Serving Underserved Communities

**Description:** Even as mask making ventures proliferate worldwide, some communities are still hampered by accessibility challenges. Hosted by MakerMask.org, this panel looks at the challenges faced by underserved communities, including low-income and unsheltered, individuals with visual impairments, young children, and those with sensory challenges. If you are concerned about making masks accessible to all who need them, join us for this important discussion.

**Panelists:** Dr. Jocelyn Songer; Rachel Sadd; Brianna Drohen; Hope Metzler, M.Ed.; Matt White

**Moderator:** Dr. Erika Wagner
Mask Making for low-income and unsheltered people

thecraftyavenger.com/distill-my-heart/
Rural Communities:  
60 million or 19.3% of population  
(2010 Census)
This is NOT an ERROR
Matthew White
Considerations: DIY Mask Making for Children

Hope Metzler, M.Ed. - Developmental Therapist, Special Educator, and Mask Maker.

- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on children: (1) under 24 months old (2) that have trouble breathing or (3) unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.

- **Pattern?** The mask should be made from a pattern written for children, so that there are not large gaps around the face.

- **Ties or Ear Loops?** Determine which your child prefers by wearing with them at home. Many find that crisscross elastic works well.

- **Fabric?** Ensure the child can breathe comfortably for the length of time needed for your outing.

- **Decorations?** Allow for breathing without restriction. It is best to leave off applications, iron-on pictures, and any added decorations that are in front of the face. Exceptions might be small details around the edges of the mask.

**Links:**