Pueblo de San Ildefonso
Office of the Governor

SI-GC20-053

April 10, 2020

To All San Ildefonso Community Members,

I am taking this time to reach out to you directly. Over the past few weeks we have experienced an unprecedented emergency caused by the COVID-19 ‘Coronavirus’ pandemic. What does this mean for our Pueblo? I must admit that I too share in this unknown of what this pandemic is or what its impact will have on our Pueblo. I can assure you that I am doing everything possible within my power as Governor to address this issue head-on and this is my top priority. This includes my commitment to work with the Tribal Council and the Judicial Branch on protecting our community and upholding the laws and customs of our Pueblo.

In these past few weeks you have received several bulletin notices from my office in collaboration with the Lt. Governor and Council. The information provided is the most current and relevant information that is directly related to San Ildefonso. I urge you to take this information seriously and read it carefully. Furthermore, I ask you to take action and implement the step-by-step procedures that are outlined in the guidelines by the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Specifically, take actions to protect yourself and your children and your family from becoming infected or spreading the virus. This also protects our village.

- Adhere to State’s Order to Stay Home and the Pueblo’s Emergency Declaration issued March 20, 2020. Limit your travel to medical appointments or if you’re required to work or only what is necessary for your health, safety or welfare. Do not go to the grocery stores unless absolutely necessary. Shop alone – don’t take the kids. It shouldn’t be treated as a social outing. Every time we leave our home, we are putting ourselves, our families and our community at risk.
- Practice and commit to ‘social distancing’. This is the best measure so far to combat the virus. This also means we must have the discipline to stop going to each other’s homes and “visiting,” and, we must stop having friends and family from other villages/communities coming to visit.
- Stay 6 feet apart from other people.
- Practice ‘good health and self-care by:
  - Washing your hands for at least 20 seconds. Do it often.
  - Do not touch your mouth or your face.
  - Properly dispose of contaminated waste.

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- Sanitize surfaces that have been touched – anything from door knobs, countertops, keys, cell phones, steering wheels, etc.
- Wear a protective mask if you are sick or if you have to go to the store.
- If you become ill or contract the virus, follow the protocol that we have listed out for you in our April Newsletter, issued April 2, 2020.

I cannot stress enough the harm the COVID-19 virus can cause to you and our community because of how quickly it can spread from person-to-person. Two of our sister Pueblos, Zia and San Felipe, are dealing with a spike in high numbers or “clusters” of positive COVID-19 cases in their villages. This shows how quickly this virus can spread among Pueblo communities just through “normal” contact with each other. We offer our thoughts and prayers to Zia and San Felipe Pueblos during this time. But we must also think about how each of us can protect ourselves and our community. AGAIN, stay at home, practice social distancing and wash your hands!!

Public safety:
I want to reiterate that we are doing everything within our capacity to prevent this disease and protect our Pueblo. I am aware of the recent crimes that were committed in the Pueblo over the weekend. I am in constant communication with the Chief of BIA Law Enforcement about safety and law enforcement presence for our Pueblo. It is my commitment to our Pueblo to advocate to BIA Law Enforcement of the need to prioritize San Ildefonso. I can assure you that Chief Max Dickens understands my position and our needs. It is also my obligation to be honest and transparent with you and the reality is that we are limited on resources with regards to BIA Law Enforcement. Currently, our BIA Northern Pueblos Agency police force is and has been operating below capacity and is under-staffed. I am doing everything I can to address this issue locally and taking this argument all the way to the Department of Justice and Department of Interior in Washington, D.C. They must be held accountable in fulfilling their trust responsibility to San Ildefonso. I am also in current discussions with the Pueblo of Pojoaque Governor and Chief of Police about law enforcement services to assist our Pueblo and the BIA. I cannot stress enough, in asking you to do your part to stay safe:

- Take measures to make your home and your family safe and secure. Lock your doors, lock your vehicles, close yard gates, turn on lights at night.
- Refrain from taking any extreme measures into your own hands. Instead, your first call needs to be to law enforcement for any and all emergencies or if there is suspicious activity.
- BIA Police dispatch is at the Pojoaque Pueblo Dispatch Center: (505) 455-2295.
- Be on the lookout for your homes, your family and your neighbors.
- Report any suspicious immediately by calling Pojoaque Dispatch.

