



THE PAIUTE INDIAN TRIBE OF UTAH

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2020

The Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah takes the health of all Tribal Members and employees seriously and has actively been monitoring the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

As of March 14, 2020, the President of the United States has declared a national emergency under the Stafford Act in response to the coronavirus pandemic, the State of Utah has declared a State of Emergency in preparation of the coronavirus, that encompasses all reservations, and the World Health Organization has listed the Corona Virus as a pandemic.

To date there have been no reported cases of Coronavirus on our Reservations or in our boarder communities. I want to repeat that THERE HAS BEEN NO REPORTED CASES OF CORONAVIRUSES ON OUR RESERVATIONS OR IN OUR BOARDER COMMUNITIES.

The Tribe has been proactively working on developing a plan to keep you and our staff safe, while continuing to provide essential services. The most important thing we want you to know is that we are committed to ensuring that we will continue to provide essential services to our Tribal Members, and all emergency decisions we make during this time will be based on that responsibility while taking precautions to prevent the potential spread of the virus.

Our current mitigation plan is as follows (as of 03/14/2020):

- We have made the decision to postpone all upcoming events, following the CDC recommended guidelines, to make sure our community members are safe.
- We have halted all non-essential travel.
- We will be deploying and promoting Telehealth in all our communities to reduce potential exposure of our Tribal Members to potential outbreaks.
- FourPoints Health Clinics will remain open.
 - Please call and make an appointment.
 - Walk-ins are strongly discouraged. Please call prior to coming to the Clinic, OR if you are at the clinic, please call from your car to prevent the potential spread of the virus.
 - If you have flu-like symptoms (fever, cough and/or shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle aches) or recent close contact with a COVID-19 patient or recent travel to an area where COVID-19 is active, please call or use Telehealth so we can prevent exposure.
 - There will be a designated parking spot located at each clinic for individuals who have flu-like symptoms.
- Family Services will remain open with limited schedules. Family Services will promote telehealth, telephone calls to support clients.

- PITU Administration Office: many staff members will be working remotely and will be available by appointment only.
- Please call the front desk to schedule an appointment. Please DO NOT come to appointments if you are experiencing any COVID-19 or influenza symptoms.

We have called an Emergency Council Meeting to discuss COVID-19 and will be meeting and continuing to evaluate this issue. We are establishing an Emergency Response Team that will continue to meet and update the Tribal Council as things move forward.

We ask that you please do not panic. There are precautions that can keep you safe:

1. Washing your hands frequently.
2. Stay at home if you are feeling ill.
3. Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing.
4. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose without properly washing your hands.
5. Clean and disinfect touched objects and surfaces frequently.
6. Limit the time you leave your house to only when you must leave.
7. Limit gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
8. If you are older than the age of 60 or have a compromised immune system, you should limit your participation in groups of more than 20 at a time.
9. Avoid being around those who are sick.
10. Follow 'Social Distancing' practices.

The health, well-being, and future of our Paiute people is our top priority. We are doing our best to stay informed of this current situation and to prevent the spread of this virus in our communities. We urge you to follow the health precautions above, make good decisions, and take care of your families, children, elders, and loved ones during this time.

We will continue to evaluate this issue and coordinate with state and federal officials to monitor the coronavirus and will provide more information as it is available.

We encourage you to follow the precautions listed above. For the most recent information about the virus and how you can protect yourself and your family, please visit the Centers for Disease Control's website at: <http://www.cdc.gov>.

If you believe that you have Corona Virus please call the Utah Coronavirus Information Line at [1-800-456-7707](tel:1-800-456-7707) for information and guidance.

We will be releasing more information and videos and updates on our PITU website and PITU Facebook page.

If you want to receive additional information, please call the front desk and provide your updated contact information.

Sincerely,



Tamra Borchardt-Slayton
Tribal Chairwoman
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah