

## A Message from the Chairman



Shekoli,

I am praying that this message finds you and yours, healthy and well. I want to express appreciation to the Oneida workforce and community for all their cooperation, effort and support through all of challenges we have been faced related to the COVID-19 pandemic. My prayers are constant for the health, safety and welfare of our community and everyone across the world.

With the COVID-19 numbers changing daily and moving closer to us, Oneida Nation, along with the State of Wisconsin, issued a “Safer at Home” Emergency Declaration which became effective at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2020. The declaration was put into place to hopefully help minimize the spread of the disease and will remain in effect for the duration of the Public Health State of Emergency.

As of March 23, 2020, positive COVID-19 cases have risen in the United States from 15,219 to 33,404 (119% increase) and have risen in Wisconsin from 206 to 416 (102% increase). Public health officials estimate that the actual number of Wisconsinites infected with COVID-19 is significantly higher and likely present in every county in the state.

I want to assure you that Oneida Nation has knowledgeable, dedicated, and compassionate individuals working around the clock to do the best for our Nation. A COVID-19 Core Decision Making Team has been working together to make important decisions. This team includes the Public Health Officer, Comprehensive Health Directors, Emergency Management, members of the Oneida Business Committee, Gaming General Manager and General Manager as well as Chief Financial Officers, and Intergovernmental Affairs and Communications. This team is preparing for every possible scenario and we will continue to work diligently to address the ever-changing situation and will do our best to keep the community and employees informed.

Additional actions happening behind the scenes, include the Treasurer implementing a COVID-19 Finance Team to monitor the financial status of the Nation. This team makes recommendations regarding expenditure restrictions and other actions necessary to ensure governmental services can continue to be provided to those most in need and at risk regarding COVID-19 and the health impacts of the virus. This team is also working closely with Intergovernmental Affairs and Communications and is kept up-to-date regarding federal emergency funding opportunities which will assist the Nation in managing the public health crisis.

I recognize this is a difficult time for everyone, not only in our community, but around the globe. Physical, mental and spiritual health can all be challenged at a time like this and it can feel overwhelming. In addition to prayer and keeping a good mind, there are still things we can do to take care of ourselves and others. The

safety of every one of us is dependent upon limiting personal contact in the general public. Here are some additional guidelines:

Do not allow friends or family to visit, and do not visit friends or family. This means no play dates, no friends or family over for dinner, no quick visits of any kind. Stay connected with family and friends through phone calls, video chats, or social media.

Send one person from your household, only as necessary, to the grocery store. Make sure the person is healthy and not feeling ill. Grocery stores will remain open so please do not hoard supplies that others need as well.

Do not stand in line immediately behind someone or sit near anyone when out and about. If you have a friend or family member that is already going to pick up their own prescriptions, check if they are eligible to pick yours up that they can drop off at your door.

Connect to available covid-19 resources for up to date information:

Call 920-869-4481 for all non-healthcare related questions

Send questions to covid-19@oneidanation.org. Visit [www.oneida-nsn.gov/covid-19](http://www.oneida-nsn.gov/covid-19) for the most recent updates related to Oneida Nation.

This is an uncertain time and we must continue to call upon our spirituality and offer our prayers for one another and our community. We are all in this together and we will get through this together.

YawΛ?kó· Be well and treat one another well Sa?nikuhlatsa·niht (You have a strong mind)

*Chairman Tehassi Tasi Hill*



## COVID-19 Definitions

### Social Distancing

#### What is it?

The practice of maintaining a greater than usual physical distance from other people or of avoiding direct contact with people or objects in public places during the outbreak of COVID-19 in order to minimize exposure and reduce the transmission of infection.

#### Who should do it?

Everyone

### Quarantine

#### What is it?

The separation of a person or group of people reasonably believed to have been exposed to COVID-19, but not yet symptomatic, from others who have not been so exposed to prevent the possible spread of COVID-19.

#### Who should do it?

People do not have symptoms and who traveled to an area affected by COVID-19 or who had contact with someone who was infected

### Isolation

#### What is it?

Separation of a person or group of people known or reasonably believed to be infected with COVID-19 and potentially infectious, from those who are not infected, in order to prevent spread of COVID-19.

#### Who should do it?

People who developed symptoms after either traveling to an area affected by COVID-19 or having contact with someone who was infected

### Self-Monitoring

#### What is it?

Measuring your temperature twice a day, watching for cough or difficulty breathing, and staying in touch with your doctor

#### Who should do it?

People who are quarantined or in isolation

## From Elijah Metoxen at Elder Services

Oneida Elders we ask that you remain in home as much as you can and follow the directions given by state & health officials. Elder Services are in operation but reduced to only emergency needs ONLY. We only have a few staff on-board to assist with these services. You can call (920) 869-2448 for assistance or leave a message.

