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Edition ▾



Feature: Foreign residents in Shanghai keep love flowing during epidemic battle

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SHANGHAI, Feb. 4 (Xinhua) -- Opening up his suitcases, Jeffery S. Lehman, vice chancellor of Shanghai New York University (NYU Shanghai), handed out various medical materials to his faculty members, including protective clothing, sterile gloves and digital thermometers.

Lehman returned to China from New York earlier this month and brought these materials to Shanghai to help prevent the novel coronavirus on campus.

During his stay in New York, he had been following the progress of the epidemic. To help ensure the health of students and faculty members, he filled up his suitcases with various medical supplies.

By 10:00 a.m. Monday, no cases of the novel coronavirus have been reported in the university.

"Everyone cares about China," said Lehman. "People all around the world are concerned about the coronavirus outbreak.

Greatly touched by the commitment of Chinese people on the frontline of the epidemic battle, Lehman said many of his American friends are eager to help.

According to the statistics of the Shanghai Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs, there are more than 200,000 foreigners living and working in Shanghai. As China ramps up the fight against the infectious disease, these foreign residents also joined in the battle.

Some helped translate health tips from Chinese to English to alert other foreigners in Shanghai, while some choose to share foreign experts' analysis of the epidemic with Chinese netizens.

Afu Thomas, a German living in Shanghai and also an internet celebrity on Bilibili, a Chinese online video sharing platform, uploaded a video of his interview with Rolf Hilgenfeld, professor at Lubeck University, to give audiences some advice on disease prevention.

The Ronghua Neighborhood, known as "a pocket United Nations" in Shanghai, homes more than 16,000 foreign residents from over 50 countries and regions.

Some foreigners who have been to the epidemic-hit areas during the Spring Festival

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Sakai, a Japanese resident in the neighborhood, had just returned to Shanghai from a business trip to Wuhan before the Spring Festival. He was under home quarantine along with his family members, expressing understanding of the measure.



guarantee medical supplies

"It is an effective prevention and control measure against the epidemic, and there is nothing to worry about," Sakai said.

During the isolation observation period, Sakai said he deeply felt the love from Shanghai residents to foreigners like him.

"I am very grateful to the medical workers and the neighborhood volunteers who provide food delivery and psychological counseling services to us," Sakai said. "It is still reassuring to live in Shanghai."

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