I understand that this is not ideal but we must be observant in following the law and looking out for each other. I have closed the gates to the main village and our Tribal Rangers have prioritized their patrol efforts to the Pueblo. Please keep in mind that our Tribal Rangers are not certified law enforcement. I want the community to understand that it is not reasonably possible to post law enforcement or staff at the Pueblo gates or throughout the
entire village, including the homes across the river. Again, I am asking you to do your part with patience, understanding, look out for one another, and follow the guidelines.

Public health:
I feel it is most important to also address and recognize the toll this will have on us as people. This unforeseeable situation is taxing on all of us in many ways. It is stressful. It is scary. It is and will be mentally challenging. It will be financially challenging and so much more. I ask you all to be aware of these challenges for yourselves and your family. Our youth may be experiencing feelings and emotions of loss and loneliness that can lead to anxiety, depression, withdrawal, and destructive behavior. This could be said for all of us. Please continue to stay strong and mindful of this. Exercise patience and restraint. To our Youth, stay strong, be respectful to your parents and elders, and try to find ways to be productive. I encourage you all to stay positive as a family and take care of each other. If you are experiencing any emotional stress or any destructive thoughts, please talk to someone. Here are some resources available to you:
- ENIPC – Circle of Life, Behavioral Health, (505) 852-1377 or (505) 901-0148
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

Tribal services:
The Pueblo’s staff is currently on a rotating schedule and we have implemented every measure to protect the staff in accordance with the State’s mandates and CDC guidelines. I have taken this measure to assure that essential services are still available and provided. Many of our tribal members rely on these services and in some cases this is their only access to these resources.
Although we remain open at this time, we will continue to perform our job duties and deliver services as best as possible taking into consideration that we must do our part to prevent the spread of the virus.
- Food is being properly prepared and delivered to elders and youth.
- The Health and Human Services Department is committed and available to answer any questions. Please reference the Special Bulletin distributed on March 25 and the April Bulletin for more specific information.
- The Facilities Department is on-call and will respond in-person to water and sewer emergencies only. If you have any questions, you can call John Gonzales, (505) 412-5735, and he will assess the situation as best as possible.
- The Pueblo’s water and sewer system is being monitored and protected. Our staff has assured me that the systems are working properly and safe.
- The Transfer Station remains open and trash pickup will still happen on Thursdays and Friday. Be sure to leave your trash outside for pickup. Staff will not go inside your home.
- The Governor's Office remains open to address day-to-day business; but, the priority at this time is addressing the COVID-19 issue.
  - We are discouraging walk-in visits until further notice in order to protect our staff and members. Please call Margie or Lily at (505) 455-2273 if you have questions or need assistance. We are here to respond and address your questions and concerns as best as we possibly can.
I am available to you also. I am confident that your calls and inquiries with staff are being relayed to me and being addressed as best as possible. I encourage you to contact our staff as needed.

Again, the Coronavirus pandemic must be taken seriously by all of us here at San Ildefonso. Our Pueblo is limited in resources and medical services. The best way to combat this virus at this time is to pay attention and listen to the facts as known, and adhere to these guidelines. I am asking you to do your part by staying at home, commit to social distancing, and look out for each other. I remain committed to keeping you informed, to working with our Council, and to protecting our Pueblo with every possible resource and within my authority.

Our goal as a community needs to be stopping the spread of this disease. We do not want to get to a lockdown or mandatory shelter in place situation because the community is not taking the preventative measures seriously. We do not want situation to get out of control and find ourselves in dire situations like other communities. This is only beginning and the best way to fight this deadly disease is to be responsible and do our part. “Do your part, stay home, practice social distancing, and let’s flatten the curve.”

Sincerely,

\[Signature\]

Perry M. Martinez,
GOVERNOR
Pueblo de San Ildefonso
Tribal Member Inquires and Resources

COVID-19 Coronavirus Protocol

If you have tested positive and contracted the disease, you must report this information immediately to the Pueblo’s Health and Human Services Department. Call Dolly Narang at:
- (505) 455-2395 Office number
- (505) 692-5943 Cell number
- Please see the April 2020 Bulletin for more detailed information.

