



THE

Walatowan

APRIL 2020

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Governors' Message

Jemez Pueblo Community Lockdown

As of April 9, 2020, Jemez Pueblo has had no positive cases of the Covid-19 virus. We are being very proactive to prevent the spread of the disease into the Pueblo.

The Pueblo of Jemez Governors have ordered all roads into the Pueblo closed west of Highway 4 with Head Start Access Road the only access. This was done to restrict persons coming into and out of the community to reduce possible contact with the Covid-19 virus.

We are alarmed at the amount of unnecessary travel in and out of the community. Therefore the following emergency measures have been implemented:

★ **Curfew is changed to 8 p.m.-5 a.m., seven days a week.**

★ **Travel out of the Pueblo is limited to food, gas, and medical care.** Families should limit grocery shopping trips to once a week. If you can, order groceries on-line for curbside pickup. Leaving the Pueblo to buy snacks is not permitted. Plan ahead and get enough groceries to last your household for seven days.

We must stop Covid-19 from entering Jemez Pueblo. As we have seen from our neighboring Pueblos, once the virus gets in, it is very difficult to control. It is clear that every day we become wiser and more aware of the necessity for personal and community safe practices and we know that families are having serious discussions about this. Please do your part to keep Jemez Pueblo healthy.

Our neighboring Pueblos are being severely impacted by the Covid-19 virus. We continue to be very fortunate, that Jemez Pueblo has no confirmed cases as of April 59 2020. It is imperative that additional restrictions be enacted to proactively protect you, your family and the Jemez Pueblo community.

On March 31, 2020, Jemez Tribal Council passed *Tribal Council Resolution No. 2020-03: Confirmation, Ramifications and Expansion of Declaration of Emergency in Response to the Coronavirus COVID-19 Pandemic*. The Tribal Council agrees with, supports and authorizes the enforcement of all previous health orders issued by the Governors' office. This includes, but is not limited to, banning out of state travel, suspending tribally sponsored meetings and gatherings, instituting road closures, imposing curfew and emphasizing social distancing. The Tribal Council also authorized the Governors, the JHHS Emergency Response Team, Law Enforcement and Tribal Officials to issue and enforce any exclusion, isolation or quarantine orders on individuals for public health emergencies. Any person who willfully and intentionally disobeys a lawful health order may face criminal or civil penalties and fines.

■ All roads west of Highway 4 are closed. The only access will be Head Start Access Road.

Tribal Officials and/or Police Officers have set up a check point to monitor and enforce this order 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Individuals who are not residents will be asked to leave and not enter the Jemez Pueblo community. Eastside residents will also be monitored.

■ Traffic going outside of Jemez Pueblo will be limited each day. The only individuals permitted to leave the Pueblo will be:

Individuals with medical appointments and medical emergencies.

Essential workers deemed necessary to work by their employers.

Grocery shopping will be limited to two individuals per vehicle.

No elders, infants or toddlers will be permitted to leave the community.

Continued on page 2



2020 Tribal Governors

Governor
Governor David M. Toledo

1st. Lt. Governor
John Galvan

2nd. Lt. Governor
Elston Yepa

Tribal Council

Joe Cajero
Paul S. Chinana
Raymond Gachupin
Frank Loretto
J. Leonard Loretto
Raymond Loretto, DVM
José E. Madalena
Joshua Madalena
J. Roger Madalena
David M. Toledo
José Toledo
Michael Toledo, Jr.
Paul Tosa
Joseph A. Toya
Vincent A. Toya, Sr.
David R. Yepa

The Walatowan April 2020 Edition

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The Walatowan is distributed to box holders in the 87024 Zip Code. If you want to receive this newsletter and do not have an 87024 P.O. Box, please contact the editorial office at erica.kane@jemezpuablo.us.

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NM 87024.

Special Notices From the Governors

- Most Pueblos have set up road checkpoints in their respective villages. Any Jemez tribal community members or residents who are stopped at their checkpoints or who may be staying in their tribal communities should notify us immediately.
- Pueblo of Jemez Order of Quarantine will be issued to individuals who have been reported to the POJ/JHHS Response Team. If you receive this order, you will be monitored for 14 days by the POJ/JHHS Response Team. The order will be given if you have:
 - a. Travelled to a tribal community with confirmed cases in the last 14 days.
 - b. Travelled outside of the state of New Mexico.
 - c. Have had contact with a person who has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus.
 If you know of anyone who lives in Jemez Pueblo who meets the above criteria, please call the POJ/JHHS Response Team at (575) 834-3308. All callers will remain anonymous.

- All upcoming Tribal events and gatherings are prohibited:
- All essential staff, medical and non-medical, will have their temperatures taken every day upon entering the Jemez Comprehensive Health Center. In addition, all essential staff will be wearing masks (surgical or cloth) at all times while at the Health Center

Please trust that all these measures and orders are being put in place for the safety of you, your family, and the Jemez Pueblo community. Thank you for adhering to the new orders. Your compliance will save the lives of our most vulnerable community members.

Stay positive, pray and be hopeful that our Jemez Pueblo community remains protected and healthy.

To Our Community Members:

We are sending this important message to our people. The Governors, Administration, JHHS staff, Emergency Medical Services, and Police Department have been gathering preventive information and distributing papers in the village so the people will be informed about the Covid-19 epidemic facing the nation and the world.

If you feel sick, feverish, have a dry cough, or are short of breath, ***please call the Jemez Clinic at (575) 834-3022 to speak to a medical provider.*** Distance yourself and get checked; do not interact with friends or family members. We cannot see this invisible disease and must take every precaution in our homes. Follow state and federal regulations and mandates. This is a serious time for all people across the globe.

At home, we continue to face our own challenges with the use of alcohol use and meth. This is very concerning, because families are under stress already with the Covid-19 epidemic; to then have a family member using and abusing alcohol and drugs adds more tension to the household. Tribal leadership ***urges*** community members to stop using drugs and alcohol. Families need to heal, forgive, provide for and protect one another; ask the Creator to help you stop this illness. (Please see related articles on pages 12 and 13.) We as a community ***must*** take this epidemic seriously; this is REAL.

Plant Your Fields

The water has been turned on at the upper ditches. Farmers are encouraged to plant crops for the coming season so we can provide food for our families. We have seen the cost of groceries rise and the chaos caused by people hoarding food. We must prepare for the future with our way of life through farming and using Mother Earth.

We thank all the dedicated staff who are working hard to provide critical services and information to the Pueblo of Jemez, the elders and our children.

Respectfully,
Governor David M. Toledo

See page 20 for additional important information updates.

Helpful Resources for Challenging Times

A number of federal, state, local and tribal agencies and programs are available to help you and your family with the many issues related to the Covid-19 epidemic. Please share these resources with your friends and family members.

Pueblo of Jemez Emergency Phone Numbers

Please note that most offices and programs are closed at press time. In an emergency, leave a message with contact information so staff can respond.

Tribal Administration: (575) 834-7359.

Jemez Health & Human Services Jemez Clinic:

(575) 834-3022 or (575) 834-7413 to speak to a nurse.

Call (575) 834-3308 if you or someone in your family meets the criteria for quarantine or isolation.

Behavioral Health Program: (575) 834-7258.

Social Services Program: (575) 834-7117

Housing: (575) 834-6861

Public Works: (575) 834-7942

New Mexico State Response Referral Numbers

It's important to stay informed to help combat anxiety and fear. The **NewMexico.gov** web site is updated frequently and is the best single information destination for New Mexicans.

Employment/Income Loss or Reduction

If you are unemployed/underemployed and need assistance, call the Department of Workforce Solutions Call Center: (877) 664-6984.

If you are a small business/employer and need assistance call Economic Development Department for Small Business: (505) 827-0300.

Food Assistance

If you need assistance obtaining food:

School age children, contact the Public Education Department: (505) 827-6683

Senior Citizens and adults with disabilities who need groceries or meals: (800) 432-2080.

Emotional Crisis, Mental Health, or Substance Abuse Issues: (855) 662-7474.

Supplemental Nutritional Aid Program (SNAP) benefits call HSD/Income Support Division: (800) 283-4465.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC), contact the Department of Health:

a. WIC Questions on food or formula availability: (505) 469-0929

b. WIC Operations Manager: (505) 819-7028

c. WIC General Questions: (866) 867-3124

Health Insurance

If you need help obtaining health insurance, call HSD/Medicaid: (800) 283-4465.

If you are not eligible for Medicaid, you can apply for affordable health insurance online through the New Mexico Health Insurance Exchange (NMHIX) at www.bewellnm.com or call (855) 996-6449

Housing

If you need assistance with:

Housing: Mortgage Finance Authority (MFA) Emergency Housing (800) 444-6880.

Utilities: HSD Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program: (888) 523-0051.

Other Issues

If you need assistance with childcare: (800) 691-9067 NM Kids Child Care Resource Center.

If you have complaints about facilities not closing call (505) 469-2940 or (505) 629-2845.

If you want to volunteer or need a volunteer: (505) 476-2200.

Behavioral Health Helpful Resources

SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) Disaster Distress Helpline

Toll-Free: 1-800-985-5990

SMS: Text TalkWithUs to 66746.

Web site: www.disasterdistress.samhsa.gov

SAMHSA's National Helpline

Toll-Free: 1-800-662-HELP (24/7/365 Treatment Referral Information Service);

Web site: www.samhsa.gov/find-help/national-help-line

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Toll-Free: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Website: www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Editor's Note: We are in extraordinary times. Information and advice changes daily, even hourly. Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this newsletter is as current as possible. Although some details may change, much remains the same about how to care for ourselves, our loved ones and our community. We have provided contact information for tribal, local, state and national resources where you can go for accurate, up-to-date information that will be more current than print resources can be. Please use these resources to stay informed and get help if you need it.

Stay safe, stay home and appreciate the beauty that surrounds us as we move through this strange time together.

TRIBAL COURT

TRIBAL COURT: EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Pueblo of Jemez Pueblo Tribal Court has established temporary procedures during this time of emergency. To balance the needs of its litigants with its own moral and social obligations to help curb the potential spread of the Covid-19 virus, Tribal Court will comply with social distancing and other measures to avoid any risks to the court staff, judge, court clerks, probation officers and the public. Therefore, all communications with the Jemez Pueblo Tribal Court must be by mail, e-mail or fax until further notice with the exceptions of emergencies.

- ♦ To request documents or forms, either mail your request to PO Box 100, Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024; or e-mail it to court.clrk@jemezpuablo.org; or fax it to (575) 834-9317.
- ♦ To make a payment on a fine or court costs, please note that all payments and late fees are suspended through May 4, 2020, subject to further action by the Governors. while Jemez Pueblo Tribal Court is closed.
- ♦ To file a document, please mail it to: PO Box 100, Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024; e-mail it to court.clrk@jemezpuablo.org; or fax it to (575) 834-9317.
- ♦ To file a new case that does not require a filing fee, please mail your petition or civil complaint to: PO Box 100, Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024; e-mail it to court.clrk@jemezpuablo.org; or fax it to (575) 834-9317.
- ♦ If you are filing a new case that requires a filing fee, the new case should be filed by mail with the filing fee of \$20 (money order or cashier's check only) included with your petition or civil complaint.
- ♦ Call the Court's emergency phone number at (505) 235-1784 to let the Court know that an emergency petition or complaint has been filed if you are filing an emergency petition or complaint; by e-mail or fax. All emergency hearings will be conducted by telephone. If you are requesting an emergency order by petition or motion, you must provide a current telephone number when filing your petition or motion by any method: mail, e-mail or fax.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Mailing address: PO Box 100, Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024

Emergency Phone: (505) 235-1784

Fax: (575) 834-9317

E-mail: court.clrk@jemezpuablo.org

The following emergency procedures will be implemented while continuing the necessary functions of the Court until further notice.

1. Jemez Pueblo Tribal Court is closed to the public from until May 4, 2020, subject to further action by the Governors. and may be subject to closure for a longer time period.
2. All deadlines during this time period may be suspended. This suspension may be extended as circumstances require.
3. Civil and criminal matters currently set for hearing, trial or other Court appearances during the suspension period are continued pending further orders, ***except for:***
 - a. Civil emergency protection orders and emergency restraining orders;
 - b. Criminal initial appearances, arraignments and other appearances necessary for due process;
 - c. Emergency dependency, emergency guardianship matters and other emergency hearings.
4. Emergency matters, arraignments and required proceedings of any kind will be handled on a case-by-case basis. The Tribal Judge will use remote participation using telephone conferencing, video conferencing or other means.
5. All continued matters will be set on the next available docket on or after May 4, 2020, subject to further action by the Governors..
6. Any party affected by this Administrative Order may electronically file a motion with the Court Clerk to request leave from this order, citing extraordinary circumstances.
7. Any new emergency hearings shall be conducted by telephone or other electronic means.
8. Payment of traffic penalty assessments, court costs and other fines arc suspended from March 26, 2020 through May 4, 2020 subject to further action by the Governors.. Jemez Pueblo Tribal Court will not accept any payments for traffic fines, court costs or other fines either by telephone or in person during the time that the Court is closed, through May 4, 2020, subject to further action by the Governors.. This closure may be extended.
9. Everyone except Court staff arc prohibited from entering the courtroom, court offices or any other court facility except for emergencies as authorized by the Governors.
10. This administrative order will remain in effect until further notice and may be modified as necessary according to directives related to the public health emergency.

If you have questions, please call the Tribal Court at (575) 834-7369 or send an e-mail to court.clrk@jemezpuablo.org.

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Tribal Council Report

Pueblo of Jemez departments, programs and tribal administration submitted the following resolutions for Tribal Council approval.

February 26, 2020

TC-01. Approved the withdrawal of the entire balance in the Proceeds of Labor account from the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of Interior Account, plus all accrued interest, and requests that the account be closed. These funds will be used for current Pueblo project needs.

TC-02. Authorized the Pueblo of Jemez FY2020 Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TTIP) and approved the submission of the FY2020 through FY2024 TTIP to the US Federal Highway Administration. The funds will be used for road maintenance (\$2,500,000;) transportation planning (\$1,142,000;) program administration (\$885,000;) Tribal Administration parking lot and Sheep Springs Way (\$862,200;) NM 4 Multi-use Pedestrian Trail (\$800,350;) Fitness Center parking lot and Bear Head Canyon Road (\$60,000;) North End drainage (\$53,800;) and the Owl Springs Bridge design (\$30,000.)

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION

FINANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

During the closure of tribal offices, the following changes to operations have been made:

1. Payments will be accepted (credit/debit card) by phone. Call (575) 834-9141.
2. Reduced staff on site. Please e-mail Holly Sanchez, Frances Barns-Provencher or Miki Huntley; they will be on site to help.
3. Delivering documents. Contact Holly, Frances, Miki before stopping by the office. They will meet you at the door.

Jemez Comprehensive Health Center Temporary Hours of Operation

Effective March 26, 2020

Medical Clinic Hours

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Medical clinic will continue to serve non-acute care visits through telephone, when possible.

Medical clinic will not be accepting new patients at this time.

Dental Clinic (emergency care only):

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Dental Clinic will be open for emergency care only.

The abbreviated hours will be in place and revisited weekly and adjusted based on need and patient volume. We appreciate your understanding during this challenging time.

Behavioral Health Program

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Email: JHHSresponsete a.m.@jemezueblo.us

Pharmacy Hours

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Pharmacy will continue to fill prescriptions.

Pharmacy Pick-up

If you will be picking up medications at the Jemez Pharmacy, medications will now be delivered to your vehicle.

Steps for pharmacy pick-up:

1. Call ahead for your medications at the Jemez Pharmacy at (575) 834-0130.
2. When you arrive at the Jemez Comprehensive Health Clinic, call the Jemez Pharmacy at (575) 834-0130 to let them know you are outside the building.
3. Wait in your vehicle.
4. A JHHS staff member will be happy to deliver your medications to your vehicle.

As a reminder, if you are experiencing any signs and symptoms of COVID-19, call any of the following phone numbers:

Ask to speak to a JHHS Nurse: (575) 834-7413

JHHS Medical Provider After-Hours Hotline: (505) 309-2937

Coronavirus Hotline: 1-855-600-3453

New Mexico Department of Health: (505) 827-0006

For any questions or concerns regarding coronavirus, please e-mail JHHSresponsete a.m.@jemezueblo.us.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Planting Season

Submitted by Paul Clarke, Director

While Covid-19 is changing just about everything these days, the Natural Resources Department (NRD) will continue to support farmers with tractor work for plowing, disking, border making, land leveling, etc. However, to maximize everyone's safety by limiting person-to-person contact, Agricultural Work Requests will only be taken over the phone. Call John D. Romero at (505) 259-0628.

All else regarding field work services remains the same. We look forward to working with you (over the phone and/or at least six feet away) to bring about a successful planting season.

Wood Removal Permits Waived

In keeping with the Public Health Emergency for the Pueblo of Jemez, the safety and well-being of our tribal members is the highest priority. Even as we work collectively through this period of the COVID-19 pandemic, we understand the need for all of us to provide for our families, to cook, stay warm and utilize wood by-products for home use.

To meet our wood resource needs while minimizing person-to-person interactions in tribal offices and the associated risks of spreading the COVID-19, starting immediately and extending through June 30, 2020, **no formal wood removal permits will be required for collecting and hauling fuelwood for home use.** During this time, it is important to note that firefighting resources we normally depend on are stretched extremely thin due to the COVID-19 outbreak. **Therefore, it is paramount that all wood removal harvesting and collection be done with extreme care.**

While this memo temporarily allows tribal members to collect wood products without a fuelwood permit, all wood removal activities must adhere to the following rules.

This waiver of wood removal permit authorizes tribal members to remove firewood (dead and down) and round wood products (green posts and poles) from designated areas of tribal trust lands under the following conditions:

- 1) This waiver is only to collect, gather and transport wood.
- 2) Conduct removal as directed by instructions below.
- 3) **Selling wood outside the Jemez reservation is strictly prohibited.** Violators will be fined \$500 and placed in the Tribal Court system.
- 4) Respect our natural resources by packing out trash generated by your actions.
- 5) Pile slash, lop/scatter or fill in small drainages to prevent erosion.
- 6) Respect yellow paint or flagging on trees (save trees) for future forest inventory.
- 7) Do not cut Douglas fir trees as firewood; these are saved for Traditional use only.
- 8) Cut only in designated areas.
- 9) Tribal police will enforce the permit system.

Burn Permits

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the Natural Resources Department offices are temporarily closed. With consultation with the Governors, a temporary change has been made to allow agricultural burns on the Pueblo.

Burning to clear and maintain fields and lateral ditches for planting will be allowed without a formal burn permit through June 30, 2020. While temporarily burning without a permit will be allowed, all burning must adhere to the following rules. Those conducting the burn will be held responsible for any damages attributed to out of control fires:

- ◆ **Do not burn on windy days.** Weather fluctuations, such as sudden wind gusts or changes in wind direction, can quickly turn an agriculture/ditch fire into a wildfire.
- ◆ **The ground around the burn site must be surrounded by gravel or minimal soil (dirt)** for at least five feet in all directions. Clear all vegetation before burning.
- ◆ **A safe burn site must be far from power lines, gas lines, telephone boxes, buildings, automobiles, equipment and overhanging tree limbs.** The site must have vertical clearance at least three times the height of the pile; heat

from the fire will extend far past the actual flames.

- ◆ **Disk around the field** to create a fire break before burning in larger areas.
- ◆ **Remain with your burn at all times.** Watch the direction of your smoke. Smoke can create a hazard when blowing across roads or highways by limiting drivers' visibility, which could cause vehicle accidents.
- ◆ **Attend your burn until it is completely out.** To ensure the fire has been completely extinguished, douse the fire with water or turn over the ashes with a shovel. Repeat several times. Check the burn area regularly over the next several days, especially if the weather is warm, dry or windy.

Penalties for violation:

Jemez Tribal Code Section 3-2-48 mandates that anyone who violates the above directives shall be deemed guilty of the offense. Upon conviction, the penalty is jail time for a period not to exceed 90 days and/or a fine not to exceed \$100, or both.

PUBLIC WORKS

Jemez Pueblo Public Works Update

Submitted by Todd Loretto, Interim Director

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Wipes and Personal Hygiene Products CLOG Sewer Lines and Grinder Pumps!

Coronavirus anxieties sweeping through the state of New Mexico may empty store shelves where toilet paper usually sits, and people may be seeking alternatives.

Many household products are labeled and marketed as disposable and/or flushable. Baby and adult personal hygiene products, along with household wipes and cleaning towelettes, are labeled both disposable and flushable. *They are not!*

Unlike toilet paper, these products *do not* break down once they are flushed. They can block your on-site sewer line, especially older pipelines that may have grease, roots or other obstructions already existing. Repair of the on-site sewer line can leave home owners with a very costly sewer repair bill. When these products make their way into the public sewer system, they collect and can create very large obstructions and clogs in the main collector lines. They get tangled in pump stations, requiring expensive repair or replacement of equipment.

Clogged sewers cause back-ups and overflows at homes, businesses and wastewater treatment facilities, creating an additional public health risk in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. This also threatens the health of the environment and burden our community's wastewater utility operators.

The Public Works Department appreciates your cooperation and understanding during these critical times. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Public Works Department office at (575) 834-7942.

Thank you,
Public Works Utilities Staff

DO NOT FLUSH!

Cleaning wipes,
even if the package says, "flushable."
Baby wipes ♦ Paper towels ♦ Tissues.
These items **MUST** be thrown in the trash.

Transfer Station Notice

Transfer Station and Utilities will remain
OPEN during the Shut Down

Transfer Station hours:
6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

FOR WATER & SEWER EMERGENCIES,
please call the Public Works Office at

(575) 834-7942 or
Warren (505) 506-7839
Ryan (505) 362-6730
Lyle (505) 259-7153
Todd (505) 366-1036



HOUSING AUTHORITY

Pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority

Submitted by Greta Armijo, Executive Director

The entire Pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority (POJHA) team, like many others, is concerned with the challenges our community is facing due to Covid-19. We are closely following the guidance from our leadership and the JHHS Response Team to do our part to protect our community. POJHA will temporarily close our offices through May 4, 2020 subject to further action by the Governors..

During this time of uncertainty, our priority is the health and safety of our team, our tenants, and our community at-large. We are committed to doing our part to minimize the spread of the virus. We want our community to know that we have plans in place to safely continue our efforts by doing the following:

- ❖ Reaching out to all tenants to inform them of temporary office closure through May 4, 2020, subject to further action by the Governors..
- ❖ Encouraging all staff to work from home and enhance their skills through online training opportunities.
- ❖ Providing contact information for Executive Director Greta Armijo. She can be reached by e-mail at greta.armijo@jemezhousing.org or cell phone at (505) 239-6861 for any housing related services.
- ❖ Suspending annual inspections, home assessments, and non-emergency home repairs until after May 4, 2020, subject to further action by the Governors.
- ❖ Handling emergency repairs on a case-by-case basis prioritizing issues related to health and safety

Making A Payment

Until further notice, please make your payment using one of the following:

- ❖ **By telephone: (505) 239-6861.** If you reach voicemail, please leave a message and the staff will return your call as quickly as possible. Payment can be made using credit cards, debit cards and ACH payment.
- ❖ **By mail:** Mail your payment in the form of money order, personal check or cashier's check to the office at PO Box 670, Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024. Cash payments will not be accepted by mail during this time.

No matter how your payment is made, receipts will be mailed to you with the address listed in your file when the office re-opens.

If your household income has been impacted due to Covid-19, please let the department know. They will work with you

to modify your monthly house payment. During this time, no evictions or foreclosures will occur due to non-payment.

Emergency Repairs

Should you have an emergency need (loss of utility, broken or clogged pipes), please call Greta Armijo, Executive Director, at (505) 239-6861 and she will work with POJHA staff to schedule a repair.

If your household has been affected due to Covid-19, please let the department know when contacting them so staff can be properly protected before performing work. The POJHA staff will work with JHHS Response Team to take necessary steps needed for the safety of staff and tenants prior to responding to emergency repairs.

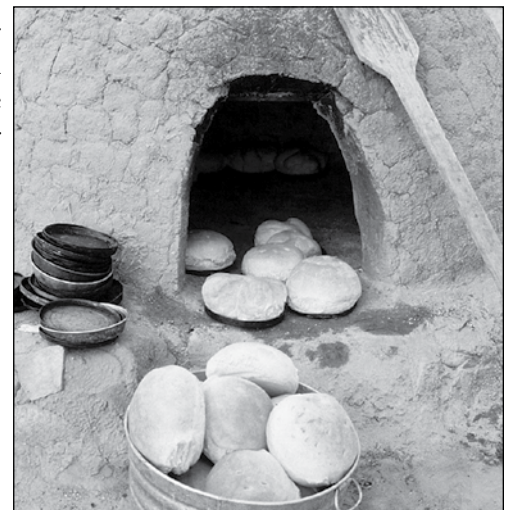
Please Note!

Many emergency repairs are due to clogged sewers. Please help by only flushing toilet paper. All other items paper towels – wipes, feminine products, and even those marked as “flushable” – must be thrown in the trash. These items will clog the sewer line and the tenant/homeowner will be charged a fee if it is determined that the emergency repair was due to a non-flushable item clogging the line. This sort of preventable repair creates additional and unnecessary risk in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Homebuyer Classes Canceled

Homebuyer education classes have been postponed to a later date. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. Please be on the lookout for more information on future Homebuyer Education Classes. If you have any questions, please email Estevan Sando at Estevan.Sando@jemezhousing.org.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. We wish you and your family good health.



HOUSING AUTHORITY

HOME MAINTENANCE TIPS FOR SPRING

Spring has arrived! It time to spring forward and prepare yourself. Here are some spring home maintenance tips:

- ❖ Clean gutters. Cleaning gutters and downspouts can prevent damage from spring rains. Make sure the gutters are free of debris.
- ❖ Spot check your roof. Winter storms can take quite a toll on the roof. Check for cracked, broken or missing tiles, and any place water can seep through and damage your home.
- ❖ Inspect and prepare drainage system around your home.
- ❖ Prevent mosquitoes by getting rid of standing water around your property.
- ❖ Check screen doors and windows to let the breeze flow in and keep bugs out.

Schedule air-conditioning service and turn your furnace off.

Pest Control

These suggestions will help prepare your home to keep all the spring bugs outside, including virus "bugs."

Take extra time to protect your family. Sanitize all areas of you home where bacteria and viruses may collect:

- ❖ Door and door handles.
- ❖ Windows.
- ❖ Sink areas.
- ❖ Cabinet handles.
- ❖ Refrigerator door.
- ❖ Oven handles and knobs.
- ❖ Bathroom: door knobs, all handles, sinks and tubs.
- ❖ And any and all commonly used items in the home.
- ❖ Vehicles: Clean the steering wheel, door handles and all knobs.

Let's all do our part to keep Walatowa safe!

Sandoval County Native American Voting Rights Program 2020 Presidential Primary

(New Mexico major parties: Democrat,
Republican and Libertarian)

Practice social distancing while exercising your civic duty. Any eligible voter in New Mexico can request an absentee ballot application. Go to the NM Secretary of State web site at www.sos.nm.us.

CALENDAR

Voter Registration Closes
May 5, 2020

Absentee Voting Begins
May 5, 2020

Early Voting Begins
May 16, 2020

Absentee and Early Voting Ends
May 30, 2020

Primary Election Day June 2, 2020

Voting Site: Community Resource Center
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early Voting Site: Community Resource Center
Thursday May 28 and Friday May 29
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

For more information, please contact the Native American Voting Rights Office at
(505) 934-8826 or
Sandoval County Clerk's Office at (505) 867-7577.

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT/TRANSPORTATION

Planning, Development and Transportation Project Updates

Submitted by Sheri Bozic, Department Director



The Planning, Development and Transportation Department is working on numerous infrastructure improvement projects for the Pueblo. Below are the project status updates. If you have questions, please contact Sheri Bozic, Director, at (505) 382-3299 or Amanda Rubio, Transportation Project Manager, at (505) 321-3489.

NM 4 Multi-Use Pedestrian Trail

The New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) awarded a \$4.7 million grant to the Pueblo to design and construct a multi-use pedestrian trail along NM 4. The project entails planning, design and construction of a 1.9-mile pedestrian trail between Pueblo Place Housing Sub-division and Bear Head Canyon Road. This project will facilitate safe pedestrian passage between many of the community services and residences located along NM 4.

NM 4 Bypass

The NMDOT has programmed \$3 million to complete the planning and design for the NM 4 Bypass project. The Pueblo will work closely with the NMDOT to complete this very important project. After the design is completed, the Pueblo will apply for construction funding.

NM 4 Traffic-Calming Project

The NMDOT awarded a \$21 thousand grant and the FHWA awarded a \$45 thousand grant to the Pueblo to mitigate speeding along NM 4 by installing traffic-calming measures. The traffic-calming measures will include gateway treatment signs at each entrance of the Pueblo, and the replacement of two existing 30 mph signs with solar-powered speed display/radar feedback signs.



Planning, Development and Transportation Department staff.

Tribal Administrative Complex Parking Lots/ Sheep Springs Way (South Entrance off NM 4)

The project will design and construct improvements for the existing Tribal Administrative Complex parking lots and Sheep Springs Way. The preliminary engineering tasks will be completed by early 2020.

Walatowa Fitness Center Parking Lot/Bear Head Canyon Rd.

The project will design and construct a new parking lot at the Walatowa Fitness Center and will improve the entrance of Bear Head Canyon Road to the Fitness Center. Preliminary engineering tasks were completed in 2019. The department is actively searching and applying for grant funding for project construction.

Owl Springs Way Bridge Replacement Design

The project will complete the design plans for a new bridge over the Jemez River. The new bridge will have two driving lanes and includes a pedestrian walkway. The preliminary engineering tasks will be completed by summer 2020. After the design is completed, the POJ will seek additional funding to construct the replacement bridge.

Pedestrian Trails and Bikeways Facility Plan

With extensive input from the community, a pedestrian trails and bikeways facility plan will be developed for the Pueblo. The Pueblo will utilize the plan to seek grant awards for the design and construction of new pedestrian pathways and to make improvements to existing trails at the Pueblo. **The community meeting scheduled on Thursday, April 30 is postponed until further notice.** Please watch for the new meeting date announcement in the newsletter.

NOTICE: Permanent Road Closure

Per the directive of Tribal leadership, Blue Bird Mesa Road is permanently closed to vehicular traffic. Blue Bird Mesa Road will remain open for pedestrians. If you have questions regarding the road closure, please contact the Planning, Development, and Transportation office.

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT/TRANSPORTATION

Planning, Development and Transportation Updates, *Continued*

Road Maintenance

The road maintenance team works to improve roads and parking lots throughout the Pueblo. The crew completed an assessment of needed road repairs. They are developing cost estimates and prioritizing projects including repair or replacement of cattle guards, culverts, signs, safety markers, pavement, speed humps, washboard and potholed areas, and other structures. Top priority projects will improve traffic safety and bus routes. For questions, please contact Vincent Toya, Heavy Equipment Supervisor, at (505) 505-5336.

Construction Tip – Call Before You Dig

Please call 811 or 1-800-321-2537 at least two working days before you start any digging project. Whether you are going to do it yourself or hire a contractor, smart digging means calling 811 before each job. The 811 representative will record information about your project and notify the appropriate utility companies to mark all buried lines so you can dig safely around them. Go to <http://call811.com/map-page/new-mexico>.

New Department Logos

The Planning, Development and Transportation Department has a new look! Our brand voice is warm, thoughtful and intelligent. We speak to our partners like friends in simple, direct and natural terms. Never boastful or full of jargon, we engage people in conversations and communicate the benefits of our services.

There is a positive, forward-looking energy to what we do. We are all about listening, innovating, and delivering ingenious solutions that benefit everyone. Our goal in communicating is to recognize and reflect on the people of Jemez and their interactions with our partners to clearly tell our story.

The new logo is a powerful image. It connects people and culture to the diverse audiences we serve. It is a dynamic reflection for the department's active commitment to meeting the needs of the people who rely on us.

As our most visible asset, we have an obligation to ensure the JPDT mark is used properly. To meet various operational needs



and situations, there are two distinct logos. Each has a unique purpose and standard defining its use.

The mark is inspired by the services provided by JPDT and the people it serves. By using familiar Pueblo motifs, the logo has cultural connections to the Kiva step/cloud pattern, and traditional architecture. The center negative space is representative of a path or road that crosses through the reservation. The overall shape is an abstraction of the reservation boundary as seen from above. The mark was designed to highlight progress, upward movement, and future planning for the next generation of Hemish.



Aid From NM Workforce Solutions

The New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions (NMDWS) announced new help and resources for workers affected by COVID-19, including extended Unemployment Insurance Operations Center hours, waiting week waived and auto-adjudication.

New Mexican workers affected by COVID-19 can get help to increase access for applying for Unemployment Insurance. The Unemployment Insurance Operations Center is working on a strategy to extend hours during the week and on weekends.

The department continues to strongly encourage anyone with Internet access to apply and complete weekly certifications using the website at www.jobs.state.nm.us.

Under guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor, NMDWS will waive the "waiting week" for claimants who have applied for benefits since March 15. By waiving the waiting week, claimants will receive an extra week of benefit payments to their accounts while allowing for new applicants to receive their benefits faster.

NMDWS will begin an auto-adjudication program to clear specific pending issues that will release held payments to claimants. Auto-adjudication allows the department to process issues systematically rather than one by one. This will allow many claimants who have been waiting to receive benefits faster.

To increase accessibility for people with general questions about unemployment during the COVID-19 Pandemic, NMDWS hosted a virtual Town Hall. The Virtual Town Hall will be available as a recording on the department's COVID-19 website at www.dws.state.nm.us/COVID-19-Info.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

Submitted by Dawn Dozhier, Physician Assistant

April is Alcohol Awareness Month. To learn more about alcoholism, contact the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD), Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), and Al-Anon.

What Alcohol Does to the Body

In addition to the well-known impact of alcohol addiction, alcohol can have many adverse effects on overall health:

- Alcohol can cause erratic changes in blood sugars, either high or low.
- Blood sugars can drop without warning, especially when taking diabetes medication.
- The effects of Metformin and Glipizide medications are intensified.
- Forgetting to eat when drinking can cause hypoglycemia.
- Serious inflammation of the pancreas and liver, both serious health risks.
- Trigger the onset of diabetes.
- Loss of libido.
- Depression.
- Negatively affect relationships.
- Alcohol and drug use are associated with unsafe sex.

Make an appointment at the Jemez Health Clinic for alcohol screening and STD/HIV testing. Call (575) 834-3022.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Extra Support for Extraordinary Times

Submitted by Lena Gachupin, MSW, LISW, LCSW, BH Program Manager

We are at a time of uncertainty, a time we have never experienced, and a time when some of us will need added support. The Behavioral Health Program is available for those who want therapeutic and supportive services. We are here to listen and help as best we can. This is a time for faith and prayer and to come together as a community.

Established BH clients will be provided their therapist's/counselor's phone numbers to provide continuity of services. The program can also offer phone therapy. Contact them at (575) 834-7258 to make arrangements.

Acu-detox For Stress Management

Submitted by Eleni Fredlund, LMHC, Acudetox Specialist, Behavioral Health Program contract therapist and NM Crisis Support Team member.

The BH Program provides Accu-detox services at the Jemez Health Center Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information or to make an appointment, contact Corrie Madalena at (575) 834-7258.

Acu-detox is used for the prevention and treatment of substance use, stress mitigation, vicarious trauma, and PTSD. The treatment includes auricular points that help mitigate the stress response and help with insomnia after a critical event. The auricular points can be treated by needles for a minimum of 20 minutes, or with ear seeds. The seed is on a small adhesive square that can be attached in minutes. Acu-therapy points used are:

Shen Men: known as Spirit Gate in Chinese Medicine. This point calms the mind and relieves anxiety, depression and insomnia. Opens connection to spirit.

Sympathetic: This point balances the nervous system and has a relaxant effect. It reduces obsessive thinking and calms the spirit.

Kidney: This point relieves fear and increases person's resources to deal with problems.

Liver: This point aids in clear thinking and decision making. Relieves frustration, anger and depression.

Lung: This point aids in regulation of grief/sadness, and letting go. Improves sense of connection, self-respect, and integrity. Helps one know what is of value. Reminds client of connection with heaven; provides inspiration.

Point Zero: This point resets homeostatic balance (emotional and physical) for the whole body.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Know the Numbers: Alcohol and Substance Abuse Deaths in New Mexico Native Communities

Submitted by Lena Gachupin, MSW, LISW, LCSW, Behavioral Health Program Manager

At this very difficult time in our lives, we pray we will get beyond this significant life event. Many continue to use alcohol and drugs to cope, and many are so sick with their addictions that it is difficult to stop. One of the life challenges we face as a community is the ongoing substance abuse problem.

During Alcohol Awareness Month we would like to bring attention to the severity of alcohol and drug use in our community. It is still our number one problem; that is not to say the drug problem is any less. We are affected by it within our homes and families and within our community. I believe most of us are aware of the severity of alcoholism and drug use and we must work together to address it.

New Mexico leads the country in alcohol-related deaths. The New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) reports that tribal deaths from 2014 through 2018 are 10 times higher

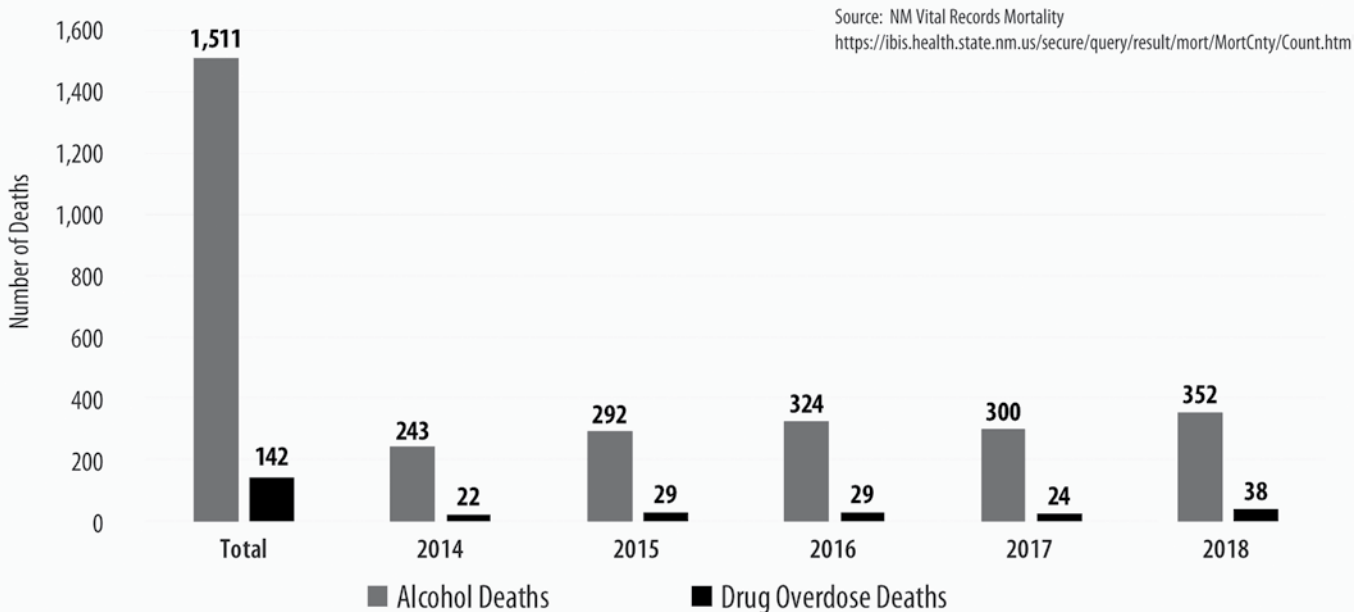
due to alcohol use than drug overdose.

For many, denial is common among those struggling with alcoholism or drug abuse. People underestimate the amount of their use, the duration of their drinking problem, and the impact on their lives and those around them. Denial is common among those who are uncomfortable acknowledging the gravity and reality of their alcoholism or situation.

We commend those of you who have been successful in your sobriety and/or staying clean and we continue to support your wellness. Behavioral Health Program services are available for anyone who is open to working with us. We will be adding a new psychologist and two Behavioral Health therapists to the team in April.

We are here to help and encourage anyone who is ready to reach out to us. Call (575) 834-7258 if you or someone you care about needs help.

American Indian/Alaska Native Alcohol & Drug Overdose Deaths in New Mexico, 2014-2018



Alcohol Kills

For 30 years, New Mexico has led the nation in alcohol related deaths. *Tribal deaths from 2014-2018 indicate that there are ten times more deaths due to alcohol than drug overdose related deaths* (see graph below.)

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

HELPING YOUR FAMILY COPE

Coping with the Stress of an Infectious Disease Outbreak Like COVID-19

National Child Traumatic Stress Network

Information about Covid-19 is rapidly evolving as new details are confirmed and new questions emerge. As a parent/caregiver, your first concern is how to protect and take care of your family. Having reliable information about the outbreak and being prepared can reduce your stress and stay calm.

What You Should Know

Coronaviruses are a family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases. Covid-19 is caused by a novel coronavirus; this means it is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans. Covid-19 is a respiratory disease that is mainly spread person-to-person. Currently, there is no vaccine or curative treatment, so the best preventive strategy is to avoid exposure.

It's important to remember that in New Mexico, just over two percent of people who were tested were found positive for Covid-19; less than one percent of those died. Statistically, that is a mortality rate of .03 percent. The vast majority of people do not have Covid-19. Of those who do have the virus, more than 98 percent recover. (Statistics from the New Mexico Department of Health.)

So far, children appear to be less affected by Covid-19, which was also seen after other coronavirus outbreaks. Children with pre-existing illnesses may have higher risk, so you should discuss this with your child's medical team.

Pueblo, state and federal strategies are in place to reduce the spread of the virus, keep those who are sick away from others, and promote healthy hygiene. At press time, schools and non-essential businesses in New Mexico are closed, and Pueblo of Jemez tribal offices are closed. Many departments and programs continue to operate with staff working at home.

Even if your family is prepared, the situation can be very stressful. Use these suggestions to help your family cope:

Information & Communication

- ✦ Keep updated about events and additional recommendations with information from credible media outlets, local public health authorities, and updates from public health websites, such as the CDC or the New Mexico Department of Health.
- ✦ Seek support and continued connections with friends and family by phone, texting, e-mail or social media. Schools may have additional ways to stay in contact with educators and classmates.
- ✦ Although you need to stay informed, minimize exposure to news outlets or social media that might promote fear or panic. Be especially aware of (and limit) how much media coverage or social media time your children are exposed to about the outbreak.
- ✦ Check in regularly with your children about what they have seen on the Internet. Clarify misinformation or misunderstandings about how the virus is spread and stress that not every respiratory disease is COVID-19.

- ✦ Support children by encouraging questions and helping them understand the situation. Encourage them to talk about their feelings and validate them. Help them express their feelings through drawing or other activities
- ✦ Provide comfort and a bit of extra patience.
- ✦ Check back with your children on a regular basis or when the situation changes.

Scheduling and Activities

- ✦ Even if your family is isolated or quarantined, realize this will be temporary.
- ✦ Keep your family's schedule consistent when it comes to bedtimes, meals and exercise.
- ✦ Make time to do things at home that have made you and your family feel better in other stressful situations, such as reading, watching movies, listening to music, playing games, exercising, or engaging in religious activities (prayer, participating in services on the Internet.)
- ✦ Have children participate in distance learning opportunities offered by their schools or other institutions/organizations.
- ✦ Recognize that feelings such as loneliness, boredom, fear of contracting disease, anxiety, stress, and panic are normal reactions to a stressful situation such as a disease outbreak.
- ✦ Help your family engage in fun and meaningful activities consistent with your family and cultural values.

Hygiene & Medical Care

Find ways to encourage proper hygiene and health promoting behavior with your children; create drawings to remember family routines; sing a song for the time needed to wash hands (like the A-B-C or Happy Birthday song, twice.) Include them in household jobs or activities so they feel a sense of accomplishment. Give praise and encouragement for engaging in household jobs and good hygiene.

Reassure your children that you will take them to the doctor and get medical care if needed. Explain that not every cough or sneeze means that they or others have Covid-19.

Self Care & Coping

- ✦ Modify your daily activities to meet the current reality and focus on what you can accomplish. Shift expectations and priorities to focus more on what gives you meaning, purpose or fulfillment.
- ✦ Give yourself small breaks from the stress of the situation.
- ✦ Try to control self-defeating statements and replace them with more helpful thoughts.

Remember, you are a role model for your children. How you handle this stressful situation can affect how your children manage their worries.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Helping Children Cope

Your children may respond differently to an emergency, depending on their age. Below are some reactions according to age group and the best ways you can respond:

AGE GROUP	REACTIONS	HOW TO HELP
PRESCHOOL	Fear of being alone, bad dreams Speech difficulties Loss of bladder/bowel control, constipation, bed-wetting Change in appetite Increased temper tantrums, whining, or clinging behaviors	Patience and tolerance Provide reassurance (verbal and physical) Encourage expression through play, reenactment, story-telling Allow short-term changes in sleep arrangements Plan calming, comforting activities before bedtime Maintain regular family routines Avoid media exposure
SCHOOL-AGE (ages 6-12)	Irritability, whining, aggressive behavior Clinging, nightmares Sleep/appetite disturbance Physical symptoms (headaches, stomachaches) Withdrawal from peers, loss of interest Competition for parents' attention Forgetfulness about chores and new information learned at school	Patience, tolerance, and reassurance Play sessions and staying in touch with friends through telephone and Internet Regular exercise and stretching Engage in educational activities (workbooks, educational games) Participate in structured household chores Set gentle but firm limits Discuss the current outbreak and encourage questions. Include what is being done in the family and community Encourage expression through play and conversation Help family create ideas for enhancing health promotion behaviors and maintaining family routines Limit media exposure, talking about what they have seen/heard including at school Address any stigma or discrimination occurring and clarify misinformation
ADOLESCENT (ages 13-18)	Physical symptoms (headaches, rashes, etc.) Sleep/appetite disturbance Agitation or decrease in energy, apathy Ignoring health promotion behaviors Isolating from peers and loved ones Concerns about stigma and injustices Avoiding/cutting school	Patience, tolerance, and reassurance Encourage continuation of routines Encourage discussion of outbreak experience with peers, family (but do not force) Stay in touch with friends through telephone, Internet, video games Participate in family routines, including chores, supporting younger siblings, and planning strategies to enhance health promotion behaviors Limit media exposure, talking about what they have seen/heard including at school Discuss and address stigma, prejudice and potential injustices occurring during outbreak

