

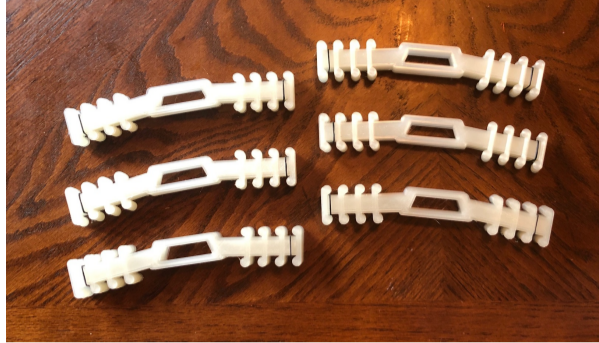


On the Bright Side: Making Ear Guards for UMMC

May 01, 2020 | Mary Wallace, MSN '17, RN, CNL

Local business uses 3D printer to produce ear guards for hospital workers.

*The COVID-19 crisis has created many challenges, but it also has inspired acts of amazing kindness among members of our UMB community. We want to hear your inspiring stories for our **On the Bright Side** series. Submit your story [here](#).*



Being a nurse is never easy, let alone during a worldwide pandemic.

Last week, I was talking to my brother-in-law about how sore the backs of my ears were after a shift at work. Like many hospitals, the University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC) requires staff to wear a mask at all times in the hospital. While it was entertaining trying to come up with creative ways to take the pressure off of our ears, I was really happy when my brother-in-law offered to look into producing ear guards with the 3D printer at his work.

In less than a week, he was able to coordinate with his colleagues at Oceaneering in Hanover, Maryland, to produce 60 ear guards to be donated to UMMC employees.

I want to thank everyone at Oceaneering, School of Nursing Dean Jane Kirschling, and Lisa Rowen at UMMC for helping to make this happen! This is a difficult time, but it makes a real difference when we can all come together to support one another.

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