

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes
April 16, 2020**

Chase Gray, NSHC	Megan MacKiernan, NSHC	Angie Gorn, CEO, NSHC
Kelly Bogart, NSHC	Cameron Piscoya, NSHC	Reba Lean, NSHC
Kirsten Timbers, NSHC	Carol Charles, NSHC	Dr. Terrence O'Malia, NSHC, Assistant Medical Director
Katie Hannon, NSHC	Charles Swanson, Koyuk	Howard Weyiouanna, City of Shishmaref
Cora, City of Teller	Tiffany Martinson, NEC	Jolene Olson, Kawerak
Dolly Kuzgruk, Teller	Roy Ashenfelter, Kawerak	Dan Harrelson, City of White Mountain
Karla Nayokpuk, City of Shishmaref	Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle	Rhonda Burnett, NSHC
Dorothy Barr	Jason Harrel, NSHC	Gilbert Tocktoo, Brevig
KNOM	Lori Hughes, NEC	Native Village of Savoonga
Preston Rookok	Bertha Koweluk, BSWG	

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 includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Prayer 2) NSHC Statement 3) Medical Staff Briefing 4) Comments and Questions <p>Note- Any questions may be sent to Reba Lean at rean@nshcorp.org anytime or text to 907-434-1927 and they will be answered during the 11:00 am call.</p>
Prayer	Prayer was given
NSHC Statement	Angie read a public statement from NSHC.
Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, Medical Director	<p>Dr. Terrence O'Malia gave the medical staff update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 32 patients in house, 68 negative, 1 positive, 13 pending - 293 positive case in Alaska, 9 deaths, none in the last 24 hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dr. O'Malia went over the coronavirus and the different types of coronaviruses that are out there (more than one). ➤ Dr. O'Malia went over the testing that we have here in Nome and what it means for it to go to commercial labs. ➤ Megan MacKiernan discussed smoking cessation and how smoking could impact your health with the coronavirus. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some helpful numbers for you if you would like to quit smoking: - Camp Department: 443-3365, Jessica Ivanoff: 443-9671, Katie Hannon: 443-4583, Tobacco Quit Line: 1-800-QUIT-NOW available 24/7

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You will need to have a referral from a provider for services. Camp office is open via phone appointments and no in person appointments at this time.
<p>Questions and Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Is NSHC going to send patients into Nome for appointments? Should NSHC be responsible for patients during quarantine? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NSHC will work with each patient who is sent in for medical travel and the community to ensure quarantine. We are housing people here for two weeks. Each patient is case managed by quarantine leads. If it works best in Nome, we will do it here in Nome. ▪ We are still open for business, we are taking patients from the villages, and we are working with the villages on a case by case basis by their emergency order. The state has come out with some guidelines that relax certain procedures; NSHC is evaluating these to see what we can open up safely. o Comment was made about quarantining and making sure we are in contact with community leaders on quarantining in Nome. o Can we have a clear definition that can go to each village and what we should be doing? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We have created education on this and it is available on nortonsoundhealth.org. Click on the red banner and it is under resources. ▪ If someone has been quarantine they need to be doing social distancing, staying in their house, and separated from other. If someone is quarantine and with their family, they should be in their own room, not sharing items, and if sharing a bathroom it needs to be wiped down. o What are people doing that are not following quarantine procedures? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The state created an email address which is investigations@alaska.gov that you can email if you are suspicious on someone not following the quarantine rules in your community. o What can we do if someone went out and had a few? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inform them that they should quarantine o Can we request NSHC to test people? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No, they would have to experience a symptom to get tested. o With the positive case, are the close contacts getting tested? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If symptoms develop they are told to come in and get tested. They are also required to quarantine per the Public Health department. o Can NSHC keep those patients strictly at the patient hostel? Don't let them go shopping etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NSHC quarantine department will be in contact with those who are quarantining due to traveling. If someone tests positive public health will be in contact with them daily. o TSR is willing to box up groceries and deliver; can you suggest this to the patients? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AC and Hanson's have delivery services. For the snow machiner's that are coming in from villages the City is working with submitting names to the troopers. o Discussion was held on why marijuana stores are still open. o

