

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes  
April 27, 2020**

Angie Gorn, CEO, NSHC	Reba Lean, NSHC	Mark Peterson, MD, Medical Director, NSHC
Kelly Bogart, NSHC	Megan MacKiernan, NSHC	Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle
Kristen Timbers, NSHC	Cameron Piscoya, NSHC	Charles Swanson, Koyuk
Carol Charles, NSHC	Beverly Tran, NSHC	Bobby Bollen, BSSD
Katie Hannon, NSHC	Charles Swanson, Koyuk	Howard Weyiouanna, City of Shishmaref
Cora, City of Teller	Jolene Oleson, Kawerak	Dolly Kugzruk, Teller
Dan Harrelson, White Mountain	Dorothy Barr, WMO	Jason Harrel, NSHC
Preston Rookok, Native Village of Savoonga	Robert Tokienna Jr.	Charlie Brown, Golovin
Donna James, Kawerak	Tony Haugen, Native Village of Unalakleet	Glenn Steckman, City of Nome Manager
Joanne Keyes, Wales	Deanna Stang, Public Health	John Waghiyi
Roy Ashenfelter, Kawerak	Opik Ahkinga, Diomede	Andrew Norris, Kawerak
Karla Nayokpuk, Shishmaref		

\*Over 40 people attended today's meeting.

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"> <li>1) Prayer</li> <li>2) Medical Staff Briefing</li> <li>3) 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>
Angie's update	<p><b>Angie gave the following updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Norton Sound employees continue to wear their cloth masks daily when at work</li> <li>- Norton Sound still only open for urgent and emergent patients</li> <li>- We continue to offer free shuttle service so that our employees do not have to take cabs to and from the hospital</li> <li>- We are still restricting visitors at inpatient and QCC</li> <li>- Our goals for the next few weeks is to really ramp up testing</li> <li>- Norton Sound did schedule our ultrasound technician to travel to the villages so that will be taking place the next two weeks</li> <li>- The ultrasound tech will fly out by Bering Air and has a list of patients that will be seen, so that is our way coming to the patient instead of bringing the patients to Nome, and will make it a little easier for every body</li> <li>- We will post the schedule publicly and that will be on our facebook page so everyone knows when the service is available in your village</li> <li>- This afternoon Norton Sound, Diomede, and City of Nome are participating in a teleconference to talk about upcoming construction season, subsistence activities in Diomede</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Norton Sound and the City of Nome are also having a teleconference after this one to talk about any challenges with the permit process to and make sure people are not slipping through the cracks</li> </ul>
<p>Prayer</p>	<p>Prayer was given</p>
<p>Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Peterson, Medical Director</p>	<p><b>Dr. Peterson gave updates on the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- State: continues to look quite good. 4 new patients the last 24 hours. 0 on Saturday, 2 on Sunday. 345 cases total cases for the state, 218 have recovered, 127 active cases in the entire state</li> <li>- Since we received our first COVID-19 case in Alaska there has been a total of 37 admitted to a hospital, however in the last two weeks there has only been a total 3 people admitted to the hospital, the data shows the dates that they are admitted and there was one admitted yesterday and 2 admitted about 14 days ago, there was a run of 10 days that no one has been admitted to a hospital. We are not sure if the 3 are still in the hospital, there were 14 two weeks prior to the last two weeks and that is when we were having more positive cases</li> <li>- ANMC: 12 outpatient, 0 inpatient</li> <li>- NSHC Region: 314 test done, we are up 147 test since last Monday April 20<sup>th</sup>, only 1 positive, no new cases, pushing for more testing, 255 negative, 58 pending at ANMC lab</li> <li>- Sent about 450 test kits total to Gambell, Savoonga, Unalakleet, and White Mountain</li> <li>- Should be sending test kits to the rest of the villages to receive 10% of population in test kits</li> <li>- Should have tent in front of NSHC ready by Wednesday or Thursday. For people who do not have symptoms that want to get screened</li> <li>- If symptoms call the hospital and get tested inside</li> <li>- Did open up for testing on Saturday and had about 10-15 City employees, fire department, police officers, EMS, other city officials who are exposed to other people</li> </ul> <p><b>Opening hospital:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We are looking to transition to do open a little at Norton Sound and get back to some regular health care for people</li> <li>- We will fill everyone in once we develop the plan</li> <li>- Over the course of this May and into June we will be opening up the clinic a little bit more to patient</li> <li>- We are developing more telemedicine to see patients in the villages more effectively</li> <li>- Other departments in the hospital like Radiology, limited dental visits, Optometry, Physical Therapy, we will develop a plan the next couple of weeks</li> <li>- ER and inpatient are always open, they are open 24/7, 365, we do expect those to get a little more busier as time goes on</li> <li>- Things are slowly going to be going back towards normal</li> <li>- We are going to do it as COVID ready, as we open up we will make sure we are ready in case we get the virus back in the community</li> <li>- We are wearing masks in the hospital and in the village, we will be doing that into the summer and fall and that's kind of COVID Ready</li> <li>- Whatever we can do by telemedicine we will continue doing and that kind of</li> </ul>

