



PPE Into Prisons Report
Compiled by Fury Young
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D.J.C.
RECORDS

A Background on the PPE Into Prisons Campaign

In late March, as COVID-19 first began to spread rapidly across the United States, I got an urgent phone call from our Deputy Director BL Shirelle. “We have to do something Fury,” she said, “This is going to be really bad.” BL and I had been checking in regularly, unsure like the rest of the country how bad this virus would be or how we should adjust in our daily lives, but I knew this call wasn’t about us. It was about the community we serve, a population the virus was sure to catch up to and wreak havoc upon: the incarcerated.

“I completely agree,” I replied. “I’m just not sure what.” BL had already bought and distributed masks to a women’s reentry residence in Philadelphia, so we first considered doing more PPE distribution for returning citizens. There were a few NYC and Philly groups doing this kind of work (I’m in NYC, BL in Philly), and with us being busy with the label and trying to stay safe, we realized this wouldn’t be a realistic endeavour. Naturally, the idea of sending masks into the prisons came up.

“It’s already hard enough trying to send in a CD,” one of us said; perhaps both of us in unison. We’d experienced our share of hurdles dealing with the various policies of different prisons, each one with its own rules that could make a simple thing like sending a CD of song references for our artists quite difficult. Still, we loved the idea and decided it was worth a shot.

A day or two later, I called up my friend and colleague Justin Jones, the former Director of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections and at the time head of the Tulsa County Juvenile Bureau. I wanted to gauge what the need was for PPE in his field; were we attempting a fool’s errand in supplying agencies that were already well stocked with gear and did not need our help? A decisive “No” was the short answer. Corrections departments were scrambling like the rest of us, and even more so given the petri dish environments of their prisons and jails.

It seemed the need for a wide-reaching campaign was critical, so we decided to go big. The concept was simple: start by reaching out to every prison where we knew people and see what the needs were. From there, just see what the heck happened. The main thing was to get the campaign live. With the world in the throes of this new pandemic, every passing day felt urgent.

Just prior to launching, I put out a feeler with a juvenile prison in Mississippi, and the warden quickly responded that they were in need. After locking in a legit PPE vendor (not easy in April, as PPE was being scooped up left and right and frauds were abundant), it was time to move.

With all systems on Go(fundme :/), we went live with our *PPE for Incarcerated Individuals* campaign on April 13, 2020 (later we would change the name to *PPE Into Prisons*). It quickly began to receive a steady stream of donations, and as the support came in, so did more “Yea”s to our inquiries with prison administrators. “We’ll definitely take a donation,” most would say, probably wondering “what on earth is Die Jim Crow Records, and why do they care?”

As the original campaign name suggests, we initially intended all PPE to go to incarcerated residents, not staff. In retrospect, this was an unrealistic idea, but I think it did help push our donation recipients to disperse masks to incarcerated residents as a priority. The reality was, with staff being the carriers of the virus into the prisons, their safety was just as important as those confined. Though our initial concern was that facilities would default to dispersing our donations to personnel, this turned out to be a non-issue. According to a poll I conducted with nine facilities who chose to participate, an estimated 65% of PPE went to incarcerated residents and 35% to staff. Though I was hoping for a larger sample size, I believe this is an accurate reflection of all dispersals. In communicating directly with contacts at the majority of facilities we donated to, I would make it clear that the donations were intended for residents and more often than not my contacts would express this was where they were most needed.

On October 13, after raising \$25,000 and sending 30,285 masks to over 20 prisons and jails in 16 states, we decided it was time to end the campaign. This was a bitter-sweet decision, as the virus continued to run rampant in facilities across the country, but we had devoted so much time and energy to the cause at this point, it was time to go back to being a first-year record label.

Overall I am proud of the campaign and think we did a solid job. There were a couple of hiccups — one potential fraud (fully refunded) and one lost shipment (vanished) — on top of many learning curves. In the end, as our data and testimonials from prison officials indicate, the campaign helped limit the spread of COVID-19 in many facilities. For this, all 494 backers of this campaign should be proud.

I compiled data for this report so our donors can know in simple math what impact their contributions had. I also hope by reading this document the public is encouraged to keep supporting similar causes, whether these efforts be towards stopping the spread of COVID-19 or other activist efforts at large.

Thank you again for supporting DJC’s *PPE Into Prisons* campaign, and may you stay safe and healthy as we continue to battle this global pandemic.

