



## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER  
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(520) 724-8661 FAX (520) 724-8171

C.H. HUCKELBERRY  
County Administrator

March 20, 2020

The Honorable Kyrsten Sinema  
Attention: Hector Reyes  
United States Senator  
317 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Your Offer for Help to Arizona Counties During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Dear Senator Sinema:

I appreciate your interest in assisting Pima County and southern Arizona with the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic health crisis. Unfortunately, we have been consumed with trying to respond to individual and collective resource requirements that have been almost entirely unmet at this time. I appreciate your offer to meet our needs for community safety.

Our first request is for help in obtaining supplies.

At this time, we have a critical need for the following supplies:

- Universal viral collection media
- Naso and oropharyngeal viral collection swabs
- Eye shields
- N95 respirators
- Surgical masks
- Surgical and outpatient gowns
- Hospital disinfection solution/materials
- Hand sanitizer
- Booties

If, and when supplies are available please contact:

For general supplies: Jeff Guthrie, Director, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security by email at [Jeff.Guthrie@pima.gov](mailto:Jeff.Guthrie@pima.gov) or (520) 724-9300 and for medical supplies: Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator and Chief Medical, Officer, Health and Community Services by email at [Francisco.Garcia@pima.gov](mailto:Francisco.Garcia@pima.gov) or (520) 724-8661.

As of today, we have had little communication regarding the delivery of these supplies, no communication as to when they might be available and no schedule of when critical supplies will be received.

The Honorable Kyrsten Sinema

Re: **Your Offer for Help to Arizona Counties During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

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Our most critical request is for COVID-19 viral test kits.

While the media has reported it is easy to obtain a COVID-19 test, it is impossible to provide such based on the lack of supplies that are completely unavailable to County health agencies.

I ask for your direct assistance in providing the requested testing materials and provide them as soon as practically possible so that we may be able to meet public expectations regarding the availability of tests not only for individuals who have requested the tests, but for our health professionals who need to have certainty regarding the availability of these testing materials to better respond to this public health crisis. Access to these test kits needed so we are able to quickly determine Coronavirus cases and implement appropriate isolation and containment.

Assistance for Out-of-Work Restaurant Workers

Our next request would be to determine how best to provide federal assistance to the out-of-work restaurant workers that are being displaced due to orders and actions that exceed present Centers for Disease Control and federal guidelines regarding social distancing. We estimate there are at least 27,000 restaurant workers in Pima County who may be affected by orders to implement virus containment activities such as the closing of restaurants, bars, gyms, food courts etc.

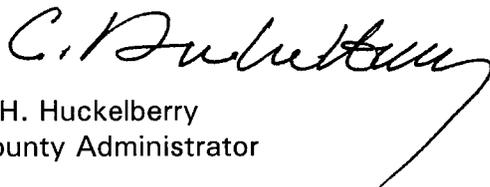
Food Supplies

Finally, Pima County typically has a sufficient food supply in our grocery stores to last three to four days. With the elevated concern for food supplies, we have less than one day supply. I understand the major grocery stores chains have adequate supplies in warehouses but are hampered by the lack of delivery trucks and personnel to stock the shelves.

The Pima County Office of Emergency Management made a formal request to the Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs to activate the Arizona National Guard to support grocery store deliveries. Based on the Governor's action of March 19, 2020 the National Guard has been activated and hopefully the food supply shortage will abate.

I would like to thank you for any assistance you can provide during this pandemic health crisis.

Sincerely,



C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

Enclosure

c: The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors  
Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator  
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works  
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,  
Health and Community Services  
John Voorhees, Assistant County Administrator  
Jeff Guthrie, Director, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

## Amanda N. Colon-Sisco

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**From:** Chuck Huckelberry  
**Subject:** FW: Checking In

**From:** Reyes, Hector (Sinema)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 18, 2020 2:15 PM  
**To:** Monica Perez <Monica.Perez@pima.gov>; Chuck Huckelberry <Chuck.Huckelberry@pima.gov>  
**Subject:** Checking In

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This message and sender come from outside Pima County. If you did not expect this message, proceed with caution. Verify the sender's identity before performing any action, such as clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

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Good afternoon Supervisors and Mr. Huckleberry,

Following the call today with the AZ Association of Counties, I am reaching out to let you know that we're thinking of you and your constituents during this challenging time. As your regional point of contact for Senator Sinema, please let me know about any ongoing concerns in your community related to:

- *Capacity at your health facilities, and the wellbeing of your health care workers*
- *Testing availability and isolation capabilities*
- *Ability of seniors to acquire necessities like food, medication, etc.*
- *Access to federal agencies by constituents*
- *Health of small businesses, including those involved in food service, tourism and retail*
- *Care provider services for children, parents and those with disabilities*

I'm also creating a county distribution list to push out information quickly. If the supervisors or their offices want to be directly included, let me know and I will add them. My direct number is below also for your use. If you would like, feel free to send me your direct number for calls/texts if needed.

Our office is ready to help so please use us as a resource and reach out by phone or email at any time.

Hector B. Reyes, MSW | Constituent Affairs Representative  
Office of U.S. Senator Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona  
202-981-1291  
20 E. Ochoa Street, Tucson, Arizona 85701  
[Sinema.Senate.Gov](http://Sinema.Senate.Gov)