



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 9, 2020

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **Tribal Partners – COVID19 Response**

The COVID19 pandemic represents an unprecedented challenge for Pima County. As such we have called upon a variety of partners to participate in the response. Both the Tohono O'dham Nation and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe were invited early on to be part of the Emergency Operations Command. Currently, we are interacting with Tribal Emergency Management and public health leaders multiple times a week if not daily. The COVID19 response is no exception. Guidance was sought from both those tribal entities in terms of who should be brought into this process and in deference to the sovereignty of these communities we have worked primarily through those contact points which have been the respective Emergency Managers.

Additionally staff level communication lines are established between the Pima County Health Department and the public health authorities of these two communities. This has allowed us to put a process into place to identify tribal member cases whether living on or off reservation communities. Additionally care coordination and support for specific patients is occurring on an as needed basis.

The sharing of Strategic National Stockpile and related supplies has also been an area of collaboration. To date Tohono O'dham Nation has received two shipments comprised of a total of 3,000 masks, 480 N95 masks, 3,400 gloves, 210 gowns, 96 face shields, and 8 gallons of hand sanitizer. Pascua Yaqui Tribe has received 200 masks, 1,600 gloves, 100 face shields, 120 complete PPE kits and 2 gallons of hand sanitizer.

The Health Department has historically had a very high level of cordial collaboration with our tribal partners across a variety of issues.

CHH/mp

c: Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator and Chief Medical Officer
John Voorhees, Assistant County Administrator
Bob England, MD, MPH, Director, Health Department
Jeff Guthrie, Director, Office of Emergency Management