In Struggle,



Fury Young
Executive Director

ORDERS							
Date	Amount	Agency	Facility	State	Supplier	Contents	Type of PPE
4/24/20	\$493.42	Central Mississippi Correctional Facility - Youthful Offender Unit	Youth f/m	MS	Fusion	100	KN95
		Ross Correctional Institution	Adult m	OH	Fusion	500	KN95
		Pulaski State Prison	Adult m	GA		500	KN95
		Taconic Correctional Facility	Adult f	NY		250	Surgical
5/14/20	\$7,602.03	Central Mississippi Correctional Facility - Youthful Offender Unit	Youth f/m	MS			(24) 16 oz. bottles
5/21/20	\$515.00	East Jersey State Prison	Adult m	NJ	Med Pharma Supply	1000	Surgical
6/1/20	\$1,018.20	Ohio Dept. of Rehabilitation and Corrections	Dispersal to prisons most in need	OH	Med Pharma Supply	2000	Surgical
6/9/20	\$512.44	Cook County Jail	Adult/youth f/m	IL	Med Pharma Supply	1000	Surgical
6/16/20	\$527.71	Louisiana State Penitentiary	Adult m	LA	Med Pharma Supply	1000	Surgical
6/16/20	\$1,532.33	Ohio Dept. of Rehabilitation and Corrections	Dispersal to prisons most in need	OH	Med Pharma Supply	3000	Surgical
6/19/20	\$1,261.50	Ohio Reformatory for Women	Adult f	OH	Med Pharma Supply	2450	Surgical
6/19/20	\$604.44	Central Mississippi Correctional Facility - Youthful Offender Unit	Youth f/m	MS	Med Concepts	500	KN95
6/23/20	\$604.44	Tulsa County Family Center for Juvenile Justice	Youth f/m	OK	Med Concepts	500	KN95
7/2/20	\$1,911.21	San Quentin State Prison	Adult m	CA	Fusion	350	N95
7/14/20	\$454.23	Florence Detention Center	Adult f/m (immigration jail)	AZ	S&S Activewear	210	Cloth w/ filter pocket
7/14/20	\$161.95	Florence Detention Center	Adult f/m (immigration jail)	AZ	Med Concepts	100	KN95
7/17/20	\$1,166.05	Orange County Juvenile Hall	Youth f/m	CA	Fusion	180	Face shields
7/29/20	\$755.94	FCI Seagoville	Adult m	TX	Med Concepts	2000 250	Surgical KN95
8/4/20	\$511.48	Santa Ana Jail	Youth f/m	CA	Med Concepts	2000	Surgical
8/4/20	\$610.09	Nye County Jail	Adult f/m (county/immigration jail)	NV	S&S Activewear	270	Cloth w/ filter pocket
8/10/20	\$648.83	Arkansas DOC	Dispersal to prisons most in need	AK	Med Concepts	600	KN96
8/17/20	\$547.35	Sterling Correctional Facility	Adult m	CO	Med Concepts	500	KN95
8/26/20	\$511.48	Dade Correctional Instituion	Adult m	FL	Med Concepts	2000	Surgical
9/8/20	\$395.14	Kentucky Correctional Inst. for Women	Adult f	KY	Med Concepts	350	KN95
9/28/20	\$511.48	Eddie Warrior Correctional Facility	Adult f	OK	Med Concepts	2000	Surgical
10/7/20	\$1,071.00	Dick Connor Correctional Center North Fork Correction Center	Adult m Adult m	OK	S&S Activewear	510	Cloth w/ filter pocket
10/7/20	\$511.48	Kettle Moraine Correctional Instituion	Adult m	WI	Med Concepts	2000	Surgical
10/12/20	\$511.48	Oshkosh Correctional Institution	Adult m	WI	Med Concepts	2000	Surgical
10/28/20	\$586.00	Montana State Prison	Adult m	MT	Med Concepts	700 *150 donated by Med Concepts	KN95
TOTAL:	\$25,536.70	Note on TTL: \$1070 has been sent to DJC Records directly and not through GoFundMe campaign. GFM takes 2.9% plus \$0.30 per donation.		16 states	TOTAL PURCHASED:	29,820	4850 KN95 23,450 surgical 350 N95 masks 990 cloth masks 180 face shields
IN-KIND DONATIONS FROM COLLEAGUES							
7/1/20	0	Tulsa County Family Center for Juvenile Justice	Youth f/m	OK	Meeduk Hyun	50	Cloth
7/15/20	0	Bluebonnet Detention Facility	Adult f/m (immigration jail)	TX	NYC Makes PPE	300	Cloth
7/17/20	0	OC Juvenile Hall	Youth f/m	CA	Lauren Segal	50	Cloth
9/15/20	0	Kentucky Correctional Inst. for Women	Adult f	KY	Make Me PPE - Bay Area	65	Cloth
					TOTAL IN-KIND:	465	465 cloth masks