Congregate & Meals on Wheels are still being offered to those on the list, but we are only delivering for both meals as to minimize as much contact for the elders as possible. If you

would like to be put on the list for meals we ask that you call (920)869-1551 to see if you can be put on the list. There will be a limited amount of spots available as there is limited amounts of supply. Thank you all for understanding and I wish you all good health.



## Oneida Community Health Care

**ALL CLINIC HOURS ARE NOW 8:00 AM TO 4:30 PM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

No Walk-ins will be accepted in any area of the Health Center, Behavioral Health or Employee Health Nursing. This also includes outside Lab and Xray orders. You must call in advance to the Triage Nurses **(920) 869-2711**.

All appointments require pre-assessment by the Triage Nurse. You must call in before coming to the health center for instruction by the nurse.

All registration areas: Social Distancing has been established within the Health Center and Oneida Behavioral Health by limiting seating and marking 5-6 feet distancing on the floor for the main registration areas and all PAR areas including the pharmacy. Signs posted in lobby for social distancing.

Limited registration processes for registration unless new patients.

If you have a pre-existing condition and are an elder who needs

medication delivery, please contact **(920) 869-2711** and ask for Pharmacy and/or Brenda Haen for assistance with Medication Delivery within Reservation Boundaries.

All After Hours Procedures remain the same. Contact: **(920)-869-2711** and the Answering Service will contact the On-call nurse to return your call.

**MEDICAL CLINIC APPOINTMENTS:** All routine appointments have been canceled. If you are sick or need to be seen, you must call in to speak to a Triage Nurse. We are not accepting any walk-ins at this time. You must be screened by the Triage Nurse and you will be instructed on what to do in order to be seen.

**DENTAL CLINIC:** Only Dental emergencies are being seen at this time. You must call in to speak to a dental staff to be advised as to how to obtain care.

**OPTICAL CLINIC:** Only Optical emergencies are being seen at

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**Community Health**

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this time. You must call in to speak to an Optical staff person for instructions. If you have ordered glasses, only emergency pick ups will be coordinated by the Optical staff.

**XRAY:** All routine mammograms have been canceled. There will only be limited staffing for acute injuries and EKGs.

**BILLING:** Will continue to focus on billing processes with limited staff.

**PRC:** Limited staff to focus on the existing referrals. New referrals will be sent directly to the provider via fax. We will continue to pay existing referral payments and pay bills from prior referrals.

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH:** Will be providing phone consultations for routine follow up appointments.

**FAMILY CARE/CASE MANAGEMENT:** There will be Suspension of all face to face contact with family care members.

The Case Management/Home Care Workers are currently continuing home visits as scheduled.

Will be providing limited Face to Face Care but will try to continue to contact all caseload via phone on a regular basis.

**HEALTH PROMOTION DISEASE PREVENTION:** Health Promotion has canceled all Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) Classes through April 15th. All face-to-face coaching appointments have also been canceled until further notice. We are conducting phone coaching appointments in place of those face-to-face appointments.

**ONEIDA WIC PARTICIPANTS:** WIC electronic food benefits will be automatically added to family accounts for March and April by Thursday 3/18/20.

For anyone with appointments in March or April, we have been given

authorization to extend benefits for 30 days.

A mass text (through the WIC System) has been sent out to all currently enrolled families informing them that due to Covid-19, there will be no need to come into the WIC Office as your benefits will be automatically issued to your family account."

For infants (under 8 weeks of age) whose mothers were enrolled in Oneida WIC during their pregnancy, they may call WIC to report Birth, and will need to provide proofs of income, address, birth (electronically or by mail) to complete certification appointment over the phone.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH/PUBLIC HEALTH:** Contact to patients before home visit to ensure wellness status-

Do you have a fever?

Do you have a cough?

Do you have other respiratory symptoms?

Does anyone in your home have any respiratory symptoms?

If yes to any questions – defer visit and ensure they have contacted their doctor for instructions.

Alternate activities from typical procedures.

No longer require signature for medications

Call ahead to arrange drop off of meds in doorway vs hand delivery

**AJRCCC: ALL VISITATION TO RESIDENTS HAS BEEN RESTRICTED.**

Creative ways to reach out to your loved ones in the AJRCCC

Arrangements are being completed to obtain laptops or tablets so residents can be assisted to Facetime with their family members.

Making arrangements with the nursing staff to stop by those residents that have windows to visit with your family member through

the window.

