DHS Center for Faith and Opportunity Initiatives

Coronavirus Updates & Critical Links
for Leaders of Faith & Community Organizations

Dear Colleagues,

Over the past month, faith leaders across the United States have shared stories how communities of faith are working with local health and emergency management agencies in ways they never imagined supporting coronavirus mitigation and response efforts.

There has never been a time where the role of local, state and federal government working with the faith community has been more important. Our team at the DHS Center want to ensure that you have the information at your fingertips to access the federal programs that are available to you to support you, your faith community and the community you live and serve in every day.

We believe that the faith community serves as a beacon of hope in times of crisis and we know that many of your faith community are looking to you for information. As a result, we want to continue to provide you access to the information across government that can support you in leading in your community.

If you are wondering how you can help contribute to your community's response, we implore you to reach out directly to your local emergency management office and communicate how you are willing to help. Whether providing volunteers, preparing meals and packaging care kits for responders or serving those that cannot leave their homes, our faith community is an important and necessary part of the response, and ongoing coordination with local community responders is critical.

Thank you for leading beyond the walls of your house of worship. After 20+ years of disaster relief and emergency management, I can testify that the one commonality in every event is that that the faith community is always there finding new and exemplary ways of serving others. I will NEVER forget that and I will always champion the work of every one of you!

Sincerely,

Kevin Smith, Director

The President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America

For background and the most up-to-date information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: HERE

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FEMA's Rumor Control

Many news outlets and social media platforms are flooding our screens with information, some of these are facts while others are rumors. Please visit website to help your friends, family, and communities know the facts.

While there are many assistance programs and legislative actions taking place, we want to focus your attention on a few items that may be of interest to you – Public Assistance (PA) for Emergency Protective Measures Guidelines, Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Assistance, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNP) Waivers, and additional opportunities for helping us throughout this fight.

FEMA Public Assistance Program

Under President Trump's COVID-19 nationwide emergency declaration, government may provide assistance as *emergency protective measures*. Examples include: mass care efforts like congregate sheltering, emergency feeding of responders, disinfection of eligible public facilities, emergency medical care, **under direction and guidance** from government and public health officials. This program is available to government to support protective measures for COVID-19. If you identify that you have resources to support the community, doing so in coordination or at the direction of government may be reimbursable under this program.

SBA Disaster Assistance

SBA is offering designated states and territories low-interest federal disaster loans for working capital to *small business, certain non-profits, and Houses of Worship* suffering substantial economic loss as a result of COVID-19.

USDA FNP Waivers

USDA is issuing all of its 15 nutrition programs, with its flexibilities and contingencies to serve program participants. USDA is allotting waivers that ease program operations and protect the health of participants. *Please click the title above for more information*.

Below is list of resources that are regularly updated. Once again, thank you for rising to the occasion and being the first responders of your community.

What you should know:

Workplace, School, and Home Guidance

People at Risk for Serious Illness from COVID-19

How COVID-19 Spreads

Symptoms

Steps to Prevent Illness

Frequently Asked Questions

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What to Do If You Are Sick with COVID-19
Stigma Related to COVID-19
Facts about COVID-19
Information for People at Higher Risk and Special Populations
Communication Resources

Situation Updates:
Situation Summary
Cases in the U.S.
Global Locations with COVID-19
Risk Assessment
CDC in Action: Preparing Communities

Information for Businesses:
Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers
Information for Communities, Schools, and Businesses
Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations – Community Facilities
SBA: COVID-19 Resources
DOL: Guidance for Preparing Workplaces for Coronavirus
DOL: OHSA Resources for Workers and Employers on COVID-19
WHO: Get Your Workplace Ready for COVID-19
CISA: Risk Management for COVID-19
EPA: Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19

Information for Travel and Transportation:
Information for Travel
Guidance for Ships
Guidance for Airlines and Airline Crew
State: Travel Advisories
State: Traveler's Checklist
State: Smart Traveler Enrollment Program
DOT: FAQs from FTA Grantees Regarding COVID-19

Information for Healthcare Providers, First Responders, and Research Facilities:
Information for Healthcare Professionals
Resources for State, Local, Territorial and Tribal Health Departments

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Resources for Healthcare Facilities

Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with COVID-19 or Persons Under Investigation in Healthcare Settings

Information for Laboratories

Resources for First Responders

Guidance for Public Health Professionals Managing People with COVID-19 in Home Care and Isolation Who Have Pets or Other Animals

FAQs and Considerations for Patient Triage, Placement and Hospital Discharge

Guidance for Homeless Shelters

Guidance for Hemodialysis Facilities

CMS: Information on COVID-19 and Current Emergencies

CMS: Guidance for Hospice Agencies

CMS: Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act Requirements and Implications Related to COVID-19

CMS: FAQs for State Survey Agency and Accrediting Organizations

EPA: Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19

Information for Law Enforcement:

What Law Enforcement Personnel Need to Know

Bureau of Prisons COVID-19 Resources

Information for Families and Households:

Information on COVID-19 for Pregnant Women and Children

Interim Guidance for Household Readiness

Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations for U.S. Households

Guidance for Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Homes and Residential Communities

FAQ: COVID-19 and Children

EPA: Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19

Information for Schools and Childcare Providers:

Interim Guidance for Administrators of U.S. Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools

Resources for Institutes of Higher Education

Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations – Community Facilities

USDA: USDA Makes It Easier, Safer to Feed Children in California Amid Coronavirus Outbreak

DOEd: Resources for Schools and School Personnel

EPA: Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19

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Information for Community Events and Gatherings:

Interim Guidance for Mass Gatherings and Large Community Events

Interim Guidance for Community- and Faith-Based Organizations

EPA: Disinfectants for Use Against COVID-19

Agency Resources and Information:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid

U.S. Food & Drug Administration

U.S. Department of Agriculture

U.S. Department of Defense

U.S. Department of Education

U.S. Department of Energy

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Department of Labor

U.S. Department of State

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Small Business Administration

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Have a comment, question or looking for information? E-mail us at Partnerships@fema.dhs.gov