FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 22, 2021

Navajo Department of Health identifies 21 communities with uncontrolled spread of COVID-19 in latest Health Advisory Notice

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – On Monday, the Navajo Department of Health identified the following 21 communities in the latest Health Advisory Notice, with uncontrolled spread of COVID-19 from Feb. 5, 2021 to Feb. 18, 2021:

- Baca/Prewitt
- Birdsprings
- Bodaway/Gap*
- Chichiltah
- Churchrock
- Coyote Canyon
- Crownpoint
- Dennehotso
- Iyanbito
- Leupp
- Lukachukai*
- Nahatadziil
- Nahodoishgish*
- Rock Springs
- Shiprock
- St. Michaels
- Tachee/Blue Gap
- Tohatchi
- Tuba City
- Twin Lakes
- Upper Fruitland

* Chapters recently added to the list

“We set a new goal of administering at least 120,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccines by the end of February, after we exceeded the initial goal of 100,000 last week. Our health care workers are working as hard as they can with the resources available, but all of us have a part to play in bringing down the numbers of new COVID-19 cases. As the variants continue to spread, it’s critical that all residents of the Navajo Nation remain mindful of the risks. Please avoid traveling off the Navajo Nation and please do not hold in-person family gatherings. The risks are still far too high at this point. Be safe and continue to take all precautions such as wearing a mask or two in public,” said Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez.

Public Health Emergency Order No. 2021-003 is currently in effect for the Navajo Nation through March 8, 2021 with the following provisions:

- Extends the Stay-At-Home Lockdown which requires all residents to remain at home 24-hours, seven days a week, with the exceptions of essential workers that must report to work, emergency situations, to obtain essential food, medication, and supplies, tend to livestock, outdoor exercising within the immediate vicinity of your home, wood gathering and hauling with a permit.
- Daily curfew hours from 9:00 p.m. (MST) until 5:00 a.m. (MST) seven days a week.
• Essential businesses may operate between the hours of 7:00 a.m. (MST) and 8:00 p.m. (MST) daily, including gas stations, grocery stores, convenience stores, hardware stores, laundromats, restaurants, food establishments, banks and similar financial institutions, and hay vendors, provided they comply with provisions outline in the order to help protect employees and the public from COVID-19.

• Banks and other financial institutions, however, may allow no more than 10 customers inside the bank. Banks may allow one customer per household, with the exception of one accompanying caregiver per customer, or the customer’s spouse, and only if necessary, to conduct business in the bank or financial institution.

• Refrain from gathering with individuals from outside your immediate household and requiring all residents to wear a mask in public, avoid public gatherings, maintain social (physical) distancing, remain in your vehicle for curb-side and drive-through services.

• Public Health Emergency Order No. 2021-003 is available online at: https://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19

“Our health care professionals are doing wonderful work on the ground in many of the communities to help get people vaccinated as we work toward herd immunity. We are not out of the woods yet and we still have quite a way to go, but we are seeing some good indications. Please remain diligent and keep fighting this virus together,” said Vice President Myron Lizer.

For more information, including helpful prevention tips, and resources to help stop the spread of COVID-19, visit the Navajo Department of Health's COVID-19 website: http://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19. For COVID-19 related questions and information, call (928) 871-7014.

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Navajo Department of Health
Health Advisory Notice (HAN)
COVID-19 Community Advisory No. 17 — Safety Precautions

WINDOW ROCK, AZ – The Navajo Health Command Operations Center is issuing uncontrolled spread of COVID-19 advisory for several communities. The cases reflect dates from February 5, 2021 – February 18, 2021. The advisory will be in effect until the risk and cases decline.

The following communities are identified as uncontrolled spread of COVID-19:

- Baca/Prewitt
- Birdsprings
- Bodaway/Gap*
- Chichiltah
- Churchrock
- Coyote Canyon
- Crownpoint
- Dennehotso
- Iyanbito
- Leupp
- Lukachukai*
- Nahatadziil
- Nahodoishgish*
- Rock Springs
- Shiprock
- St. Michaels
- Tachee/Blue Gap
- Tohatchi
- Tuba City
- Twin Lakes
- Upper Fruitland

* Chapters added in the new 14-day period (February 5, 2021 – February 18, 2021).

All residents should take precautions to protect their health from the spread of COVID-19. Individuals with the following conditions are at higher risk of being affected from COVID-19.

People at Increased Risk for Severe Illness
- Older Adults
- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Heart conditions
- Immunocompromised state
- Obesity and severe obesity
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease
- Smoking
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

Might be at Increased Risk for Severe Illness
- Asthma
- Cerebrovascular disease
- Cystic fibrosis
- Hypertension or high blood pressure
- Immunocompromised state
- Neurologic conditions, such as dementia
- Liver disease
- Overweight
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Thalassemia
- Type 1 diabetes mellitus
All residents should practice health and safety measures:

- Wear a mask in the public.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Avoid touching your face, nose, and eyes with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect your vehicle, home, workspace and other common areas on a regular basis.
- Social distance - keep 6 feet between yourself and others.
- Limit gatherings with individuals outside your immediate household.

For more information, including helpful prevention tips, and resources to help stop the spread of COVID-19, visit the Navajo Department of Health’s COVID-19 website: http://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19. For COVID-19 related questions and information, call (928) 871-7014.