

ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE
UPDATE Declaration of Emergency
March 25, 2020

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe COVID-19 Task force for Infectious Disease Emergency Response is working diligently on implementing community mitigation strategies which is a set of actions that programs and communities can take to help slow the spread of respiratory virus infection. Community mitigation is especially important before a vaccine or drug becomes widely available.

Currently there are no reports of any positive results of the COVID-19 on the Rosebud Indian Reservation. In an effort to prevent the virus from entering the boundaries of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe we have begun to initiate strategies such as closing the schools, the casino and restricting travel this is all to maintain safety of our Tribal membership and to avoid a state of panic.

We all need to take this virus seriously. A lot of our people are not!! You are not invincible, stay at home.

I would like to remind Tribal members and businesses to watch for the following symptoms:
Fever, cough and shortness of breath.

If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately this includes: difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, persistent pain or pressure in the chest and bluish lips or face

If you are concerned or feel you have been exposed you can reach a registered nurse at IHS Public Health Nurses at 747-0456, 747-0455 and 747-0636 Monday through Friday 730AM to 430PM. After hours and weekends you can call the Emergency Department at 747-2231

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe Offices will be closed to the public through Friday, May 1, 2020. This closure may be extended, if necessary. Non-essential employees will be granted Administration Leave for the remainder of the closure. Each department is expected to continue as much deep cleaning as possible in their work areas while we are at work.

Council meetings will be closed to the public until further notice.

Schools throughout South Dakota are requested to remain closed through Friday, May 1, 2020.

It should be noted that the incubation period exists for COVID-19 and symptoms of sickness may not be obvious on infected people. This is especially true for people over 60 years of age and above to take necessary precautions, which is very important due to being at higher risk of getting very sick from this virus. Also, utilize the public health facilities if you are feeling ill. I regret that this is necessary, but we have the responsibility to protect our people within the Rosebud Sioux Tribe.

I will immediately inform our Rosebud Sioux Tribe of any confirmed cases from our Indian Health Service.