**EMPLOYEE HEALTH NURSING:**

HRA's canceled until further notice

RAS canceled until further notice

EHN will continue to address employee concerns via telephone

EHN will provide communication to employees via the Newsletter

## Emergency Food Pantry

During these times of uncertainty in our community the Pantry wants to assure everybody that we have taken effective measures to adequately supply our community members in need of food assistance.

### HOURS OF OPERATION

**Tues and Thurs 10am – 2pm**

Our client intake application is online at: <https://oneida-nsn.gov/resources/food-pantry/welcome/>

Email completed applications to: [mskenan1@oneidanation.org](mailto:mskenan1@oneidanation.org)

You can also bring it with on your first visit.

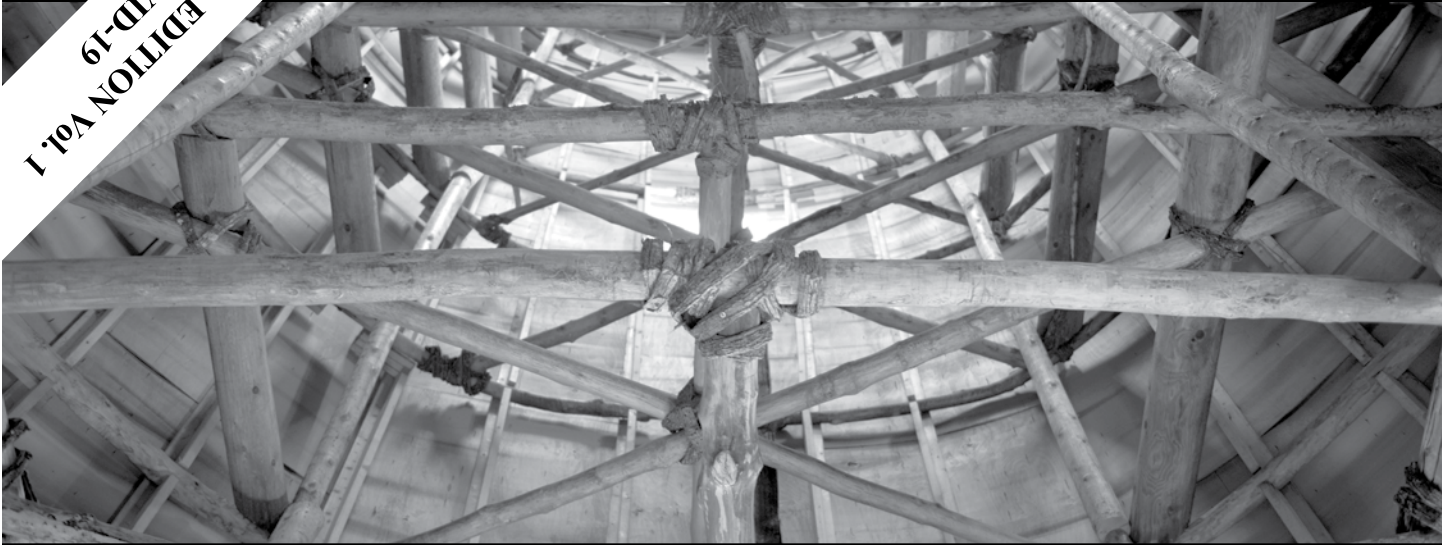
To reach us by phone call: First option 920-869-6165 Second option 920-532-3070

Just want to stress that the Pantry is fully equipped and ready to serve the needs of our community during this time. If you have a dire situation, please call we are here to help. These operational changes will stay in effect until otherwise communicated. Prayers and good health to our community.

YawΛ?kó,  
Oneida Emergency Food Pantry Staff

**SPECIAL EDITION  
COVID-19  
Vol. 1**

<https://oneida-nsn.gov/connect/news/oneida-nation-covid-19-resource-page/>  
Check out the Oneida Nation COVID-19 Resource Page for updates



# Kalihwisaks



## 2020 General Elections

The Oneida Election Board met on March 16th regarding the next steps for the 2020 General Election and the COVID-19 pandemic. There will be no Caucus or Petition process.

### Tentative Dates:

*2020 General Election Primary*  
May 23rd, 7am – 7pm The 2020

*General Election*  
July 25th, 7am – 7pm

According to the Election Law, 102.12-8, in the event of an emergency, the Election Board may reschedule the election, provided that no less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice of the rescheduled election date is given to the voters, by posting notices in the prominent locations.

Applications are available online at <https://oneida-nsn.gov/government/elections-voting/> or contact [oeb-vcor@oneidanation.org](mailto:oeb-vcor@oneidanation.org) with any questions.



Oneida Nation  
P.O. Box 365  
Oneida, WI 54155

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