



June 5, 2020

Dear Valued LeadingAge and Value First members,

Your LeadingAge Illinois and Value First team continue to work to keep you updated on PPE and items needed for the reopening phases in your communities. I encourage you to continue to work with your trusted food, medical and janitorial distributors for your supply needs. However, I am also aware our "normal" channels may still be working to catch up with demands and allocations are still in place. The following vendors have all been vetted for your use.

While some of the following supplies for PPE/Reopening are through our Value First vendors, many are not. If a Value First/Vizient ID is needed, I will note that so you can reach out to me for your Value First/Vizient ID. If you are not a current Value First member, signing up to receive your ID is as simple as a couple signatures to become a member and does not obligate you to use any additional contracts and there is no fee to be a member.

### **Covid-19 Testing Kits and Lab alternatives**

LeadingAge and Value First have identified a few alternative sources for Covid-19 testing kits and labs to help our communities with testing.

On May 29, on the Sharon Zehe from Mayo Clinic joined the [LeadingAge Coronavirus Daily Update](#) and discussed the lab services from [Mayocliniclabs](#) as being a lab source for our members. Information is linked here for information for this source.

Value First/Vizient has contracted with [Strategic Lab Partners](#) for Covid-19 testing kits, to be processed at your lab of choice. You will need your Vizient ID number to take advantage of this offer, so please reach out to me for your ID number, or to sign up with Value First to be able to use this vendor.

We also have identified [Aegis Labs](#) as a source for our members. They are licensed in 47 states including Illinois. The attached information includes an overview of this source with the contact information for the regional manager. The cost of \$100/test includes testing material, shipping and lab results.

**SPECIAL LeadingAge Pricing NOW includes GLOVES**, along with surgical masks and disposable gowns. We have special purchase pricing for disposable gloves, gowns and surgical masks that are in stock in the US and are ready for quick ship. Please see the [attached](#) for details. This special offer is good to all LeadingAge members. Please make sure to follow the instructions on the order form.

**Reopening assistance is available for your HVAC** systems for any new guidelines and help in fitting higher MERV filters to your existing systems is available with our partners at [AAF/Flanders](#). Their team has been working to stay up to date with all new industry guidelines.

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**NEW MERIDIAN Personnel Management Kiosks** are available with our partners at [Insight](#) to help protect the health and safety of your employees and residents. This new kiosk will help with check in and temperature verification at the entry points in your community. Please contact me for your Vizient ID to access this special pricing.

**Anti-Viral Masks and reusable gowns:** America Knits <http://www.americaknits.com/> is a textile manufacturer based in Swainsboro, GA. The company is owned by Steven Hawkins and Dr. David Talton. Mr. Hawkins has more than 30 years of experience in the textile industry and Dr. Talton is a cardiothoracic surgeon at North Mississippi Health System; a 600-bed health system in Tupelo, Mississippi. The two are lifelong friends and launched America Knits in the fall of 2019. Mr. Hawkins manages the day to day operations while Dr. Talton is still a practicing surgeon. Please [click here](#) for additional information.

**Face Shields, Surgical Mask and Infrared Thermometers** are available through [Hubert](#), one of our Value First/Vizient partners. Please contact me for your Vizient ID.

PPE KITS and Infrared Thermometers are now available through [ABC Printing](#) along with masks, gloves and hand sanitizers. This is an Illinois based company and supplies are in stock.

**Infrared thermometers, masks and hand sanitizers** are also available through our partners at [American Solutions for Business](#).

[Brooklyn Textile PPE](#) is also another vetted source for in stock PPE for your community. They are based in NY and have been very responsive with quick turnaround for our members.

[MIP](#) is another partner that has level 2 reusable gowns available and in stock.

**Single-Patient use transfer** slings are available to help with infection control with our partners [EZWay/EZLift](#).

As we continue to work together to help you care for your staff and residents, please do not hesitate to reach out to let me know how I can continue to serve you and your community.

Best Wishes,  
Terry Romin [tromin@leadingageil.org](mailto:tromin@leadingageil.org)

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