

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes  
March 10, 2021**

Angie Gorn, NSHC	Reba Lean, NSHC	Mark Peterson, MD, Medical Director, NSHC
Kelly Bogart, NSHC	Megan MacKiernan, NSHC	Cameron Piscoya, NSHC
Kristen Timbers, NSHC	Carol Charles, NSHC	Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle

\*Over 30 participants attended today's meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS	DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION
Introduction to Meeting – Angie Gorn, NSHC CEO	<p><b>Today's Reminder:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please keep phone muted unless speaking or asking a question</li> </ul> <p>Note- Any questions may be sent to Public Relations at <a href="mailto:pr@nshcorp.org">pr@nshcorp.org</a> anytime or text to 907-434-1927 and they will be answered during the 11:00 am call.</p>
Updates	<p><b>Angie gave the following update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No new cases</li> <li>- ASAA discussion with Billy Strickland, their executive director at 11:20 am tomorrow regarding the upcoming Anchorage basketball</li> </ul>
Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, Medical Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only 90 cases reported on Monday, Tuesday 140 cases reported in the State of Alaska.</li> <li>- NSHC will be sending out individual doses (rather</li> <li>- Received J&amp;J vaccine yesterday, 200 doses. We have people signed up to take it. Not many.</li> <li>- The State of Alaska has opened up vaccinations to anyone 16+. The state learned that people were unsure of their eligibility and many appointments were left open. The first priority for senior homes, healthcare workers, frontline workers.</li> <li>- For one of our villages, there was a request that went out for one of our communities that wanted to open more up and receive more analyzers for testing prior to events. Unfortunately, we don't have that many analyzers to send multiple to every village. We're currently putting an emphasis on getting people vaccinated in our communities rather than testing. If a community wants to open up, please put an emphasis on getting vaccinated.</li> </ul>
Question and Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Caller: What would you suggest for cultural or spiritual/religious gatherings? MP: It'd be better to only gather with other vaccinated persons. Gatherings should probably remain at 50% capacity, and keep family groups together. For places that have 70-80% vaccination (herd immunity), then people should</li> <li>- Mary David: families with &lt;16 where all the adults are vaccinated yet the kids aren't, is it safe to gather? MP: The CDC has opened up gatherings with vaccinated and unvaccinated people.</li> <li>- Roy: Would it help if the family gatherings is going to a home where the host is vaccinated. It would be good to update and share our message that short and brief that says, get vaccinated so we can get together. Reba: We can share that message more and get on that and push that message.</li> <li>- John, SVA: In Savoonga, it's really important to get _____ more people vaccinated to open up. MP: It's a good idea, to reach out and see how many people are needed to get up to 60-70%. Our PR team put together a group of</li> <li>- Caller: Angie, did you get any information on getting a region wide fishing derby? Angie: That's a good idea, and we don't have any updates yet. But we will talk about it.</li> <li>- Blanche, TLA: Is there still a weekly drawing? Sarah: Yes, we are doing a weekly drawing. We don't release the names on FB. Reba: I have been contacting the latest winners all morning. Caller: What's the number to text to fill out the survey: Text "Vaccine" to 833-413-0568. Reba: We're going to offer 3 special days of giveaways of turkeys.</li> <li>- Debra, Wales: What's the percentage of people vaccinated? MP: We'll release those on Monday, with updated numbers. Debra: Is there new information regarding COVID available? (Printed and available for pick up from the clinic)?</li> <li>- Caller: Any update on the new stimulus bill? Megan: there's funding for individuals, child tax credit, housing credits.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Caller: Is there any updates on expanding the patient hostel. Angie: By expanding services, our patient volumes are really high. There's a need to lodge more patients. We apologize. There have been a few situations where we've had to place patients at the Nugget inn. We ideally would like to address that, and make that a placement. As far as future goals: Wellness &amp; training Center, and the Shishmaref Clinic. We will look at that and the meals that are offered to patients. If you're going to make any new patient housing, it'd be good to make it connected to the hospital.</li><li>- Amos, WMO: I was wondering about patients who aren't on Medicaid, and what happens when the patient and escort policy? NSHC is here to listen. If Medicaid denies an escort, NSHC pays for airfare, lodging, meals, etc. At 60 years of age, any patient can have an escort.</li><li>- Blanche: With COVID, we've had women heading to Nome and Anchorage for long periods of time prior to delivering. Angie: We'll have to check with ANMC and for patients here in Nome. We're normally more flexible for mothers with other children. Our housing is a communal setting and it's harder to have partners come in. We'll get back to you on this regarding our policies.</li></ul>
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