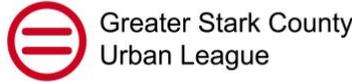


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thrilled to partner with MAGNET,” said Eddie Koen, President and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio.

Over 1000 hand sanitizer kits will be distributed across Ohio over the next several months.

ABOUT THE OHIO MANUFACTURING ALLIANCE TO FIGHT COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 challenges, The Ohio Manufacturers’ Association (OMA), Ohio Hospital Association (OHA), Ohio Manufacturing Extension Program (Ohio MEP), and JobsOhio have joined forces through the Ohio Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19. Ohio MEP, with its partner organization MAGNET in a lead role, is providing engineering capabilities and technical support to make PPE alternatives when possible. OMA is managing outreach to manufacturers, and OHA and nursing homes are providing insights on the products most needed. JobsOhio is providing regional support and financial assistance, where appropriate, to accelerate production.

ABOUT MAGNET

For more than 30 years, MAGNET: The Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network has served Northeast Ohio, offering a range of services to manufacturers as part of the national and Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP). MAGNET specializes in helping the 10,000 small- and medium-sized manufacturers of Northeast Ohio make their products better, cheaper, and faster than their competition through hands-on consulting. These services, which include new product development, process improvement, workforce initiatives, and lean/operations consulting, help companies by improving revenue and job retention as well as driving manufacturing and economic development in Northeast Ohio.



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Urban League of Greater Cleveland



Columbus Urban League

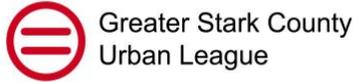


Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio



Greater Warren-Youngstown Urban League

Greater Cincinnati Urban League | Miami Valley Urban League



Greater Stark County Urban League



Akron Urban League



Lorain County Urban League



PHOTO CREDIT: Courtesy of MAGNET

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