

MEDIA ALERT: *For Immediate Release*

UNIVERSAL PLASTICS DONATES 100 FACE SHIELDS TO COBLESKILL REGIONAL HOSPITAL

HOWES CAVE, NY/SCHOHARIE COUNTY (MAY 6, 2020) – One Schoharie County business found a way to help out another, with Universal Plastic’s donation of 100 surgical-grade plastic face shields to Cobleskill Regional Hospital earlier this week.

Universal Plastics, which is headquartered in MA with a production plant in Howes Cave, NY, typically produces medical equipment and aviation materials. With aviation needs down and non-essential medical procedures currently on hold during the COVID-19 crisis, Universal pivoted operations to produce high-demand PPE equipment, which is being marketed to hospitals, mental health agencies, first line emergency response agencies and grocery stores, among others. **Universal Plastics Chief Operating Officer, Peter Crowell**, said the company can manufacture 600 face shields a day and has enough material to produce nearly 20,000 more.

Universal has been able to donate face shields to several hospitals in MA, but their gift of 100 face shields to Cobleskill Regional Hospital marked their first COVID-19 donation to a New York business. **Eric Stein, President of Cobleskill Regional Hospital**, said the plastic face shields will be used in all of their clinical areas, as an added protective measure to regular face coverings.



Photo #1 (Left to Right): William Oliver (GM, Universal), Michael Righi (Manufacturing & Sales Engineer, Universal), Teresa Maxwell (Customer Service, Universal), Abbie the dog (Universal), Juanita Matthews (Receptionist & HR assistant, Universal), Peter Crowell (COO, Universal), Eric Stein (President, Cobleskill Regional Hospital) – **Photo #2 (L to R):** Peter Crowell, Eric Stein.

Additional High-Res Artwork Available (Photo Credit, SEEC):

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/WRphUnnuAEKPbJnv6>

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ABOUT SEEC: Established by the private sector, Schoharie Economic Enterprise Corporation, commonly known as “SEEC,” was organized as a not-for-profit to strengthen Schoharie County by fostering economic growth. SEEC serves as a liaison to local municipalities and institutional leaders with the common goal of highlighting distinctive points of light within the community, cultivating entrepreneurial endeavors and enhancing the ability of local businesses to add value to their enterprises. SEEC is guided by social, environmental and financial principles that will accelerate growth and help provide sustainability through a collaborative and thriving business community.