



March 13, 2020

COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES

Colorado River Indian Reservation

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COVID-19 COMMUNITY UPDATE

The Colorado River Indian Tribes is taking all necessary precautions to prevent or minimize the spread of the Coronavirus Disease within our community. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. This disease has spread by person to person contact among those known to be infected. It can also be contracted by touching a surface contaminated with the virus. Individuals can also take simple precautions to prevent or minimize the spread of this virus.

We are working with the Parker Indian Health Services and multiple CRIT Departments and agencies to educate our Health Care Facilities, First Responders, Tribal Departments, Tribal Enterprises and our CRIT Community with preventative measures that can be taken now.

Currently, the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation has no confirmed cases of COVID-19. Although it has not surfaced in our community, precautions are warranted.

The steps taken by the Tribes are as follows:

1. A Tribal employee travel ban is in effect. A directive was issued on March 11th to all tribal employees that any travel that is not an essential government function is banned until the coronavirus is contained; however, critical services to our membership will not be impacted.
2. Tribal Departments and Enterprises are mandated to disinfect all surfaces multiple times a day. Hand sanitizer shall be available in all departments and enterprises for use by employees and the public. Departments and enterprises must post the CDC hand washing guide in a location clearly visible to all who pass.
3. Tribal Council is directing all employees to wash your hands according to CDC guidelines and to wash them frequently.
4. Tribal Council or its designees will continue to be in daily contact with all local health care providers and services to determine continued efforts needed to contain the Coronavirus.
5. Tribal Council will be working closely with our detention facilities and Children's Residential Center to implement measures to prevent an outbreak in those high-risk environments.

In the event there is an outbreak in our community the Tribal Council, through its Department of Health and Social Services, will implement the provisions of the Colorado River Indian

Tribes Communicable Disease Prevention Code necessary to protect our vulnerable populations, which could include isolation and quarantine.

We are certain that this community can prevent the spread of this virus. Tribal Council urges each of you to implement the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control, including but not limited to, regular hand washing, disinfecting your home, limiting all non-essential travel, and avoiding crowds.

Please continue to watch for signs of potential COVID-19 symptoms in yourself and your family, especially your elderly members. The symptoms include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. If you have these symptoms please call your doctor immediately. You should seek emergency medical attention immediately if you have emergency warning signs, including but not limited to, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, continuous pain or pressure in the chest, confusion or inability to awaken, or blue-color in lips or face.

Some of the information from cdc.gov has been posted on our CRIT Social Media sites and is available on the CRIT website (crit-nsn.gov). If you still have questions or are unable to access the CDC website or social media, you can call the **Parker Indian Health Services at 928-669-2137**, **Red Cross at 1-800-REDCROSS (733-2767)** or the **La Paz County Public Health Emergency Preparedness office at 928-669-9364** with your questions regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19).

For residents of **Riverside County** a 2-1-1 line has been set up for questions on the coronavirus (COVID-19) or you can visit the **California Department of Public Health website at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov>**.

For residents of **San Bernardino County** you can call the **San Bernardino County Public Health Department at 800-722-4794** or visit the San Bernardino County website at <http://wp.sbcounty.gov/dph/coronavirus/>.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Patch", followed by the word "Acting" in a smaller, printed font.

Dennis Patch, Chairman