

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes  
April 9, 2020**

Chase Gray, NSHC	Megan MacKiernan, NSHC	Angie Gorn, CEO, NSHC
Kelly Bogart, NSHC	Cameron Piscoya, NSHC	Reba Lean, NSHC
Dr. Mark Peterson, Medical Director, NSHC	Kirsten Timbers, NSHC	Carol Charles, NSHC
Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle	Katie Hannon, NSHC	Jessica Ivanoff, NSHC
Charles Swanson, Koyuk	Howard Weyiouanna, City of Shishmaref	Carolyn O., City of Teller
Opik Ahkinga, City of Diomede	Cora, City of Teller	Cherri McConnell, Kawerak
Carol Piscoya, Kawerak	Glenn Steckmen, City of Nome	Tiffany Martinson, NEC
Joanne Keyes, Wales	Dan Harrelson, City of White Mountain	Rhonda Brunett, NSHC
Jason Harrel, NSHC	Lori Huges, NEC	Charlie Brown, Golovin
Donna James, Kawerak	Dorothy Barr, Native Village of White Mountain	Jolene Olson, Kawerak
Kevin Bahnke, NEC	Andrew Norris, Kawerak	Dorothy Barr, Golovin
Bertha Koweluk, BSWG	Carol Charles, NSHC	Mark Johnson, City of Nome and Unalakleet Native Corporation
Burl Johnson		

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	<b>DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION</b>
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 includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Prayer</li> <li>2) Medical Staff Briefing</li> <li>3) Capability of new in region testing and Education on overall testing</li> <li>4) Comments and Questions</li> </ol> <p>Note- Any questions may be sent to Reba Lean at <a href="mailto:rean@nshcorp.org">rean@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
Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, Medical Director	<p>Dr. Mark Peterson gave the medical staff update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 272 cases in Alaska, 8 death(one out of state), 8-15 cases average a day, not really escalating</li> <li>- 0 cases of COVID-19 in region</li> <li>- ANMC has no patients in hospital, 6 out patients, has not changed in several days</li> <li>- 51 test, 16 were done in our lab, 3 pending still</li> <li>- None in our region</li> </ul>
Capability of new in region testing	<p>Dr. Peterson stated the following about testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o ANMC and NSHC now have the capability to be testing</li> <li>o One question that has come up is should we be testing the whole region or a whole village to see where we are at? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Until we know we have the virus in the region, testing people without symptoms is not the right way to go about it.</li> <li>▪ We are still not trying to test people without symptoms.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Let’s say a village start’s to have multiple cases. We got approval and backup from the state to test the whole village if needed.</li> <li>▪ If someone were to get it and are in the early stages and do not have symptoms they are more likely to have a negative test rather than someone who has symptoms.</li> <li>○ NSHC is following what is recommended across the country and by epidemiology which is to test everyone that is symptomatic with the following:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cough</li> <li>▪ Cold</li> <li>▪ Runny Nose</li> <li>▪ Sore throat</li> <li>▪ Shortness of breath</li> <li>▪ Fever</li> <li>▪ New onset of diarrhea</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ We want to test people that have symptoms that way we are more likely to have the test come back positive if they do have it.</li> <li>○ Call the Nurse Triage Line and get in for testing. If you have one symptom, call to come in. It doesn’t have to be a full combination.</li> <li>○ We are still encouraging of testing for strep and influenza prior to COVID-19 testing because those are still going around.</li> </ul>
<p>Questions and Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Previously the clinics were testing for other respiratory or other virus, infections before testing for COVID. Where are we at with that? Will we continue doing that?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If someone comes in and has a sore throat we will test you for strep and if you were positive for that we would stop there. It is very rare if you have strep that you would have COVID also. If they are negative though we would test for COVID.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>With the season what are we seeing right now in our region?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Two viruses that are around right now are the flu and RSV that we are seeing.</li> <li>▪ Also strep</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Giving our population number are we doing enough test?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rate of increase of testing is good. The number is going to grow quickly now that we are able to do in house testing.</li> <li>▪ We are going to push education for testing.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Discussion was held about if someone tested positive in our region to disclose whether or not it would be okay to state which village the positive test came from. Dr. Peterson and Megan did inform that we would want to do anything we can to keep that disclosure do to patient privileges but that NSHC and Public Health would be working with the patient and anyone that was in contact with the positive patient.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Once someone tests positive and you go through all the steps, will you be retesting them to see if they are still positive?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It would be a recommendation approach. Dr. Peterson will have to look it.</li> <li>▪ If a patient has tested positive to COVID there are two different steps they could do. They can test base strategy which requires two</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>additional tests or if we are low and test material we will do the symptoms bases strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Discussion was held about requirements if someone tests positive and how long they should be isolated. NSHC is following the CDC guidelines.</b></li> <li>○ <b>A lot of communities have volunteers that can make masks; is there any material available for them to make the mask for those who have to travel?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NSHC currently has volunteers and we are trying to get as many as possible to hand out. If you would like some material please email Reba at <a href="mailto:rlean@nshcorp.org">rlean@nshcorp.org</a>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Angie shared that the NSHC board of directors meet last Thursday and they approved funding for all of our tribes and checks were mailed out on Friday. They have been sent to the president and can be used at your discretion.</b></li> <li>○ <b>Dr. Peterson recommended that the CDC has a couple of good pages that you can review about isolation and different COVID material.</b></li> <li>○ <b>What is the time limit for the stimulation check? Also if someone does not have enough funds to file taxes can I claim her?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ You can go to the IRS web page and can file on the IRS page if you have not completed taxes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Where can we go to get assistance with rent?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 443-2237 is public assistance number. They will also need verification that you applied with your tribal organization so you will need to apply with them also.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Ending Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Angie thanked everyone for attending and will talk to everyone tomorrow.</li> </ul>