

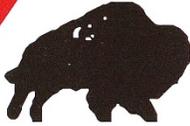
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe

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MEMORANDUM

TO: FSST Membership
FROM: FSST Executive Committee
DATE: March 24, 2020
RE: Tribal Response to COVID-19

The Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe Executive Committee wants to inform its membership of the developments related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic, and the Tribe's response. First and foremost, the Tribe's primary goal in its decision-making has been to preserve the health and safety of its members, employees, and community. The Tribe has assembled a COVID-19 Taskforce that constantly monitors developments, and then develops policy and guidance to effected tribal programs, departments, and businesses. This Taskforce meets a minimum of three days per week, but is in constant contact while not meeting.

To date, changes have been made to various programs, and these temporary modifications will be constantly reviewed to determine necessity, and success of the modification. There are more policy and operational changes that will occur based on the development of the COVID-19 virus. Here is a quick summary of operational or programmatic changes:

- 1) Tribal Response to COVID-19
 - a) All travel has been suspended, and will only be approved on an emergency case-by-case determination by leadership.
 - b) The Finance Department is closed to the public except on an appointment basis. All checks for various programs must be collected at the FSST Tribal Office during regular business hours.
 - c) South Dakota Schools have been closed by the Board of Regents/Governor. The lack of available daycare services in the area has caused the Tribal Daycare to prioritize the needs of employees, and then take others on an as available basis.
 - d) All non-routine expenses incurred by the Tribe must be approved in advance by the Executive Committee.
 - e) The Tribe has suspended in-person dining at the Grace Moore Elderly Center and is delivering meals to the elderly upon request.
 - f) The Tribe has written several letter to Congress to ensure that the Tribe, Clinic, and Tribal Businesses are included in the stimulus spending. The Tribe hopes to include those letters on its website for Tribal Member review.

- g) The Tribe is working in conjunction with Casino Management to develop food and water supplies in the event that community needs arise.
 - h) FSST Tribal Police are responding to community requests for services in a manner that offers community protection, but limits unnecessary exposure.
 - i) The Tribe has granted some employees who are able to work from home the ability to do so, but has done so in a manner to ensure that tribal programs may operate, and that the employee is accountable. This is approved on a case-by-case basis by tribal leadership.
- 2) Clinic Response to COVID-19
- a) The Clinic has taken several measures to handle the COVID-19 pandemic, and they are outlined in the attached letter.
- 3) Casino Response to COVID-19
- a) The Casino has limited exposure to its employees through various actions including requiring sick employees to stay home, and allowing employees who are concerned about contracting COVID-19 the right to remain at home and utilize leave.
 - b) It has expended additional funds and procedures to ensure that all areas of the Casino are sanitized and cleaned on a routine basis.
 - c) Buffett service has been suspended, but restaurant and snack bar service is still available to patrons.
 - d) Entertainment and concerts have been suspended.
 - e) The Casino has suspended all travel for its employees.
 - f) It has issued two press releases to the community, both of which the Tribe will make available on its website.

The Tribe's businesses are pivotal to the economic well-being of the Tribe, its members, and the community. As of right now, Tribal businesses, including the Royal River Casino and Hotel, will remain open, but this will be considered on a daily basis to ensure that the community is safe. These businesses also employ a majority of the community, and are necessary for individuals to continue to provide for themselves, and their families.

The Executive Committee will consider individual tribal member needs on a case-by-case basis, and any assistance will be subject to budgetary constraints. If you have an individual request, please, as always, contact an Executive Committee Member or drop off the written request at the FSST Tribal Office during normal business hours. Requests may also be e-mailed to Marcie.Walker@fsst.org, and they will be distributed to the Executive Committee.

In the meantime, the Tribe requests that all tribal members adhere to the recommendations of the CDC regarding social distancing, and that in the event you have symptoms of COVID-19, that you consult with your healthcare provider. The Executive Committee is confident that the Tribe and community can limit the spread of this disease through a concerted effort, and appreciates your support of its endeavors.

/s/ FSST Executive Committee

Monday, March 23, 2020

Dear Flandreau Santee Sioux Community Members

This is a reminder that the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribal Clinic (FSST) is open and is committed to be here to serve the FSST community. The clinic is taking the safety measures the CDC and Department of Health has recommended and has implemented procedures to help to keep patients and staff safe during these concerning COVID 19 times.

1. If you have a cough, fever or flu-like symptoms like vomiting, diarrhea or abdominal pain, please call the clinic at (605) 997-2642 before coming to the clinic.
2. We are pre-screening patients using a questionnaire prior to visiting the clinic and again upon arriving at the clinic. Patients will be directed to different entrances based upon the purpose for their visit.
3. You may be asked to wear a mask to protect yourself and others. All FSST staff will be wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
4. We are separating patients with symptoms so that they can be evaluated quickly and cared for by the clinical staff. We are using designated exam rooms to evaluate symptomatic patients.
5. We are vigilant in cleaning patient care areas. We are routinely cleaning and sanitizing public spaces and frequently used hard surfaces.
6. Patients needing to pick up prescriptions should not enter the building but utilize the pharmacy drive-thru window. Please call the pharmacy (605) 573-0245 prior to your arrival to make sure that your medications are ready for pick up. Most chronic and maintenance medications have been extended from a 30- day to a 90-day supply for your convenience.
7. Non-medically essential services like Dental, Optical and Physical Therapy have been put on hold for the next few weeks. We are not taking future appointments at this time.
8. Medication renewals and some medical consults will be done over the phone particularly for those who are medically vulnerable, suspected or symptomatic for a respiratory illness. Behavior Health visits are now being scheduled as phone sessions/consultations.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and consideration in complying with these essential measures that have been put in place to keep everyone as safe as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or ask any of our FSST team members.

Sincerely,

The Flandreau Santee Sioux Health Center Staff and Providers