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Coronavirus Pandemic Response - From the Executive Director, Joel Ayres



Since 1959, the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF) has helped individuals and their families across the Aftermarket industry who've experienced financial hardship due to death, catastrophic illness, or accident. Today, our industry and society in general are facing unprecedented challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Throughout this difficult time and beyond, AACF remains steadfast in our commitment to provide support to members of the Aftermarket family when they face these severe challenges — including the Coronavirus that's currently sweeping our nation. If you or your loved one have contracted the Coronavirus (COVID-19), are facing financing hardship and have exhausted all resources available, you may qualify for assistance from AACF. Please visit our website aacfi.org for information on how to submit an application for review.

Please understand however, that AACF is not positioned to assist those faced with financial hardships as a result of the economic downturn this pandemic has caused. Unlike a natural disaster that strikes a small area/region and lasts but a few days, this pandemic has affected the entire country and may cause irreparable economic hardship to hundreds of thousands of businesses, and millions of individuals. In these instances, other avenues of support do exist, and we have compiled a list of government and other resources that may be useful and can be found on our website aacfi.org/coronavirus.

In closing, we'd like to express our sincere thanks to our many donors – most of whom are fellow industry participants – who have sustained their level of support to AACF even as they too are affected by these challenging and uncertain events. This vital support allows us to continue our good work exclusively

Please, if you feel like you are one of the fortunate ones I urge you to help in any way you can. There are 3 vehicles to share with AACF and you can read about them in several sections of this newsletter.

- 1. Donations!** On average, our expense is \$2,500 per recipient, some less and some much more. Consider helping at any level of donation. Every donation helps.
- 2. Have your company become an Awareness Partner!** It's a zero cost option and is a way to let your employees know we are here if they should need help. It's an easy process. Let us know if we can provide more details.
- 3. Spread the word** of the good work! If you know of someone that may need our help, refer them to our confidential application process.

If you already participate please recommend us to other communities within your influence - other organizations you do business with, customers, friends of the industry, community partners. We are very proud of our AACF family and hope you are too.

You can help us make a difference for an aftermarket family. We know it. We feel it. Together we can do it. Let us know how we can help you to help others.

- Joel Ayres, AACF Executive Director

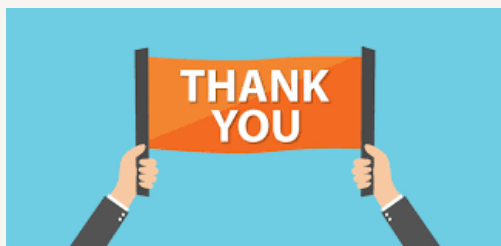
for the Aftermarket family, during these turbulent times and in the years to come. Stay well, stay safe, and we will get through this – together!

AACF NEWS

We would like to thank **Auto Care Association**, **MEMA**, and **SEMA** for their ongoing support and working with us to provide government resource lists to share with the industry.

Thanks also to **YANG (Young Auto Care Network Group)** for their **#YANGgive19** fundraising program for AACF. Officially launched on April 3, 2020, through a **social media post**, the YANG council's message is simple and clear: In this moment of crisis, for those who are able to support and donate \$19 to the AACF.

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How You Can Help

We are the only charity that enables you to help members of our industry that have nowhere else to turn. The work of the **Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation** (AACF) is done by volunteers and a small staff, so our overhead is minimal. The AACF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations to AACF are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Mail your donation to:

AACF

PO Box 864520

Orlando, FL 32886-4520

[DONATE TODAY](#)

"The measure of a country's greatness is its ability to retain compassion in a time of crisis."
- Thurgood Marshall

INDUSTRY NEWS

Industry Companies Manufacture PPE

With the rising need of personal protective equipment (PPE), aftermarket companies are switching gears to manufacture and provide what they can.

Truck Hero has announced that five of the company's manufacturing facilities have been retooled and are now producing personal protective equipment (PPE).

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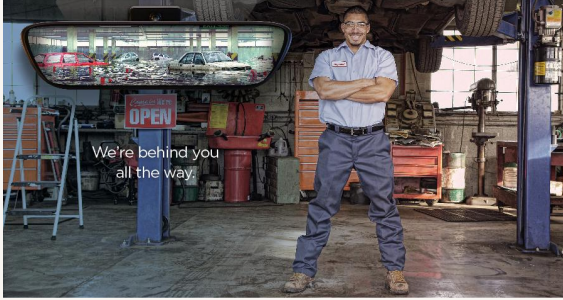
Covercraft Industries, a manufacturer of car and seat covers and windshield sunscreens, is lending its manufacturing and engineering expertise to quickly expand production of urgently needed Personal Protective Equipment, mainly gowns and masks, for healthcare workers and first responders fighting the coronavirus pandemic.

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COVID-19 Business Update: Automotive Businesses Get Creative

Aftermarket companies are getting creative in the ways they can give back and



offer support during this challenging time.
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United States Army Air Forces officer Donald Schlenger standing in front of B-29 Bomber "Don ~ The Beachcomber." North Field, Tinian.
Photo Credit: WW2Online.org

AACF Co-Founder Turns Ninety-Nine Years Old

Next month (on May 9th) Don Schlenger, Chairman Emeritus and Co-Founder of AACF celebrates his 99th birthday. Don has been the soul of AACF and still very active with the Foundation. Don is a WW II veteran and had a successful career in the automotive aftermarket.

On behalf of the entire Board of Trustees and the thousands of industry people AACF has helped over the last 60 years, we wish Don a very Happy Birthday and are looking forward to celebrating number 100 next year.

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About Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF)

The Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation (AACF) has been helping aftermarket families turn tragedy into triumph since 1959. Like the industry, AACF is driven by passion and devoted to family. It's tough to ask for help, but when someone in the aftermarket family faces profound circumstances, AACF is there to help put the tough times in the rearview mirror. As a nonprofit, AACF accomplishes its mission through the

support of generous donors, awareness partners and dedicated volunteers.

To learn more, visit www.AftermarketCharity.org.

To donate, visit <http://bit.ly/AACF-Cares>.

To apply for help, visit <http://bit.ly/AACF-get-help>.

The AACF is a not-for-profit organization.

AACF
[AftermarketCharity.org](http://www.AftermarketCharity.org)

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