



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service  
Indian Health Service

Colorado River Service Unit  
Peach Springs Health Center  
P.O. Box 190  
Peach Springs, AZ 86434-0190

March 24, 2020

Honorable Chairman and Tribal Council Members,

The partnership for the COVID-19 response between Hualapai Tribe and Peach Springs Health Center is critical to the wellness of our community. PSHC leadership, staff, and medical providers are working diligently on COVID-19 emergency plan preparations and implementations, keeping staff apprised and promoting patient education. The acting HSA participates in the Tribal Incident Command operation and provides daily updates regarding the clinic. Our information is sourced by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. The recommended guidelines for testing, resources, and publications issued are followed by our health care under the guidance of the Phoenix Area Office.

For any COVID-19 suspects we are treating each person individually, first ruling out common causes for symptoms (for example influenza and strep throat) and proceeding to test for COVID-19 as warranted based on testing criteria and the persons health history. Testing is available, but limited resources throughout the country inhibits our ability to testing each community member. Therefore, testing will be based on guidelines fever, cough or shortness of breath, travel and/or history direct contact with a confirmed COVID-19 person. Providers have received training with guidance on the algorithm and additional resources to answer questions. At present we continue to recommend the community take measures to protect oneself such as handwashing, good cleaning practices, and isolation precautions as there is no treatment or vaccination at this time except for supportive care.

The PSHC has tested two individuals for COVID-19 and both results returned negative for the coronavirus infection. However due to HIPPA rules and regulations the clinic is not able to disclose any patient identification. To date, the Mohave County has zero confirmed COVID-19 cases.

Due to the increase risk of transmission of the COVID-19 infection via aerosolized (water and air) procedures and staff concern for transportation of instruments the Peach Spring Dental clinic will not be open Tuesday March 24, 2020 and uncertain about Thursday March 26, 2020. The clinic will continue to evaluate patients who present with dental pain and the will be referred to Kingman. Updated information regarding the dental services will be provided this week.

We want to assure the CRSU tribes that the Indian Health Service is here to serve the community to the best of our abilities and resources, remembering that as we receive new direction from the government our plans will be tailored accordingly.

Very Respectfully,

*Geniel Harrison, MD*

Geniel Harrison, MD  
Acting Health Systems Administrator  
Peach Springs Health Center