

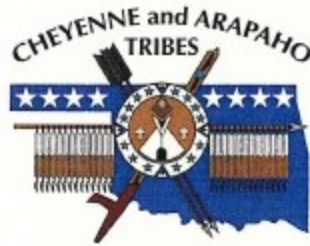
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Reggie Wassana

Governor

Gilbert Miles

Lieutenant Governor



May 15, 2020

Tribal Member,

As many tribal members are aware, the Tribes have recently received approximately \$54,000,000 from the federal government through the CARES Act and the Coronavirus Relief Fund. Under the CARES Act, the fund is to be used to make payments to certain local governments, states and tribal governments for specified uses related to COVID-19. The CARES Act states that payments from the fund may only be used to cover costs that are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19. These expenditures have to be incurred during the dates of March 1, 2020, and December 30, 2020.

The Executive and Legislative branches of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes government have been meeting daily to address issues surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. After receiving the Tribes portion of the funds, meetings began immediately to discuss how the funds will best be utilized in the preparing, preventing and responding to COVID-19. Discussion has been centered around the lack of tribal resources to properly handle a virus pandemic, including COVID-19, if our tribal communities were to be significantly impacted by the virus. Some of the projects the Tribe will undertake over the next 8 months include:

- Partial funding for the expansion of the El Reno Indian Clinic for the purposes of more efficiently addressing the COVID-19 related medical needs in the event of a community outbreak.
 - Partial funding for the construction of an Emergency medical services and emergency management facility. Currently, the Tribes' capacity to address a pandemic of this scale is inadequate and such facilities will assist with a successful pandemic response.
 - The renovation and building of tribal community halls for purposes of utilizing them as medical staging areas. Community halls will be used as staging areas in the event a community outbreak occurs and hospitals are unable to handle a widespread outbreak. The tribal community halls are lacking in basic infrastructure needs including adequate plumbing and technology capabilities, both of which are very important if needed during the pandemic.
 - Partial funding of a meat processing plant for the purposes of processing bison and cattle to be used for food assistance for tribal members in instances of food shortages due to the pandemic.
 - Food assistance cards through the Tribes HOPE program for those directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Direct emergency financial assistance to tribal members impacted by COVID-19 for the use of food purchases due to the continuous rise in food costs, for purchasing PPE, (personal
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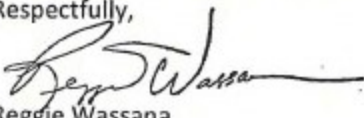
protective equipment), paying past due utilities, rent, and mortgages and other emergency financial burdens caused by COVID-19.

- Funding necessary measures to address on-line or home school requirements if public schools remain closed due to COVID-19.
- Purchasing personal protective equipment to include masks, gloves, sanitizing supplies, and other equipment needed to protect tribal members from COVID-19 and other pandemic viruses.
- The purchase of a new tribal ambulance to help better respond to tribal members in need of emergency COVID-19 assistance and other emergency situations.
- Funding of a COVID-19 response health taskforce that will provide such things as contact tracing, tribal updates on data and information related to COVID-19 on a national, state and local level for more informed decision making at the tribal level, hiring of additional staff to assist with contact tracing, provide medical and health guidance to tribal employees and tribal members on how to best protect themselves against the corona virus, among other necessary prevention and response duties and responsibilities.
- Tracking of elders and vulnerable populations within our Tribe to assure necessary precautions and actions are being taken to protect these individuals.
- Increasing our WIFI-technology capacity.
- Cover administrative cost of essential employees' salaries who are tasked with mitigating COVID-19 within our Tribes and communities. These employees have been working daily to continue to provide essential services to tribal members, COVID-19 planning and organizing and addressing daily tribal matters.
- Hazard pay for essential employees continuing to work during the world pandemic.
- Continuous high capacity cleaning of all tribal facilities throughout this pandemic
- Purchasing of community vehicles for purposes of delivering food, PPE and other necessary items within the communities during the pandemic.

This list is a summary of what is planned and many of the projects outlined are for the prevention, preparedness and response to COVID-19. As we continue to look for ways to address this virus, we welcome any input and suggestions from our tribal members.

Please be assured that we are working diligently in addressing this pandemic with our tribal member's health and wellbeing being our number one priority. We continue to encourage each tribal member to continue practicing social distancing, washing your hands, checking on your elders and praying for each other and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

Respectfully,



Reggie Wassana,
Governor