The global outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is severely affecting healthcare systems and economic activity. Our country is under lockdown to slow the spread of the disease and prevent community transmission. Designated hospitals are currently overloaded with patients, while the health care staff is facing an extreme shortage of protective equipment. The lockdown is also causing severe economic difficulties, especially for daily wage-earner families.

Front-line workers (Anganwadi workers and ASHA workers) are conducting survey of containment zones and villages without any protective gear, like masks or gloves. Most of the people in project locations are daily wage earners. The situation has worsened for the families in tribal and rural areas of Karjat and Panvel because of shortage of food. UWM team is at the frontlines supporting public health officials and community organisations.

Through United Way Mumbai's COVID-19 Response we are supporting Project Poshan beneficiaries and low income families, whose income source has been severely depleted by the COVID-19 pandemic and frontline health workers, who require personal protective gear.

Providing ration and essential kit for Poshan beneficiaries and low income families
Providing masks, gloves and sanitizers for frontline health workers
Training of frontline health workers and community members through WhatsApp and Zoom calls

IMMEDIATE REQUIREMENT - HEALTH WORKERS
IMMEDIATE NEEDS - RATION & ESSENTIAL KITS

The rapid spread of COVID-19 has caused a shortage of protective equipment for healthcare and frontline workers.

Safety of Healthcare workers: We are providing personal protective equipment such as N95 masks, 3-ply masks, nitrile gloves and hand sanitisers to healthcare workers in government hospitals and public health centres to deal with the acute shortage.

Hospital equipment & Awareness materials: We are also equipping government hospitals with medical equipment like thermal scanners and awareness material.

Daily wage earners, small business owners and self-employed persons in marginalised communities are facing the brunt of the nationwide lockdown and loss of livelihood. We are supporting them and their families through the provision of ration and basic essentials.

Each kit will include items such as: Food items like: Rice (10 kg), Wheat Flour(10 kg), Tur Dal(3 kg), Moong Dal(2 kg), Cooking Oil(3 litres), Salt(1 kg), Sugar(3 kg), Tea Powder(0.5 kg).

VideO SESSIONS FOR FRONTLINE HEALTH WORKERS

After the nationwide lock-down, our team has started training the front-line health workers through WhatsApp group video calls and Zoom calls. So far, we have conducted 3 sessions for ICDS supervisors and 2 Zoom calls for Anganwadi workers on COVID-19 safety measures for the community.

68 Anganwadi workers and 5 ICDS supervisors participated in the training sessions. Topics discussed during the training included, an understanding of the COVID-19 pandemic, its prevention, care during pregnancy and lactation and of children from 0-6 years of age.