

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION UNIFIED COMMAND

TONHC UNIVERSAL SCREENING

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020

At the Tohono O'odham Nation Health Care (TONHC) your safety is paramount and is the focus of our efforts at this time. TONHC is here to serve as a resource for healthcare whether you are well or sick. In order to protect those patients who come to our facilities, we will begin universal screening of all staff and patients for signs of COVID-19. Universal screening means that we will be asking all people if they have cough, fever, or difficulty breathing.

On **Monday, March 16, 2020** San Xavier Health Center will begin universal screening of all staff, patients, and other persons prior to entrance into the San Xavier Health Center main clinic building and the Dental Clinic building. The goal is to separate the sick from the well in order to reduce community spread of COVID-19. We will continue to see well patients inside the clinics. Patients who screen positive for possible COVID-19 symptoms will be seen by a medical provider at the outdoor ramada near the south entrance of the San Xavier Clinic. When you are seen for a sick visit you will be asked to wear a mask. The medical personnel who attend to you will be wearing a mask as well.

Outdoor screening, outdoor visits, and eventually drive-thru visits will be available at all TONHC sites soon.

TONHC is dedicated to serving our patients by phone whenever possible during this time. If you believe that you are ill please contact your healthcare provider. Over the counter medications can be dispensed as "Cold Packs" without a face to face visit.

TONHC aims to help people who are sick with a respiratory illness stay at home to recover when possible. Most people who become infected with COVID-19 will not need hospitalization, they will be able to stay at home to rest and recover. If you believe you are sick, please call your healthcare provider to speak with a nurse or provider regarding a plan for care. Family or community members can pick up a "Cold Pack" at any TONHC site to distribute to persons who are being cared for at home.

COVID-19 Prevention Tips:

1. **Wash your hands with soap and water, OR use an alcohol based hand sanitizer.**
2. **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with dirty hands or objects.**
3. **Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. The spray from a cough or sneeze can travel 6 feet in the air! These droplets carry virus if the person is infected.**
4. **Avoid large crowds at events. We recommend that people stay home when possible.**
5. **Wipe down high touch surfaces in your home with disinfectant cleaner including door knobs, counter tops, keyboards, tables, and other surfaces which are likely to get dirty.**

