

**COVID-19 Tribal Leadership Session Minutes
April 19, 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>Today's Reminder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please keep phone muted unless speaking or asking a question <p>Note- Any questions may be sent to Public Relations at pr@nshcorp.org anytime or text to 907-434-1927 and they will be answered during the 11:00 am call.</p>
Updates	<p>Angie gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Just published the data dashboard: 3 active cases all here in Nome. We're made aware of a new COVID case here in Nome. We can update on Wednesday for today's case. - Just published the vaccine data: 74% of eligible adults (16+) and 55% of total population.
Medical Staff Briefing – Dr. Mark Peterson, Medical Director – Megan Mackiernan, PA-C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cases in the state: around 150 a day on average. Rural Alaska has had decreasing cases. We have higher vaccination rates than the urban areas/road system and that seems to be happening. - Johnson & Johnson Vaccine is still on pause, just waiting for further confirmation and studies and the go-ahead from the FDA. We expect Pfizer to be approved for kids 12-15 soon! - We have Pfizer available at the Airport, we'll be opening up Pfizer available at the Post Office soon. - We're heading in the right direction, still vaccinating people. Over 5000 people in the region have been fully vaccinated.
Racheal Lee, Handwashing Stations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Portable handwashing sinks: NSHC at the beginning of the pandemic last year, NSHC was awarded a grant from the CDC to provide handwashing sinks. Our priority was to get them to isolation/quarantine locations in unserved communities as well as underserved communities. We'd also like to get some of these into resident's homes. That's the 5 unserved: Teller, Shishmaref, Wales, Diomede, & Stebbins as well as Gambell. Diomede has completed our packet and the information we need. Now we have logistical issues of getting items shipped out. In the other communities, we've received partial feedback. We're trying to get the remaining information back. We'll be shipping them out to the rest of the communities. - Joanne Keyes: Where was the information packet sent to? We've sent to both City & IRA to try and figure out which entity can take ownership and help install. For Wales, it was the City that volunteered to take over the project. - Blanche: I've sent an email regarding Teller's response. We wanted to get them to our elders. Racheal: We can't do anything until we get our full packet in due to the nature of the grants and the report back. - Lucy: For Gambell, would our unserved people who don't have water & sewer get a sink?