If you feel sick with symptoms you can call the:
- New Mexico Department of Health at:
  - 1-855-600-3453
- Indian Health Service (IHS) hotline at:
  - (505) 946-9200
  - 7 days a week from 8:00am - 7:30pm

If you have non-health related questions about the COVID-19 Coronavirus call:
- 1-833-551-0518

Online information, visit: cv.nmhealth.org

Mental Health Concerns, call immediately:
- Department of Health & Human Services, Dolly Narang (505)455-2395 or (505)692-5943
- ENIPC – Circle of Life, Behavioral Health, (505) 852-1377 or (505) 901-0148
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

Report a Crime or Suspicious Activity: CALL DISPATCH FIRST at (505) 455-2295.
- Your first call should be to the Pojoaque Police Department.
- Be safe and be aware.

For Seniors:
State Help For Seniors, call the Aging and Long Term Services Department at:
- 1-800-432-2080

Water and Sewer Issues, call John Gonzales, Facilities Department: (505) 412-5735

Housing questions or concerns:
- Call the Pueblo’s Housing Commissioner, Tom Garcia. Tom will assess the request and situation and route the matter accordingly. Tom can be contacted at (505) 690-6446.
- For NPHA services, you can call (505) 455-7973.

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Circle of Life – North

Continues to provide services to our Native American community members during the pandemic. Please contact the following for assistance:

(If you leave a message, calls will be returned with 90 minutes)

During Office hours (8:00am to 6:00pm Monday-Friday)

Office Administrative Assistant
Desiree Duda
(505) 852-1377 -Office
(505) 901-0148-Cell Phone

Clinical Supervisor
Ann Unrast
(505) 692-4335-Cell Phone

During non-working hours please call:

Peer to Peer warm line:          Crisis and Access Line
1-855-4NM-7100                  (call for support and resources)
(1-855-466-7100)                1-855-NMCRISIS
Call 3:30pm -11:30pm           (1-855-662-7474)
Text 6pm-11pm                  Toll Free 24/7/365

Immediate emergency assistance: 911
This is a listing of internet providers for those interested in securing these services.

Cellular Phone Providers (Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, etc)
Satellite TV Providers (Dish or Directv)
NM Surf (505) 986-1669
HughesNet (844) 737-2700

Northern New Mexico’s Food Bank

A complete listing of food banks in our area is available on, www.thefooddepot.org

They have expanded their services in our area. The list is being updated for April,
So you may want to call (505)471-2025. If you don’t have access to internet, call
the Governor’s office and we can help you get information.

Los Alamos MFP
First Methodist Church, 715 Diamond Drive
(behind Lemon Lot)
Distributes food on the fourth Friday of the month from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.

Senior Trash Pick-up

This week, all trash will be pick-up on Thursday.

Food Distribution

The New Mexico State Department of Aging and Long-Term Services is doing a COVID-19 Statewide Grocery Distribution to Senior Citizens. The Pueblo de San Ildefonso has been allocated 100 food boxes which will be distributed this Friday (4/10). Council and staff volunteers will be coming by your house sometime during the day. The distribution list will be from the oldest Tribal/non-Tribal Resident Senior Citizen to the youngest until supplies last. Thank you to the State of New Mexico.
NOTICE

The Bureau of Indian Affairs - Northern Pueblos Agency Forestry has notified the Pueblo of their status of operations due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. NPA fire personnel are on telework / self-isolation at home due to public distancing, as per the NM State Governor’s request. They are requesting all Pueblos they serve to take extra precautions. If a wildland fire starts, it would take some time for fire resources to respond. They encourage tribal members and departments to avoid unnecessary burning to avoid escapes and public gatherings of fire fighters to suppress such fires.

The Governor’s Office is requesting ALL members to take EXTRA PRECAUTIONS when burning.

1. DO NOT burn when it’s windy;
2. DO NOT burn near powerlines, overhanging limbs, buildings, vehicles and equipment;
3. Have water or an extinguisher available in case you need it;
4. Keep any fire small and manageable for control;
5. Add additional debris as the fire burns down;
6. Always stay with your fire until it is completely out;
7. Drown the fire with water, turn over the ashes and repeat;
8. Check the burn area regularly to make sure it is out, especially if the weather is warm, dry and windy.
9. Most important, DO NOT delay a call for help – call the fire department immediately at the first sign of the fire getting out of control.

Pojoaque Fire Department – (505) 455-2446