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For Immediate Release

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**Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont Supports and Celebrates CVMC Nurses and Staff**  
*Health plan donates 140 handmade masks, honors hospital staff with luncheon*

**Berlin, Vt., May 13, 2020**—Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont (Blue Cross) donated over 140 handmade cloth masks to the staff of Central Vermont Medical Center (CVMC) this week, and will be underwriting lunch in the cafeteria on May 15 to celebrate the hospital’s staff in honor of National Nurses Month (May 2020) and National Hospitals Week (May 10-16).

“CVMC is our neighbor in Berlin, and we are so grateful for the incredible work they’re doing on the front lines to care for and protect Vermonters during COVID-19,” said Blue Cross Director of Community Relations and Health Promotion Megan Peek. “A number of our employees have been making cloth masks for the community and wanted a way to support our critical care providers.”

Blue Cross is supporting employees’ mask-sewing efforts by underwriting the cost of materials and supplies.

“Every day we are moved and astounded by the support we receive from the Central Vermont community,” said CVMC Director of Communication and Engagement Elliott Bent. “We are grateful to Blue Cross for celebrating and supporting CVMC’s frontline healthcare workers during this stressful time.”

“Every spring we celebrate the contributions of our local nurses and hospitals,” said Peek. “This year, it was especially important to us to show our gratitude for these health care heroes during the month of May.”

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[Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont](#) is Vermont’s only local, not-for-profit health plan. For over 70 years, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont has been enhancing the health and well-being of the Vermonters by offering innovative plans to individuals, seniors and businesses. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont is dedicated to developing new ways to support high quality care and programs and events that promote wellness. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. For more information, visit [www.bcbsvt.com](http://www.bcbsvt.com).

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