TOTAL IN-KIND PPE:	465
TOTAL PURCHASED PPE:	29,820
GRAND TOTAL PPE:	30,285

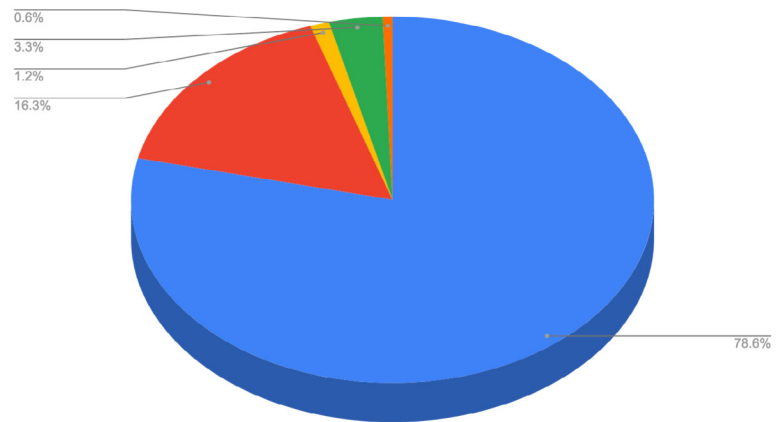
Facilities	
Facility Types	
18	State prison [a]
1	Federal prison
2	County jail
1	County jail/ICE detention center [b]
2	ICE detention center
2	Youth detention center
Facility Gender	
8	Unisex [c]
6	Adult female
9	Adult male
3	Undetermined [d]
Totals	
16	States
22	Facilities which DJC Records had no prior connection with [e]
26	Total Facilities

Notes on Totals
<p>[a] Three orders were sent to headquarter locations of respective Department of Corrections (DOC) agencies: Oklahoma, Ohio, and Arkansas. These orders were then distributed by DOCs to facilities most in need. As a conservative estimate, we have counted these donations as 1 state prison per order.</p> <p>[b] Nye County Jail holds county offenders and ICE detainees.</p> <p>[c] Unisex facilities include county jails, ICE detention centers, and youth detention centers.</p> <p>[d] Undetermined refers to the Oklahoma, Ohio, and Arkansas DOC orders. We were unable to retrieve the data from these agencies as to where the exact orders were shipped once in the respective agency's hands.</p> <p>[e] DJC Records began the campaign by reaching out to facilities where artistic collaborators of ours were currently incarcerated. As the campaign grew, we ended up providing PPE to a majority of facilities where we had no prior connection.</p>

Types of PPE		
Quantity	Type	Durability
23,450	Surgical masks	7-10 days
350	N95 masks	10-20 days
4,850	KN95 masks	10-20 days
990	Cloth masks	Indefinite
180	Face shields	Indefinite
24	Hand sanitizer (16 oz.)	1-2 weeks (estimate given population of 42 residents at CMCF YOU)

MASKS

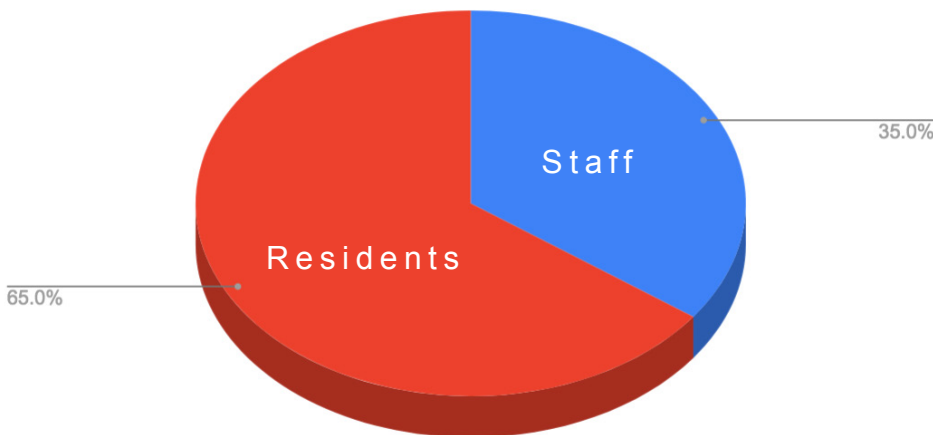
- 0.6% = Face shields**
- 1.2% = N95 masks**
- 3.3% = Cloth masks**
- 16.3% = KN95 masks**
- 78.6% = Surgical masks**



Type of Mask Distribution

KEY FACTS

- Average Allocation*:
- 65% Residents / 35% Staff**
- Average Donation:
- 1,100 Masks**
- Average Ratio of Residents to Masks Donated**:
- Approx. 1:1.9**



PPE Allocation

*Source: survey conducted with nine facilities who chose to respond. Figures do not include donations to Department of Corrections (DOC) agencies in Ohio, Arkansas, or Oklahoma. In these three cases, we shipped directly to the headquarters of said agencies and they then distributed PPE to facilities most in need. We were unable to retrieve the data from these departments as to where the exact orders were shipped once in the respective agency's hands.

