



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Or

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The Pascua Yaqui Tribe/ Health Department Efforts in Mitigating COVID-19 Pandemic

(TUCSON, Ariz. April 17, 2020) - In an effort to ensure the most effective response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, The Pascua Yaqui Tribe has approved additional preventative and proactive measures to the previous measures of March 13, March 17, March 23 and April 7, for the health and well-being of the Pascua Yaqui tribal communities;

1. Effective April 20, 2020 (this date may be subject to change) The Pascua Yaqui Health Services Division (PYTHSD) will be offering COVID-19 Screening and Testing for Pascua Yaqui Tribal Members and Tribal Govt./Casino Employees/PYDC corporation and its subsidiaries. (Please note: Testing supplies are very limited, we will test as supplies are available, but there is no guarantee)
 - a. You must be screened on the phone in advance.
 - b. The phone number is 520-879-6129 or 520 879-6120
 - c. Upon completion of phone screening process, based on the information received, determination will be made, an appointment will be scheduled.
 - d. The Drive-Up Test site will be located at the west end of the Pascua Yaqui Health Department building, 7490 S Camino De Oeste, Tucson, AZ 85757.
 - e. When you arrive for your scheduled appointment please call 520 879-6129 or 520 879-6120 to alert staff. You will need to present some form of Identification.
 - f. Walk-ins will not be accepted, through the Drive-up testing site.
 - g. Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
2. Important request that any Tribal member or Tribal/Casino employee has a confirmed positive test result to contact the Nursing Program at 520 879-6119 for further follow up.
3. Request to continue CDC measures of Social Distancing and wearing of face covering mask in all tribal facilities. Wash your hands often with soap and water, use an alcohol-base hand sanitizer (60%) if water is not available, cover your cough with a tissue or your elbow, stay home if you are sick, avoid close contact with people who are sick, clean and disinfect frequently objects and surfaces.
4. Please adhere to the April 3, 2020 Stay At Home Executive Order has been issued, this order modifies Executive Order 20-01.

5. The El Rio Clinic Pascua Yaqui Tribal Site will remain open from 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Friday, close for lunch 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. The Pharmacy hours are from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Please note hours on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday every month opens at 9:00 a.m. Phone: 520 879-6225.

Centered Spirit Program has several locations, including the main office at New Pascua and satellite clinics at St. Mary's and Guadalupe. Although staff are working reduced hours, calls will be answered between the hours of 8 am – 5 pm. After 5 pm, calls to the crisis line will be answered by EMPACT at 520 591-7206.

Centered Spirit staff can be reached at the following:

- Centered Spirit – Main (New Pascua): 520-879-6060 / Crisis: 520-591-7206
- Centered Spirit – St. Mary's: 520-879-5450
- Centered Spirit – Guadalupe: 480-768-2000 / Crisis: 480-736-4943
- Sewa U'sum PAL Warmline – 520 328-6982 or 520 328-9117

The Pascua Yaqui Tribal Health Department is in regular communication with state and county Health Departments, El Rio Community Health Center and Indian Health Service for COVID-19 updates, technical assistance and guidance.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe governmental planning and organization preparation relating to appropriate measures will continue to be monitored and appropriate action will be taken to protect the health and safety of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

About The Pascua Yaqui Tribe

The Yaqui people are among the original inhabitants of the Sonoran Desert region, extending from the Gila River in present day Arizona to the Rio Yaqui valley in Sonora, Mexico. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona is a United States Historic Tribe that includes nine officially recognized communities in Arizona in and between the Tucson and Phoenix metropolitan areas. The Tribe's administrative center is located on Tribal Trust Lands southwest of Tucson. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe is part of the sovereign and indigenous Yaqui Nation that spans the United States/Mexico border and the Tribe maintains close association with the Yaqui communities in the eight sacred villages along the Yaqui River. There are approximately 22,000 registered members of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. For additional information, visit <https://www.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov/>.

For information regarding our services, please go to our website: www.pythealth.org or call our Help-Line for programs and services information:

