FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 29, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE TO THE ZUNI COMMUNITY

In collaboration with the Pueblo of Zuni Governor’s Office, Zuni Indian Health Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs-Zuni Agency; we want to inform the public to understand the importance of taking all precautionary measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We want to stress the importance of social distancing and staying at home as a form of prevention.

One of the unique features of Zuni is the traditional cultural calendar and associated religious activities, many of which include gathering in close quarters for extended periods of time. As government entities, we cannot enforce these public health measures in regards to the ceasing and/or rescheduling of these activities and gatherings.

Therefore, the Governor and Zuni Tribal Council, Zuni IHS, and BIA Zuni-Agency are urging the public to understand and follow these guidelines:

- Understand what COVID-19 is and what risks comes with it
- Elders and those individuals with weak immune systems should stay home for their safety.
- Stay home, if you are coughing or not feeling well
- Consider the wellbeing and safety of others around you
- Know yourself and your health condition

We want to stress the importance of being safe during this time and respect that Zuni traditions exist for their purpose. We want to let the public know that it is okay to participate in these activities, but ask that you not be involved if you are sick. It only takes one person, whether they feel well or not, to infect those around them.

Please know that we can prevent the spread of this virus by working together as a community. Elahkwa