In the fight against COVID-19, Ohio manufacturers are rising to the challenge of providing health care workers with the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) they need to safely care for patients. It’s a critical priority for “flattening the curve” and protecting our communities. For a list of PPE, click here.

PROJECT LEADERSHIP

• The Ohio Manufacturers’ Association (OMA) – outreach to manufacturing companies to promote participation.
• The Ohio Hospital Association – outreach to health care community to determine needs and priorities.
• Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Ohio MEP) and MAGNET – manage demand, supply and engineering support.

STRUCTURE

The project includes three inter-related workstreams:

DEMAND LEAD will act as the primary contact for all health care providers, first responders, or frontline health care teams in need of essential PPE to gather information such as products needed, priorities, quantities and specifications.

SUPPLY LEAD will serve as the primary contact for all manufacturers, suppliers, and vendors that have volunteered to gather information on companies’ geographic reach, capabilities and capacity, retooling needs and on-hand inventories of products and raw materials.

ENGINEERING TEAM will:

• Develop or evaluate product concepts
• Re-design, “hack,” or retrofit existing product or sub-components
• Look for and assess open-source designs
• Keep up to date on any government-issued standards or specs
• Rapidly prototype
• Test and/or see that new product designs or re-designs meet the demand specs
• Offer design-for-manufacturing support and guidance
• Support manufacturers as they retool
• Coordinate the fabrication of urgently needed products among small/disparate organizations (i.e. a statewide network of 3D printers)
• Coordinate with national consortiums of technical resources working to find and design PPE alternatives like (i.e. America Makes)

GETTING STARTED

If you are a manufacturer with the potential competencies and capacity to contribute, please click here to complete a short survey:

1. Do you have a product that you could make that would qualify as PPE or needed hospital supply?
2. Do you have raw materials like clear (or semi-colored) plastic sheet, gown material or cotton fabric that might be used to create any of these items?
3. Do you think you have tools that might be useful to supply PPE or other needed supplies?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact repurposingproject@ohiomfg.com