- **How is Norton Sound prepared to deal with confidentiality issues when people have to be notified?**
 - Norton Sound being the health care provider we have confidentiality that we are required to follow. We are working with Public Health and we are required to notify them for the pandemic.
 - If there is a privacy concern, please call 1-855-541-4194 or www.nortonsoundhealth.ethicspoint.com
- **Can you state how many tests are being administered per village?**
 - Confidentiality in the hospitals is based on numbers. You are not allowed to identify for villages with 300 or less. To protect the patient we will limit where the results came from.
- **Do you have specific guidelines now where a paraprofessional, are using to require a mask in the health facility?**
 - Norton Sound is encouraging all employees to wear a mask while at work, and Norton Sound facilities are a smoke free facilities and we do not allow smoking on the clock. You must clock out to go smoke.
 - We do provide smoking sensation classes.
- **What is the process and time frame of when someone is positive?**
 - Just an example. The provider will test the patient, if the test is positive the provider will get the first call that they patient is positive at all hours of the day, the first person to be notified after the provider finds out the results is the patient, the provider will let them know that they are positive and that public health will be contacting them in 30 minutes. They are then contacted and asked in depth questions and public health will start their process.
- **Can NSHC be more transparent on the location and tracing of the information?**
 - Public health is a separate entity, which is responsible for tracing and contacting close contact. If someone has a symptom, please contact the nurse call line to get tested.
- **Since we have contacts been followed up with, do we have high confidence that we have contained COVID-19?**
 - It is only as good as the memory of the patient who they remember who they were with, which can be a problem if the person doesn't remember who they were with.
- **It appears that testing capacity is much greater, even in the past few days.**
 - It has increased the last seven days. We are following CDC guidelines for testing and since we got a positive case, we can broaden NSHC testing.
- **Can you speak to the quality of the test?**
 - If you have one virus particles, and high jacks a cell, and you are infected. We are waiting for patients to be symptomatic. State test, can find 5 virus particles per solutions. ANMC you need at least 100 virus particles per solution and with NSHC you need 105 virus particles per solution.
- **Stats hypothetical based on 100 people.**

- 100 people get the virus
- 80 people will be fine and are home
- 20 may require a trip to the ER or hospitalized
- Of the 20 people, 5-10 will require intensive care
- 1-2 out of the 20 will be on a ventilator
- These are extreme numbers from like, Italy. Every place has slightly different numbers.
- 2-4 of the 100 would be fatal; this is more deadly than the flu virus.
- **If an essential worker in Nome is living in a resident with a number of people, some are elderly, is it possible for the essential work, if they can utilize quarantine housing?**
 - Contact Amy Hollis 907-434-0654. It will be determined on a case by case basis.
- **When will the next newsletter come out from NSHC?**
 - The one in the mail box is currently on its way and it was mailed out on Monday.
- **Will there be any more newsletter coming out from the hospital?**
 - Possibly, depending on what information is needed to be sent out.
- **Would it be possible to send out instruction to make mask?**
 - Yes.
- **Is it possible to get it translated for elders?**
 - Reba will work with the news station.
- **Is Norton Sound donating materials for making homemade mask?**
 - Yes we are. If you would like to request some or some fabric CAMP has fabric just email clean@nshcorp.org the requests.
- **Marie Trigg has been sewing cloth masks and she steams them with hot iron steam. If you are interested in one you can email her at mtrigg@kawerak.org.**
- **For patients, can they pick up the village permit before travel?**
 - For the patients coming, the order is put in the system, contact is made to the patient stating that the permit needs to be completed, the travel guide for their village, and guidance for quarantining. If they do not follow you can contact the City or to the address above.
- **Is the positive case is it travel related, if not there should be concerned that there are more cases in Nome. Has that been announced?**
 - Public health will be announcing that not Norton Sound.
 - It was announced on the State website that it was community spread.
 - There are three types of cases: Travel, close contact, and community spread which is who didn't travel and that might have the disease and didn't have contact with anyone that they knew was positive. This mean the person caught the virus in the region. They had to catch it from somebody. It lets us know the virus is here. We have to caution and alert. We should all act as we are asymptomatic carriers. It is possible to have this virus and to never have symptoms.
- **Can you get a false positive?**
 - There is a very small false positive rate. We have found almost no false positives. The false negative rate is higher. This test is very specific. If

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it is positive you can believe it.

- **If you didn't receive the federal stimulus money and concerns of snap benefits would register you that are not true. You would need to sign up at irs.gov to apply for the stimulus money.**
- **Angie will create a FAQ document to share with the public.**