

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes**  
**March 26, 2020**  
**11:00 AM**

Angie Gorn, CEO, NSHC	Megan MacKiernan, Quality and Risk Management Director, NSHC	Reba, Public Relation Manager, NSHC
John Bioff, Kawerak	Dr. Tim Lemaire, NSHC	Blanche Garnie, Teller
Charlene Saclamana, Kawerak	Opik, Diomedede	Heather Payenna, King Island Native Community
Donna James, Kawerak	Glenn Steckman, City of Nome Manager	Ted Katcheak, Stebbins
Lloyd Kiyutelluk, Shishmaref	Karla Nayokpuk, Shishmaref	Donna James, Kawerak
Andrew Norris, Kawerak	Traci McGarry, Kawerak	Tiffany Martinson, Nome Eskimo Community
Charles Swanson, Native Village of Koyuk	Carol Charles, VHS Director	Charlie Brown, Golovin
Tony Haugen, Native Village of Unalakleet	Elizabeth Kuzuguk, Nome	Racheal Lee, NSHC, OEH Director
Mark Peterson, NSHC, Medical Director	Joleen Nanouk, Unalakleet	Marie Katcheak, Stebbins
Shishmaref	Roxanne, Nome	Kirsten Timbers, VP of Community Health Services, NSHC
Mary David, Kawerak	Frances Ozenna, Diomedede	Deborah Seetok, Wales
Chase Gray, NSHC Village Clinic Operations	Megan Alvanna Stimpfle, NSHC/Kawerak	Mary's Igo
Luke Smith, NSHC Village Clinic Operations	NSHC CAMP Department	Robert Toekienna, Wales
Jane Dale, AK Air Carriers Association	Tracy Cooper, Native Village of Unalakleet	Irene Navaro, Golovin
Tom Vaden, Nome Local Emergency Preparedness Committee	Savoonga	Robert Keith, Elim
Mark Kelso, Nome Dental Director	Deanna Stang, Nome Public Health	Joanne Keyes, Wales
Jonelle Murray, Elim		

The call started around 11:05 am and ended at 1:00 pm.

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION
Introduction to Meeting – Angie Gorn, NSHC CEO	<p>Angie gave an introduction regarding the purpose, standing agenda, and frequency of the call. The daily call will be at 11 am Monday through Friday and will include NSHC administration and Medical Staff. The Standing Agenda for today will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Prayer</li> <li>2) Medical Staff Briefing</li> <li>3) Reminders and education</li> <li>4) Travel Ban Information</li> <li>5) Questions</li> </ol> <p>Note- Any questions may be sent to Reba Lean at <a href="mailto:rlean@nshcorp.org">rlean@nshcorp.org</a> anytime or text to 907-434-1927 and they will be answered during the 11:00 am call.</p>
Prayer	Prayer was given by Joanna Keyes from Wales
Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, Medical Director	<p>Dr. Mark Peterson gave a briefing and also went over the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 59 COVID-19 cases in Alaska, up 17 cases from day prior</li> <li>- 3 of the 59 are hospitalized</li> <li>- No COVID-19 in our region</li> <li>- 10 tests that have been done at NSHC, 8 are negative, and 2 results not back yet</li> <li>- 300 test kits available in our Region, in Nome and Village Communities</li> <li>- Stay home, isolate, delay virus from Spreading</li> </ul>
Reminders and education – Angie Gorn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <b>Education:</b></li> <li>- Educational hand outs were sent to all villages yesterday via hand carry.</li> <li>o <b>Updates:</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Started medication delivery in the Norton Sound System. We are encouraging patients to not come into the facility to pick up your medication and that we are delivering them to patient’s doors. Not just in Nome but in the region also.</li> <li>- Temperatures are also being checked before entering the hospital.</li> <li>- Press release today with Dr. Peterson COVID-19 information, and guidance during this time.</li> <li>o <b>Cleaning:</b> Cleaning supplies were boxed up and sent to villages. Some examples that we have sent are trash bags, wipes, bleach, dish soap. If your community may need any supplies please email Reba at <a href="mailto:rlean@nshcorp.org">rlean@nshcorp.org</a> . We will get supplies out as we can due to our supplies.</li> <li>➤ <b>Charlene Saclamana with Kawerak gave the following information:</b></li> <li>1) Email was sent to all city offices and attached is a community assessment and would like the city office to work with the local clinic staff and return the spreadsheet to Charlene.</li> <li>2) Facility spreadsheet was also sent to each village and would like it to be updated with quarantine and second clinic for emergency.</li> <li>3) Villages with no water and sewer please contact BSSD to see if they have shower washer, and dryer available either at teacher housing or second location at the school and see if they can be available and needed if providers are sent to help with the COVID-19.</li> <li>4) Keep in mind that if the food in your village starts to diminish because of the travel restrictions that are in place right now that BSSD received all of their food through USDA and these items are reimbursable when the COVID-19 becomes a full declared disaster. Would like each village office to know that now would be a good time to begin documenting any expenses that are related to COVID-19 response.</li> <li>5) Dr. Kelso will be contacting each local village to go over the community assessment that was sent this morning. Look forward to his phone call.</li> </ul>
<p>Patient Travel – Megan MacKiernan</p>	<p>The permitting process into Nome out of Nome now requires permit all villages are requiring information for entry.</p> <p>NSHC plans to handle it for all patients.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Order from Physician</li> <li>2) Taking the order and permitting to the city of Nome</li> <li>3) Email will be sent to City for patients coming to Nome and when they are leaving</li> <li>4) To Anchorage will make sure they get done.</li> <li>5) When patients are coming back need to be notified to make sure permit is in place.</li> <li>6) We will work with patients to make sure they follow their village rules.</li> <li>7) Patients that come in should only be at patient hostel and hospital and not traveling in town. Encourage self-isolating in Nome and Anchorage.</li> <li>8) Amy Hollis is going to be leading quarantine tracking in Nome.</li> <li>9) Will work with City manager to get it set to work with them for the permitting process.</li> </ul>

