

Attention: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
CC: Senator McGuire
CC: Raul Gardea, SEIU Rep

My name is Rachelle Shockley. I am a mother and IHSS provider for my adult daughter with Down Syndrome. She has associated ailments which make her immunocompromised. This virus would be deadly for her should she have exposure of any kind.

With the recent upswing in panic buying the sanitary supplies necessary to keep my daughter safe are in severe depletion and now some of it is nearly obsolete. It's a first come, first serve market. Stores are receiving limited supplies, if any, of necessary things like hand sanitizer, alcohol, aloe Vera gel to make homemade hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, Clorox, masks, etc. it has been impossible for me to get what I need to ensure my daughter's safety. Shelter in orders are simply not enough to protect her should we have to go to the store or a medical facility.

Moreover, store representatives won't hold supplies even for the elderly and immunocompromised and although they are starting to ration supplies, the inventory is so low and the time it takes to travel an hour or more away to a store means empty shelves by the time I get there. This is experienced by so many of us. Many of our recipients require time to even get out of the door and loaded into/unloaded from cars preventing them from beating a rush.

I'm very concerned about this issue. Further, these essential and very necessary things to maintain the health and safety of my daughter are supposed to have been provided to us per our contract all along.

I wanted to know if there was a plan to prioritize these necessary pieces of safety equipment for providers and recipients?

For those of us in remote areas, is it possible to get a representative to bring those items for all local providers and recipients at a specific time and place? Or can supplies be mailed to us?

I realize this is a developing situation and as humanity we are learning of issues as they arise. It has been disheartening and discouraging to have been turned away from these medically necessary things for my daughter as I see healthy individuals receive them in mass quantity out of fear or panic. I have shed many tears and was hoping that you could consider a plan to prioritize people like my daughter. She has a right to life like everyone else and her health shouldn't be compromised because of lack of/misappropriation of supplies.

Thank you so much for considering this very serious issue.

Sincerely,

Rachelle Shockley