EDUCATION

EDUCATION MEALS PROGRAM UPDATE

Submitted by Kevin Shendo, Director

The following message was sent by the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) to all its schools and programs. The Feeding Plan Memo Update below ensures that our schools will continue to provide breakfast and lunch to students during all the weeks of school closure, and notes that even with the Governor's most recent executive order, schools are still expected to distribute meals during the current shelter in place order.

Please know that all our public, charter, Head Start, and Child Care programs are expected to continue to provide meals to our children and youth, uninterrupted. All students 18 and under, regardless of schools, districts, and programs they attend, can obtain a meal from any of our community school meal sites. Students over age 18 and still enrolled in a K-12 program are also eligible to receive meals.

Feeding Plan Update During Covid-19 School Closure

New Mexico Public Education Department

Schools are still expected to distribute meals during the current shelter in place. Information about all school districts' feeding plans, including the days/dates, location, and hours of meal distribution are posted on the New Mexico.gov website at www.newmexico.gov/education/meal-sites-for-children.

Food Distribution Flexibilities

- ☞ Meals may be served to all children 18 and under in the household (or 18 and older if they are still enrolled in a public K-12 school) if at least one child attends the school in extended closure.
- ☞ Small, rural districts may distribute meals for more than one day at a time.
- ☞ During school closure, the PED is waiving the food service handler permit requirement.
- ☞ Districts and charter schools at which at least 50% of students are eligible for free/reduced lunch will be reimbursed 100% of their costs for the meals served to students during the closure. Please note that the NMPED is seeking a USDA waiver so that the 50% threshold is not required for reimbursement as well as waiving the requirement to have students present to pick up meals; we will keep you posted on whether or not this waiver is granted in upcoming memos.
- ☞ Separate meal counts and records must be maintained for meals served under a Covid-19 waiver.

About the Extended Public School Closure: Frequently Asked Questions

New Mexico public education has shifted to a learn-at-home model as schools remain closed for the rest of the academic year. This decision is part of a plan to protect New Mexicans from Covid-19 and ensure that children are protected, fed and educated, and that families are supported through this crisis.

Here are answers to some of the most frequently asked questions.

Q: What is the plan to continue education during the school closure period?

Each School district and public charter school will develop a Continuous Learning Plan that meets the needs of their community.

Q: What does "Continuous Learning" mean?

The NMPED has adopted the term "continuous learning," recognizing that instructional modalities will vary by

community and, importantly, should be student-centered. Terms such as "virtual learning," "e-learning," or "distance learning," are avoided to support the individualized learning needs of all students. New Mexico is a state that is grounded in diversity, and this strength should allow us to demonstrate equity, inclusivity and creativity in supporting the needs of all students.

Q. How will the PED support students who do not have smart devices or Internet connections?

Internet access will be an issue for many families. Staff and students may lack the resources to connect remotely. PED encourages districts and charter schools to reach out to local Internet service providers to explore options that are available for community members. PED also encourages districts and charter schools to think about learning kits and other hands-on educational materials

EDUCATION

Frequently Asked Questions About the Extended School Closure, *Continued*

that meet the students' educational needs as well as family engagement needs.

Q. How many hours of instruction should we expect each day?

Continuous learning focuses on critical standards and the skills needed for grade advancement. Our recommended guidelines for maximum student commitment in terms of direct instruction each day are as follows. Additional reading time or storytelling is always encouraged.

Pre-K:	30 minutes
Grades K-1:	45 minutes
Grades 2-3:	60 minutes
Grades 4-5:	90 minutes
Grades 6-12:	30 minutes per teacher (three hours maximum in a day)

Q. How will this work for students who receive special education services?

Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) may NOT be universally modified. There is no waiver from IDEA requirements, including IEP and eligibility timelines. Schools should consider alternate methods for providing educational services to children ages 3-21 with disabilities who are receiving IEP services, such as, teleservices, learning packets, or virtual/online lessons.

Special education teachers and related service providers will continue to work on IEP and evaluation paperwork within required timelines. IEP meetings may be held by phone or in another video conferencing format such as Zoom or Google Hangouts as appropriate. LEAs must ensure that, to the greatest extent possible, each student with a disability can be provided the special education and related services identified in the student's IEP.

PED recognizes there are students with complex needs for whom the virtual/on-line program may not be a feasible option, even with additional accommodations or modifications. The IEP team will need to discuss and document within the IEP or an addendum the agreed-upon alternative plan for providing the requisite special education and related services to those students though Prior Written Notice.

Q. Will students be required to complete state assessments?

No. A waiver for federally required assessments was submitted and approved by the US Department of Education. The federally required, state-wide, English Language Proficiency assessment (ACCESS for ELLs and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs) was completed on March 6, 2020 before the school closures.

The PED is working to provide online remote proctoring options for those high school seniors who need to test for

the State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy. More information will be forthcoming.

Q. What does this mean for high school seniors?

High school seniors will earn credits and achieve eligibility for graduation by completing a locally designed demonstration of competency, which may include:

- ☞ Passing a locally designed test,
- ☞ Completing a locally designed series of assignments,
- ☞ Achieving a set cut score on a college entrance exam,

Q. Will high school graduation requirements be waived?

The PED waiver will remove the requirements for seniors to attend a minimum of 1,080 hours of instruction. All students are still required to complete at least 24 credits of required and elective coursework. End of semester final grades should be calculated, reported and transcribed. PED is encouraging schools and districts to adopt a pass/no credit grading system for the last grading period.

Q. What do I tell my senior who is concerned about meeting graduation requirements?

Schools must identify students in danger of not being able to demonstrate course completion and focus support on them. Students will have an extension until June 19 to demonstrate competency. Those who fail to do so will be offered credit recovery in the summer and will have the ability to appeal to the local school board and to the Secretary. No student can be denied graduation due to lack of access to demonstrate competency.

Q. What about prom and graduation? Are those milestone events cancelled?

Proms will be postponed or canceled pending the prevailing public health order at the time. Graduation ceremonies will likely be postponed until it is safe to resume mass gatherings.

Q. How will my student take college entrance exams?

Some high school seniors have already taken college entrance exams and we anticipate that higher education institutions will waive entrance exam requirements for this year. Both ACT and College Board are looking at offering exams in the summer.

AP exams will be offered online to access from home. Exams will last 45 minutes and cover material that students should have covered up to March. If students need support for access or technology, we will work with districts and schools to ensure they are supported. AP exam dates will be announced by the College Board.

Q. Will school employees continue to be paid?

Employees will continue to be paid. They should continue to perform the activities listed in the *Business Operations During School Closure Memo* issued on March 17.

EDUCATION

COVID-19 Relief Payments

From Congressman Ben Ray Lujan

Dear Friend,

I know there are great concerns about the economic impacts the coronavirus will have on working families and New Mexicans. Providing both health care and economic relief to New Mexicans is at the cornerstone of what I'm advocating for in Congress, and I wanted to share with you some information about some of the resources available.

