

## KITCHEN REPURPOSED: FROM MEALS TO MASKS!

Every year we meet many interesting and inspiring people - clients who invite us in to their homes to help with remodeling or interior design. We thought it was time you met some of them too beginning with Leslee and Jeff Jaeger. During a kitchen remodel this year, we learned that Leslee is an OBGYN at Vogage Healthcare as well as a longtime volunteer performing surgeries for free in Haiti and coordinating the sewing of thousands of menstrual kits for the non-profit [Days for Girls](#). This month, Leslee turned her volunteer efforts to mask making in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We certainly didn't expect to use our new kitchen for mask-making!" says Leslee Jaeger of Plymouth, MN. But that's just what she is doing. The paint was barely dry on her new cabinets when Jaeger began coordinating the construction of masks for 150 health care workers and 30 physicians at North Memorial Hospital. So far, Jaeger and a team of volunteer sewers have made over 600 masks. She plans to keep going as long as there's a need.



"The masks don't substitute for what's lacking in PPE [personal protective equipment], but they can help fortify the supply of what is out there now that universal masking is required," Jaeger says. She is using surgical wrap for the masks - a material that is traditionally used to package medical instruments after they've been sterilized. The wrap is impervious to pathogens and usually discarded after one use. But Jaeger is recycling the material for masks given the shortage of supplies. Each mask can be worn four times before they lose their shape and need to be discarded.

We asked Leslee if she would have designed the kitchen differently had she known that she'd be using it to make masks. She laughed, saying "No, the long island is perfect for cutting and sewing fabric!" Wondering how the kitchen performs for cooking, baking and family meals? Keep your eyes peeled - we'll share photos of the new space soon!

## REMODELING: DIGIACOMO HOMES OPEN FOR BUSINESS



DiGiacomo Homes is open for business! We are available for preliminary design consults by phone and on site remodeling. (Of course we'll be wearing our masks!) Remodeling is considered an "essential" industry by the State of Minnesota, allowing work to continue. DiGiacomo Homes prioritizes safety by using protective materials as recommended by CDC, staggering subcontractor work schedules to limit traffic, and providing handwashing materials to prevent the unknown spread of disease.

**Call to discuss your project: 612-710-7900.**

## CONTACT US



**DiGiacomo Homes & Renovation, Inc.** is an [award winning](#), husband and wife, design-build firm that has been honored to bring timeless beauty, value, and sustainability to neighborhoods throughout the Twin Cities for more than 25 years. Our services include site analysis, architectural design, interior design, and construction. As always, [contact us](#) with questions or when ready to begin your custom home or remodel project.

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