	<p>Racheal: We've been in contact with the City of Gambell to get that information and need the feedback to get those shipped out. Lucy: I'll reach out to the City of Gambell and see where they're at.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Megan M: The sinks have 2 tanks, one for clean water & one for dirty water, and has a foot pedal.
<p>Laurel Katchatag, Lysol Distribution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We've received feedback from: - Shishmaref – Tribe, White Mountain – Tribe, Diomede – City, Koyuk – Tribe, Unalakleet – Tribe, Teller – City, Brevig – Tribe, Wales – Tribe, Elim – City. We haven't gotten feedback from Gambell, Shaktoolik, Saint Michael Stebbins, Savoonga and Golovin. - We'll be shipping those out this week and monthly.
<p>Questions & Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Berta: When is the PA coming to Shishmaref? There's an NP scheduled to head out to Shishmaref this week. - Roy: Is there anyone reporting on the radio (KNOM, KICY, KNSA) about the vaccine and getting people vaccinated. Reba: We can do that and put it on the KNSA. We've mostly - Caller: Are we still encouraging the communities with lower percentages with getting vaccines. MP: There are 3 communities lower than the rest. We're asking the health aides and the NPs/Pas to get people vaccinated. They're still above 50% but we expect some help from the local staff to reach out to people about availability. Elim, Stebbins & Diomede, plus Brevig. - Lucy: What about the Johnson & Johnson vaccine? MP: It's the 1 and done, single dose vaccine. They've put a pause on it because they've had about 6 people out of 7 million vaccinated who had blood clotting issues. They're putting it on pause to see if the blood clots are due to the vaccine or due to other factors. So they're putting it on hold. If anything, they may allow the public to get vaccinated but with extra guidelines for who should get the J&J. - Lucy: What should people look for if they've gotten the J&J vaccine. MP: the chances are incredibly low, its less than 1 in a million. Health aides are aware, mid-levels are aware. The blood clots are likely to happen in the first 2 weeks after the J&J is administered. We're reaching out to people that those 400 residents in the region. A severe headache, abdominal pain, leg pain. It happened in women aged 18-48 year old. - Caller: how are you reaching out to people to get vaccinated? MP: Our staff calls people who haven't been vaccinated at least weekly and calling and encouraging. That seems to be the way some people are changing their minds. Caller: We had an experience with Bering Air, where a patient didn't have a vaccine nor a negative COVID test. - Megan A-S; We've heard some communities say that only vaccinated people can go to Open Gym. I think Village leadership can help and incentivize people to get vaccinated. - Roy: When was the last time we had a village person test positive for COVID? I was wondering because it seems to have been quite a while. MP: It's been within the last couple of weeks. We had a couple of isolated cases in the last 2 weeks. - Caller: Are people having chronic or Long COVID? MP: We've had some people here in the region. We've had some and it's hard to treat them.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mary David: Can we get a PSA for people who are traveling for medical and in general to have help with anxiety for traveling. It's hard being around a lot of people. It was a little anxiety-ridden. MP: As we open up, some people may feel good and others may get anxious. We can look into some way of advertising the anxiety of opening back up. Some people may need to reach out to BHS. We can advertise that in regular NSHC locations. Megan A-S: We can advertise people to be safe in general while traveling out of the region. Capacity limits are gone, and maybe limit exposure to restaurants (take out or delivery). Or going to grocery stores. Avoid indoor spaces. Anchorage only has about 20% vaccination rates. - John: We've had some struggles with whaling. We've had challenging weather, and haven't really launched our boats and gear this time of year. We've had lots of our men get vaccinated and good numbers at whaling camp. It might be good to have faith-based connections and to handle stress about anxiety. - Who have had the COVID cases lately? We don't know for sure. We expect the virus to be everywhere. People just pick it up and turn positive during routine testing. It appears to be here. The percentage of vaccines in our community is great. They test positive, their close contacts are also vaccinated and it stops there. But we've had cases where people had spread to their close contacts. We're going to keep testing and we expect to see cases. We don't expect there to be many and expect people to be vaccinated. - Debra: Is there any updates regarding vaccines and the variants? MP: We don't have much updates other than getting vaccinated. We expect to maybe need a booster in the next year. The media is scary sometimes and scares people with information on the variants. - Opik: How often are the teleconferences happening these days? We're at 11am Mondays and Wednesdays.
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Data Dashboard:

https://my.visme.co/view/q6xw84jw-data-dashboard?fbclid=IwAR1IUj_bnhhBIIxWdZkNj6OD8khXS_IebWR0qXFOXc-AwG5Dsd7hJF4apc

Fishing Derby: Submit entries here.

<https://tinyurl.com/nshcfishingderby>

Vaccine updates:

REGIONAL COVID-19 VACCINATION PERCENTAGES

Percentages based on eligible people 16 and older in each community

As of 4/11/2021

HOME CITY	PERCENTAGE	HOME CITY	PERCENTAGE
BREVIK MISSION	59%	SAVOONGA	84%
ELIM	69%	SHAKTOOLIK	68%
GAMBELL	85%	SHISHMAREF	65%
GOLOVIN	82%	STEBBINS	57%
KOYUK	72%	TELLER	68%
LITTLE DIOMEDE	50%	UNALAKLEET	80%
NOME	74%	WALES	85%
SAINT MICHAEL	73%	WHITE MOUNTAIN	93%

How are we doing as a Region?



74%

Eligible patients, 16 years and older, region-wide who have received at least one dose of vaccine

57%

People region-wide, including adults and children, who have received at least one dose of vaccine