Congress passed the third coronavirus response package which was signed into law on Friday, March 27. One of the most impactful provisions included in the bill is the direct payments that many Americans will receive.

Who is eligible to receive these economic impact payments?

Single filers with an income up to \$75,000 and married couples filing joint returns up to \$150,000 will receive the full payment of \$1,200 per adult and \$500 per child. If your income is above these amounts, the economic impact payment will be reduced by \$5 for each \$100 above the \$75,000/\$150,000 thresholds. Single filers with income exceeding \$99,000 and \$198,000 for joint filers with no children are not eligible.

How will I receive the economic impact payment?

The payment will be directly deposited into the bank account associated with your 2018 or 2019 tax return. If you are not required to file a tax return, or if the IRS does not have your direct deposit information, the Treasury Department will have a web-based portal where you can provide your banking information.

What if I am not required to file a tax return?

You can and will still receive payment. Social Security beneficiaries who typically do not file a tax return will get the \$1,200 payment automatically and do not need to submit additional paperwork. Low-income taxpayers, senior citizens, some veterans and individuals with disabilities and other individuals who are otherwise not required to file a tax return, will need to complete a form located on the IRS web site.

When will I receive the economic impact payment?

These payments will begin distributing in the next three weeks. However, if you are required to take additional steps because you have not filed a tax return, it may be longer until you receive the payment. Need more information?

The IRS has set up several online resources with information on filing tax returns and the economic impact payments. Go to irs.gov for more information.

Free Online Tutoring

Submitted by Jeremiah Powless, Education Services Manager

The Department of Education is providing 20 minute online tutoring sessions for math and English through the ZOOM conference calling software. Tutoring services are provided by Kaelyn Timmons and Carol Byers. They have been serving students at the Jemez Community Library, but we are transitioning to online contact. We understand Internet connectivity is a concern for many in Walatowa. However, this service will serve as a pilot and we are working with local high schools, colleges and universities to address the concerns about Internet connectivity.

Here are some tips to help your student access a tutoring session:

- ▲ For online math tutoring, please email ktimmons@cnm.edu or call (575) 834-0034 and request a time between 1 – 3 p.m. MST. Reminder: each session will be 20 minutes so we can assist as many students as possible. Include the math subject you are requesting help for so the tutor can plan accordingly. You can also e-mail the math problem, and/or send a description about the areas covered by your math teachers.
- ▲ For writing tutoring (review of papers, writing assignments, or personal statements for college/scholarship applications) e-mail carol.byers00@gmail.com
- ▲ After you have e-mailed the math or English tutor, they will send a ZOOM link that will confirm your scheduled tutoring time.
- ▲ If you schedule a time for tutoring, please make sure that you are prepared and on the conference call five minutes before your scheduled time.
- ▲ Be flexible about the scheduled time request in case the time you are requesting maybe taken.

As COVID-19 persists, we are adapting to the challenges before us as a community of learners. We encourage all students to schedule and utilize the math and English tutors online. We hope this service can be beneficial to all our Walatowa community members; please share to all relatives who are not on this email. We will also send this message to current college students as well.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

SELF-CARE AND MINDFULNESS: *What-if?* Thoughts

Anxiety, Stress and Fear come from “what-if thoughts.” What-if thoughts take you away from your healthy mind and body. Here is what you can do to release anxiety, stress and fear.

1. Put your feet flat on the ground.
2. Breathe a deep breath.
3. Now breathe the what-if thought out!

You can do these small things at any time, anywhere. Share these tips with your family. Anxiety, stress and fear never help solve any problems.

Remember!

“What-if thoughts” will bring Anxiety, Stress and Fear.

If you would like to speak with someone to help with your anxiety or stress, please contact one of the following for phone consultations:

Patricia Lopez: (575) 834-3193 or

Another Behavioral Health Therapist: (575) 834-7258

For any questions or concerns regarding coronavirus, please e-mail JHHSresponseteam@jemezueblo.us.

Pueblo of Jemez Job Opportunities

Apply online at www.jemezueblo.org.

For more information, contact the Human Resources Department at (575) 834-7359.

Health & Human Services

Dental Assistant (2)	Full Time
Dental Hygienist	Full Time
Administrative Assistant	Full Time
Caregiver Coordinator	Part Time
Patient Registrar I	Full Time
Patient Registrar II	Full Time
Media Specialist	Full Time, Temporary
Summer Recreation Assistants (10)	Full Time, Temporary
Help Desk Technician I	Full Time
Help Desk Technician II	Full Time
Clinical Care Coordinator	Full Time
Registered Nurse	Full Time
Supervisory Public Health Nurse	Full Time
Physician	Full Time
Nurse Manager	Full Time

Tribal Programs

Jemez Language Program Manager	Full Time
Victim Services Officer	Full Time
EMT Paramedic (3)	Part Time
EMT Intermediate (3)	Part Time
Creative Team Members	Part Time

Pueblo of Jemez Library Resources

These resources are available through the Pueblo of Jemez Community Library to help with questions and concerns.

Census 2020:

If you did not receive a postcard with a code, you can still complete the Census 2020 online. Without the code, an extra step is included for “Address Verification.” With a code, your address will appear up automatically. Go to:

<https://my2020census.gov/>

Read the “Welcome” and “Getting started” sections

Click on “Start Questionnaire”

Enter your 12-digit Census ID (on a postcard can be found under the barcode)

Or

Click on “If you do not have a Census ID, click here”

Begin answering questions

When clicking on “Native American” please type “Pueblo of Jemez” as your tribal affiliation

Free Digital Learning Resources:

Brainfuse: An online educational portal offering tutoring, study skills-building, and career assistance through its HelpNow™ and JobNow™ services. The Brainfuse Mobile App provides access to HelpNow anywhere.

Gale:

Gale is a secure online platform for students and educators. Their kindergarten-readiness program, [Miss Humblebee's Academy](#), has temporary open access if you're interested. They also have helpful information on their [COVID-19 Support Page](#) especially in regard to virtual teaching.

Newspapers:

Click on link below, then click on the El Portal NM (in turquoise letters) to find jemezueblo.org/education.aspx

Albuquerque Journal -

Las Cruces Sun-News -

Roswell Daily Record -

Jemez Pueblo Community Library

Go to the Library's [Facebook](#) page to access:

More Free e-books = Distance Learning Success”

Face Mask + Filter Pocket tutorial

Many families are worried about transitioning to eLearning. Many do not have internet in their homes and hotspots on wireless cellphones are not adequate. Some Internet Service Providers are offering [broadband assistance](#) to help bridge this gap. Contact the library for more information.



Pueblo of Jemez
4417 Highway 4
Box 100
Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024

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Special Notices From the Governors, Continued

Update: Tribal Operations

In response to ongoing developments regarding the spread of Covid-19, reduced tribal operations to critical and essential functions only has been extended to May 1, 2020. Administrative leave for non-critical and non-essential employees will remain in effect during this time. Unless otherwise notified by official correspondence, all employees will be directed to return to normal work schedules on May 4, 2020.

During this period, staff members are still considered to be on the clock. They may be directed to report on-site to perform needed tasks; therefore, all employees must submit updated contact information to your supervisors.

All employees are expected to set the example by continuing safe, healthy practices by staying home and not traveling unless absolutely necessary.

Emergency Contact Number

- ♦ **Call (575) 834-3022** and ask to speak to a nurse if you feel sick, have a fever, a dry cough or shortness of breath. You will be advised appropriately.

Community Security Checkpoint

In our ongoing efforts to adhere to Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's stay-at-home and social distancing directives, a single entrance into the Walatowa community has been implemented. Security personnel will operate this checkpoint twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Tribal employees who are reporting for work must display their employee badges as proof they are tribal employees.

All community members are directed to comply with security personnel requests and stay-at-home/ social distancing directives.

We must cooperate and work together to ensure the coronavirus does not enter our community.