	<p>10) May be a form for patient to sign to agree they will only be at hostel and hospital to reduce exposure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Glenn with the City of Nome gave the following information:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Alaska Airlines has limited service to Nome 5 days a week, once a day</li> <li>2) Goal to maintain place at the supply line not only to Nome but to surrounding communities</li> <li>3) They are working with everyone they travel</li> <li>4) They want to continue to protect people not just in Nome but in the communities also</li> <li>5) Gave reminder of guidelines about staying away from others and following the recommendation</li> <li>6) Trying to work with all the communities about quarantine and for travel</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<p>Questions – everyone</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>For the city of Nome that are doing travel permits, are they providing to the airlines?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Forms are available online and they can make sure each city office has forms. Wants to them to be submitted 24 hours if not more in advance.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Is pathfinder aware?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The city will make sure they are aware and keep them include.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Villages don't have great internet and was wondering if permit can be PDF?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Can call the city at 443-6663 to get it faxed over to the villages.</li> <li>▪ NSHC will make sure all the villages have the form. They will make sure the clinic will have it.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>How long is the permit in effect too?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Currently until April 15<sup>th</sup> but they will review before then.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>If there is a family emergency and they need me in Nome do I contact Amy?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ You would apply for permit with the city of Nome.</li> <li>▪ We are limiting visitors within NSHC. This is a hard and difficult time and will deal with it on a case by case basis. If someone is sick with coronavirus they will not be having any visitors.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Koyuk was notified that we do have a copy of the permit paperwork at the city. Reba has sent out copies.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ She did send out and will be sending out an update today.</li> <li>▪ Will also be sending out contact information for each village and a streamline process and will share once complete.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Do we disregard the first permit since it was amended?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ City Manager will check to see if it has been updated but currently one they have will work for now.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>For patients who need to travel in and out of villages, would it be fusible for patients that travel to Nome or Anchorage if they can have masks and gloves provided to them?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ We will be following infection control updates and their guidelines.</li> <li>▪ Current guidance is if you are not sick you do not need to wear a mask.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Is there an age limit for health care providers that we are keeping a list or are we taking who we can?</b></li> </ul>

