

# Memorandum

To: All Union Representatives of SEIU Local 200United  
FROM: Scott Phillipson, President  
RE: CDC Recommendations To Contain COVID-19  
DATE: April 6, 2020

All workers have a right to a workplace free from serious recognized hazards and managers have a responsibility to provide their workers with such a workplace. As a union, we must make sure that management lives up to its obligation and protects our members. Employers in all industries should take all reasonable precautions to protect their workers and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Our state has the most COVID-19 cases in the US and many of our members are on the figurative frontlines of the fight against this disease. Almost all have jobs involving some level of direct or indirect human contact. All are at risk for COVID-19.

The available medical evidence indicates that it's possible for people to be infected with COVID-19 without exhibiting symptoms AND still be contagious. For that reason, the US Surgeon General, the chief medical officer of the United States, has advised the public that we must all act as if we may be carriers for the coronavirus and must avoid potentially exposing others.

Late Friday, the US Center for Disease Control issued the following guidance, "Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19":

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. CDC also advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others.

The full-text of this latest CDC guidance is included as an attachment to this memo.

On behalf of our members, I am authorizing and directing all representatives to demand that their employers implement the above guidance from the CDC and other relevant health and safety recommendations from competent federal and state agencies (e.g. OSHA, PESH, etc.) with all deliberate speed. Under the circumstances, I think it's reasonable to expect employers to have fully implemented the latest advice by Monday, April 13th.