	<p>COVID Ready on our part</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are important procedures mostly cancer screening that we want to continue doing</li> <li>- Colonoscopy are screening that we want get back to that towards the end of May and seeing those patients again</li> <li>- Slowly we want to get back into things</li> </ul>
<p>Question and Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>With the testing now being open, I know they are testing some of the schools cooks and city people. My understanding would be that they are not showing symptoms, the voluntary testing basically they can still continue to do their duties and not having to quarantine after the test?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Looking to test people without symptoms and they can continue to go to work. People with symptoms should not go to work and should get tested and isolate after until test results come back.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>If we get tested in the village how soon will we have the results?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Wouldn't expect it before 72 hours after testing.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>School lunches are available for BSSD region?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ BSSD has entered into a grant and we will have meals that are being mailed to student. Every student should have received and family should have received a phone call to opt into that service. So once the school service is done, family that opted into the meals by mail will receive the two meals a day, per student, and will come in boxes depending on how many students you have. It will be delivered by mail and not be delivered by van or pick up at the school.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>What if there are families that do not have phone, what is the other way to reach families without phone services?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If someone does not have a phone if they can try and get ahold of their school or district, we can make sure they get added to the program if they missed it.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Did you say that the meals will be mailed to the parents that are in the school district?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is meals by mail. It's an independent company, independent grant, and if they opted into the program, they will receive at their PO Box a box a certain number of meals, again two per person per day, they can eat it in a two week period or however they see fit, and every two weeks they will receive in mail. They should still receive meals during the summer if they opted into the program.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Will parents have to fill out some type of form?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ When we made contact with the families we received a phone number and email address and they should have received an email confirmation and should click on the confirmation just to make sure they are enrolled in it but other than that there are no additional forms and it was all verbal.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Will there be an expiration date on all the packages?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All the meals are not perishables or items that will go bad. You can take them to camp and should be fine.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>If you do a test and don't have symptoms do you need to quarantine?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If you just want to do a test and don't have symptoms you do not need</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- to quarantine.
  - This testing does not replace travel quarantine restricts. If you haven't traveled and going about your business you do not need to quarantine. Testing negative does not get you out of quarantining for the travel quarantine.
- **If you live here in Nome, and you will have the tent up mid this week, we can just walk through drive through sometime and if I have a car full of people like my family, the results will come back same day?**
  - Results there are two options, if we have a lot of swabs for our ID Now test the nurse may be using them because right now we have a lot of them and that is 1 hour – 3 hour turn around and will be same day or early next day. If we are running lower on those we would use ANMC swabs and those would be flown out that day or the next flight available and that is a 24 hour turns around, and that would be 48 hours turn around.
  - The fastest way someone could get their own results instead of waiting for their doctor to call is to use the Norton Sound patient portal.
- **What's the plan to catch those people that don't have vehicle?**
  - We are aware of the population that has trouble getting to the hospital or to the tent we will be going to them. All of this is volunteer and surprisingly some people that are vulnerable and are at high risk and have a ride to get tested, some of them are opting out.
- **If there are folks that cannot leave their home, I am assuming Norton Sound would also set up a process or strategy to go and provide testing close to them. What would the process be?**
- If you have a loved one, friend, or someone else that you could bring in your car that would be great and we will test them and that would be a great effort and assistant on your part. Those who are truly home bound, in a wheel chair, and not able to get in a car, email us or call us and we will go to them.
- **Can you explain why the Nome test will get tested in Nome and why the people that get tested in the village will go to ANMC?**
  - The Abbott ID Now analyzer that we have in Nome we actually have a total of 5 of those analyzers and have 3 set up here in the Nome lab right now and can do a lot testing. The test swabs for that analyzer are special swabs and the tests have to be run within 12 hours from taking the swab. We are only going to use those test kits in Nome. The swabs that are used in the villages can be tested in 72 hours and if frozen they are good for even longer. We can't trust that we would get them to Nome within 12 hours. Because of that it is best for us to use ANMC swabs and get them tested at ANMC.
- **Antibody testing a blood test that we can use to tell if you had COVID-19 sometime in the past. That's testing that ANMC is getting set up to do. Setting up strategy for testing. That is another thing coming. Those who get regular blood draw when get this test added on once available and once it is available we can give access to those who want to get tested.**
- **Dr. Peterson asked how everyone was doing in the villages.**
  - Feedback was given by different communities on how they are

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION
	handling this time.