**An average of 188% of residents provided at least one mask per order. This percentage does not account for where PPE was allocated once arrived at facility. It also does not include Oklahoma, Ohio, or Arkansas DOC orders.

Testimonials from Facility Contacts

“Each new detainee was issued one [mask] during the intake process and educated on the importance of using it, along with other precautions to mitigate the spread.”
- Cheyenne Bereuter, Warden’s Secretary, Bluebonnet Detention Complex

“The DJC-donated KN95s arrived at a critical time. The Juvenile Bureau was utilizing many handmade cloth masks and reusing paper surgical mask way beyond their life expectancy. The pandemic infection rate was starting to climb and we were just a few months into searching, like everyone else, for adequate PPE supplies. The better sealing KN95 donation allowed us to provide a higher level of safety while increasing inventory, thereby allowing discharging detention youth the ability to take masks home. This hopefully extended increased safety with their families. Staff also utilized the DJC donated masks. This greatly assisted as we had no documented COVID spread within our detention facility.”
- Justin Jones, former Director of Tulsa County Juvenile Bureau, Oklahoma

“When I first received the call from Fury, I was very skeptical. We were just hearing about scams involving PPE. Since there was no request from Fury for my credit card info, I decided to go along with it. What would I be out? Fury stated to me that he had to raise a little bit more funding for these masks, but that it should not be long before they are shipped out. With that statement I was even more skeptical. Then about two days later I received an email from Fury with the tracking number of the box of masks coming to me, along with a note that their vendor graciously donated an additional 150 masks because this was going to be the final donation. WOW!!! I then viewed the website and see that there had been several other donations!!!! I then sent an email to Fury humbly apologizing to him. I did tell him I thought it was a hoax!!!”
- Warden Jim Salmonsens, Montana State Prison, Montana

“The N95 masks were received around the time that we had an outbreak at San Quentin, so although we did see a majority of our inmate population contract the virus it did give a great quantity of persons the ability to have PPE to remain safe while at San Quentin.”
- Christina Sanchez, San Quentin State Prison, California

“No entity had all of the PPE they needed or wanted and the June arrival was a crucial time.”
- Travis Hall, Office of Procurement Services, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections



As a means to help raise funds for the PPE Into Prisons campaign, we held weekly digital concerts. In total, these 20 shows featured 138 performers, 18 of whom are formerly or currently incarcerated.

Other guests included Hooray For The Riff Raff, Eve 6, Downtown Boys, Nicole Fleetwood, Melissa Laveaux, and many more incredible musicians, writers, and poets.

Inspired by these shows, DJC has begun hosting monthly concerts which showcase justice-involved musicians alongside iconic performers in the free world.

Acknowledgments

A huge thank you to our 494 Donors: were it not for your generosity, this would not have been - period. Thank you to all of the staff who were grateful for our donations and worked hard to make sure everyone in their care was as safe as possible. Thank you to the 138 performers who joined us for our benefit concerts, as well as Ted Jamison for booking, Maxwell Melvins for hosting, and BL for performing almost every week. Thanks to contributing flyer artists: Mark Loughney, Lauren Vanzandt-Escobar, Keith Brazley, Tameca Cole, Gregory Bolden, Náyade Bermúdez Brito, and Joshua Earls. Thanks to Wendy Jason, Mireia Lopez, Justin Jones, Lauren Segal, Leila Adu-Gilmore, Meeduk Hyun, Katie Hyun, NYC Makes PPE, Make Me PPE Bay Area, Deirdre Shea, Haaris Pervaiz, Krish Kamdar, and Kevin Lee.



To stay informed on COVID-19 cases in U.S. prisons, we recommend The Marshall Project's resource *A State-by-State Look at Coronavirus in Prisons*:

<https://www.themarshallproject.org/2020/05/01/a-state-by-state-look-at-coronavirus-in-prisons>

Cover photo courtesy of Lt. William Gray, Nye County Jail
PPE Into Prisons Benefit Vol. 7 flyer by Fury Young
Photo on this page courtesy of Charles "C-Will" Williams, London CI