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Webinar: Minimizing Potential COVID-19 Exposures during Flu Vaccinations

On Friday, December 4, 2020 at 11 AM (PST), National Indian Health Board (NIHB) will be hosting a webinar to provide an overview of how tribal healthcare workers and patients can minimize COVID-19 during flu vaccinations. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2r8a333>.

IHS COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force is Conducting a Survey

The survey is conducted to assist in planning efforts for the COVID-19 vaccine allocation to healthcare personnel. Survey participation is critical to the helping the task force on anticipating need. Survey here: <https://tinyurl.com/yy9v8do2>.

Letters of Support Needed for Federal Legislation to Extend Use of Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF)

Yesterday, CILS sent out a Tribal Alert urging tribal leaders to submit letters of support for new legislation introduced by U.S. Senators Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH) on November 17, 2020. This Legislation would extend the period for all states, tribes, and territories to use CRF payments from December 30, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Due to the initial delay for all tribes in receiving the CRF payments, the time extension provided by the Legislation, S. 4898 (<https://tinyurl.com/yygpk6mu>) is absolutely critical for tribes. The extension is also necessary due to the frequent changes to Department of Treasury reporting guidance, with the most recent version of CRF FAQs issued on October 19, 2020.

Native American Financial Officers Association (NAFOA) has prepared a sample letter of support that you can use (Letter here: <https://tinyurl.com/yymuw6xt>). For questions about the letter or other concerns, you can reach out to NAFOA's Executive Director, Dante Desiderio, at Dante@nafoa.org or (202) 631-2003. If you have questions about the matter, feel free to contact your local CILS office or Mica Llerandi at mllerandi@calindian.org.

Stay-at-Home Orders Issued

On November 19, 2020, the State issued a limited Stay-at-Home Order requiring that non-essential worker, movement, and gatherings stop between 10 PM and 5 AM in counties in the purple tier. To check if your county is affected, click here: <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>. The statewide order can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/y6ltol5e>.

CDC Guidance on Holiday Celebrations

With cases on the rise, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) released recommended guidance on holiday celebrations. The lowest risk of spreading COVID-19 is through virtual celebrations or with members of your own household (who are consistently taking measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19). Some increased areas of exposures with holiday celebrations include: exposure during travel, number of people at gathering, behavior of attendees *prior to the gathering* and *during the gathering*. With so many variables, the recommendations is refraining from large gatherings. If you decide to host a holiday gathering, the CDC has some recommendations for reducing the spread, check here for more info: <https://tinyurl.com/y6apke6n>.

Reminder: Deadline TOMORROW for Non-Filers to register for Economic Impact Payment. Individuals who normally do not file a tax return have until 12 PM (PST) tomorrow, Saturday, November 21 to register with the IRS for an Economic Impact Payment. To register: <https://tinyurl.com/sz9l387>.

TRIBAL COVID-19 RESOURCES

For updates on COVID-19 and Resources for Tribal Communities see the following links:

State of California:

A one-stop page collecting information related to COVID-19 can be located at:

<https://covid19.ca.gov/>.

CDSS Tribal Affairs: COVID-19 resources for California tribal communities:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3cjsopy>.

Federal Resources:

A one-stop page for Federal COVID-19 information:

<https://www.coronavirus.gov/>.

Indian Health Service:

<https://www.ihs.gov/coronavirus/>.

Health and Human Services:

<https://www.hhs.gov/coronavirus/index.html>.

Centers for Disease Control: Providing information on how to protect yourself and what to do if you are sick. Also contains the most update-to-date information on the virus and medical news related to the virus: <https://tinyurl.com/rrro9sx>.

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response:

<https://tinyurl.com/yvos6b28>.

Bureau of Indian Affairs: Includes resources for tribal governments when responding to COVID-19:

<https://www.bia.gov/coronavirus>.

Treasury: For more information on CARES Act funding and distributions.

<https://tinyurl.com/qsnh97g>.

Tribal Specific Webpages with Daily Updates

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI): <http://www.ncai.org/covid-19>.

Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TPLI):

<https://www.home.tlpi.org/covid-19>.

National Indigenous Women's Resource Center (NIWRC) :

<https://tinyurl.com/yyfdhxw2>.

National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA): <https://www.nicwa.org/coronavirus/>

National Indian Health Board (NIHB):

<https://www.nihb.org/covid-19/>

Turtletalk: <https://turtletalk.blog/covid-19-tribal-documents/> and <https://turtletalk.blog/tag/covid-19/>.

Native American Financial Officers' Association (NAFOA): <https://tinyurl.com/yyavoevy>.