- LEPC is working for health aides and EMS for under the age of 50. NSHC is looking for previous healthcare providers please contact Cam [cpiscoya@nshcorp.org](mailto:cpiscoya@nshcorp.org) for emergency credentialing guidelines.
- **If someone comes down with coronavirus and are quarantine can we cook for them?**
  - Yes that would be good. It would be just like having the flu comfort food and for them to stay hydrated. Make sure to clean and sterilizes pots and pans before using them afterward.
- **Some communities don't have beds what do we do?**
  - NSHC is working on getting cots and other items ready and working with the villages and other communities to get equipment ready.
- **What if someone passes away from the village what do we do?**
  - There are CDC guidelines that we follow and if it comes to that we will give out information.
- **If it occurs will it be closed caskets?**
  - That would be the recommendations.
- **Elim was informed that they have the wrong swabs in villages for the virus.**
  - We just got them in and they are headed to the villages. Elim should be fine now.
- **On the news North Korea and china are carrying around things that they are spraying do we have any information on that?**
  - It's a large scale disinfecting solution that they would be spraying to clean a large building.
  - An area that would have a lot of community spread. We do not have a need for that right now in our region.
- **In Elim their high volume is the store. They are doing a great job at cleaning.**
  - Recommended that in the store if they aren't going to get it don't touch it.
  - Also a generator that you can plug in and it can clean the air within an hour.
- **If we get junk mail should we just throw them in the trash because how do we know if they came from part of place with coronavirus? Is anything being addressed in that direction?**
  - National concern regarding the mail. The virus can live a couple of daily's on mail but it is usually takes longer before getting to us. If you do handle your mail wash your hands after.
- **Can use soap and water to clean the container's is there anything else we can use?**
  - Can do that, can take out of packages and throw their packages away and wash hands, if you can't take out of packages try to wipe down. Also can wait 2 to 3 days before handling again. Also wash your hands frequently while cooking.
- **Golovin gets one flight a day are there any other flights are being delayed?**
  - They still have freighters coming in. Fish and game also extended their days for hunting moose in specific areas.
- **If someone does pass away is there going to be enough body bags for every**

**village community?**

- The planning committee is looking at that and the state would step in if needed for that.
- **Teller had a city meeting and there were numerous questions on quarantine and health care providers that are traveling to the villages that have traveled within the last 14 days and if they need to be quarantined?**
  - NSHC will make sure that they have been quarantined in Nome before going to the villages. As of now, we do not have any known cases and people that have only been in Nome are not required to quarantine but the ones coming from the lower 48 will be quarantined before going into the village. Per state guidelines, if they come from the village to Nome to the village they are not required to quarantine.
- **If a health aide comes to Nome and goes back do they need PPE from the city or quarantine?**
  - We respect the village's travel ban but the state has a specific guidance for quarantine for health care providers and special guidelines. If just been to Nome they are at pretty low risk and they shouldn't have a concern with handling their trash.
  - Right now the current guideline is to follow the PPE guidelines that is in place when hauling trash and doing other jobs.
- **Teller is making quarantine posters and need guidance?**
  - NSHC has guidance and has sent it out already but can resend.
- **What is the guideline for mixing chemicals?**
  - Dish soap and Clorox are fine. Other than that, don't mix bleach with other things because it can create dangerous gases.
- **Concerned about mail service to the communities and suppliers for store since there has been outbreak in Anchorage. What can we do as a community to prevent droplets?**
  - Reminder if you are handling mail or groceries wash your hands after doing so. Get rid of any outside packaging and wash your hands; if bottles can be wiped down, wipe them down. You can let your mail sit for a 2-3 days before opening it and wash hands after handling it.
- **We use cardboard to cut up our subsistence how would we clean it?**
  - The virus doesn't live as long on card board (24 hours) as it does on plastic. You can also clean with bleach but will need to let it sit.
- **Would like a reminder with everything that has come out to be in a new letter every week.**
  - NSHC is working on some mailers to get out. Might not look like a typical newsletter but will get it out through a mass mailer.
- **Is there a fine if you do not quarantine when you do in-state travel?**
  - If anyone comes through from Anchorage to Nome and goes to the villages, they need to quarantine. Recommended to quarantine in Nome. Travel between villages by snow machine is at low risk right now but to limit travel to Anchorage and is recommended to quarantine.
  - Not a requirement at this time for jail time or fine but should quarantine

	<p>away from others and should self-isolate away from people that have not traveled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Regarding people traveling by snow machine and if this is a requirement for the travel bans?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ City of Nome did exempt snow machines from the travel permit. Recommended to stay home though and not traveling between villages. Communities need to think about and discuss at each village level if they want to ban snow machiners.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>If the virus gets to the villages and we only have one health aide will other health care providers come out?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Yes. NSHC will have an emergency team that would be going out. We would not leave them without any help, that would not happen.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Tellers Traditional Council and Mary’s Igloos Traditional Council, and Teller City Council have discussed the travel ban and we made changes and the Teller travel ban has been updated effective 3/25/20.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Please send to Reba Lean when document is finished.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Please forward community restrictions to Reba Lean at <a href="mailto:rlean@nshcorp.org">rlean@nshcorp.org</a></b></li> <li>➤ NSHC staff has reached out to Bobby with BSSD to see if the schools were available to use for field clinics and he stated that “yes”, there is a process so Dr. Peterson will be contacting and working with them.</li> </ul>
<p>Ending remarks – Angie</p>	<p>Angie asked if any information would be helpful to share for tomorrow’s call. It was noted that a good topic might be to hear about the volume of patients currently in quarantine and what that need might be.</p>