

# COVID-19 Pandemic Public Health Emergency Response

NPAIHB Incident Command System Report  
Celeste L. Davis, REHS, MPH (Chickasaw Nation)



NORTHWEST PORTLAND AREA  
INDIAN HEALTH BOARD  
*Indian Leadership for Indian Health*

# ICS RESPONSE TEAM

ICS ROLE	NPAIHB ICS TITLE	NPAIHB STAFF
Incident Commander	Incident Commander	Celeste
Assistant to IC	IC Coordinator	Holly
Liaison Officers	Oregon Liaison Officer	Candice
	Washington/AIHC Liaison Officer	Tam
	Idaho Liaison Officer	Jessica
	Policy Liaison Officer (ID, OR, & WA)	Veronica, Liz
Planning Section Chief	Planning & Information Coordinator	Victoria
Data Analysis	Data Specialist	Sujata
Data Collection/Entry	Data Assistant	Bridget
Community Planning	Food Security Specialist	Nora
MCM Planning	MCM Planner	Katie
Operations Section Chief	Public Health Officer	Tom W.
Clinical Education & Support Unit Lead	COVID-19 ECHO Manager	David
Environmental Public Health/Occupational Safety & Health Unit Lead	EH Specialist/Occupational Safety & Health Specialist	Shawn
Communicable Disease Unit Lead	CD Control/PHN	Dawn
Communications & Health Promotion Unit Lead	Communications Specialist	Stephanie - Sheila
Logistics Section Chief	Medical & PPE Supplies Coordinator	Holly
Finance/Administration Section Chief	IC Administrative Assistant	Lisa



# GOALS OF THE ICS RESPONSE TEAM

- Proactively manage the incident response
- Increased information sharing within NPAIHB and across jurisdictions
- Enhanced decision-making
- Accountability

Work with tribes in culturally respectful way to control the spread of COVID-19 and prevent cases and deaths from COVID-19



# RESPONSE ROLES & ACTIVITIES TO DATE

- Public Health Operations
  - Clinical Education and Support: COVID-19 ECHOs
    - 69 COVID-19 Clinics since 3/18/20
    - 8647 Participants!!!
    - Responded to over 1000 Clinical Questions
  - Communicable Disease Prevention: Case Investigation & Contact Tracing
    - Approximately 100 Participants for Case Investigation & Contact Tracing Training
    - 4 Deployments with two Tribes to provide onsite assistance; Remote assistance for one Tribe
    - Developed a Tribal Resource Guide for Case Investigation & Contact Tracing



# RESPONSE ROLES & ACTIVITIES TO DATE

- Public Health Operations
  - Environmental/Occupation Health & Safety:
    - Over 50 Facility Reviews/Inspections, Risk Assessments
    - Dozens of consults and professional advice/technical guidance
      - Reopening safely, Infection Prevention & Control, Occupational Health, Indoor Air Quality
  - Communications: Health Promotion & Prevention Messaging & Materials
    - Website, Social Media, PSAs, Print
    - Big Foot Cut Outs; "Safe Sweats" and "Brothers" PSAs
    - Total Engagement and Reach ---- 200,000!!!



# RESPONSE ROLES & ACTIVITIES TO DATE

- Planning & Information
  - Surge Staffing & Resources
    - Management of Emergency CDC Funds Distribution to Tribes
    - CDC Foundation Staffing: 3 at NPAIHB, 4 at 2 Tribes
    - Resources to Tribes
      - Respiratory Fit Test Kits for Clinics
      - Diabetes Patients' Health Promotion Kits
      - PPE & Medical Supplies: 5800 nitrile gloves, 102 containers of hospital-grade disinfecting wipes, 378 containers of disinfecting wipes, 3550 disposable surgical masks, 1780 N95 respirators, and more

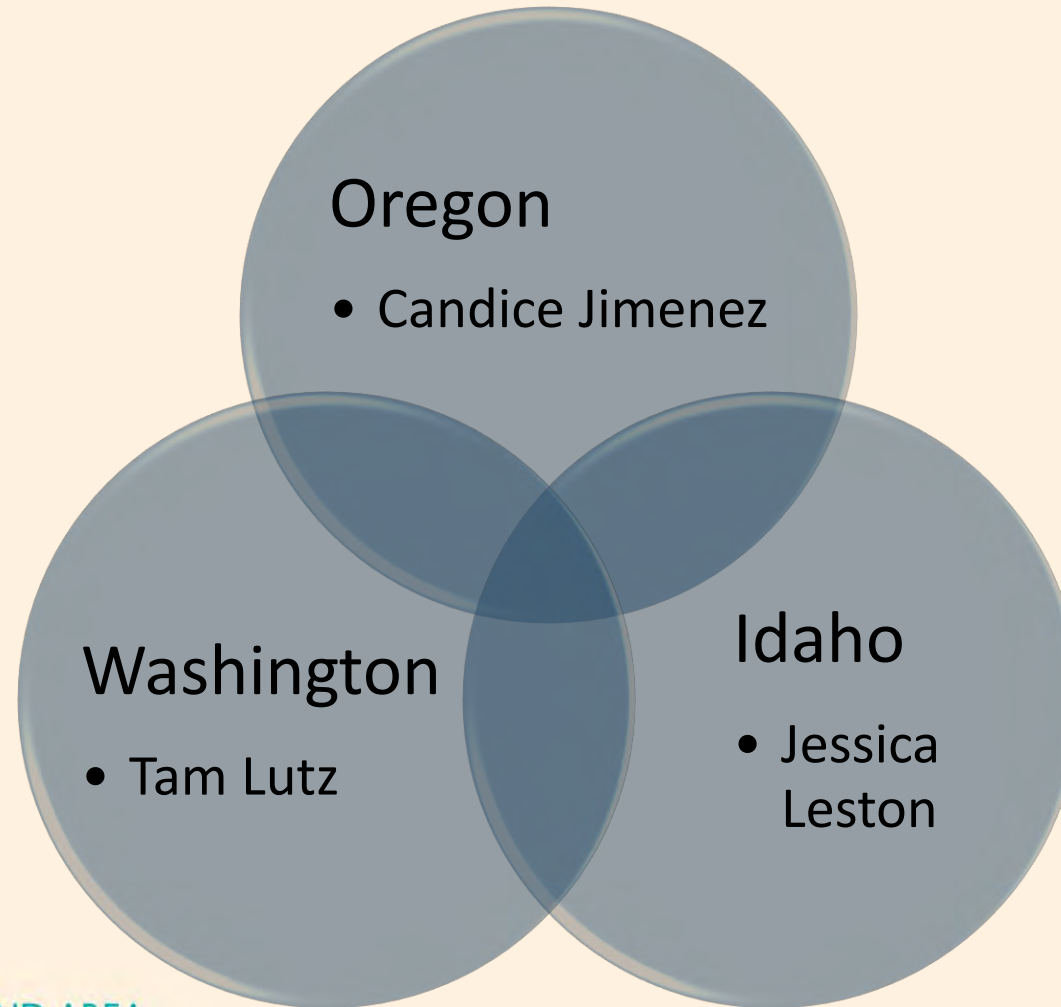


# RESPONSE ROLES & ACTIVITIES TO DATE

- Planning & Information
  - Data
    - Bi-weekly regional data reports
    - Technical Assistance in Data Analysis for Tribes
  - Medical Counter Measure Planning – VACCINES!
    - Guidance & Assistance on Pre-Planning
    - Coordinating with IHS and States
    - Technical Assistance with Data Management & Reporting



# SITUATIONAL AWARENESS & LIAISONS





# LEADERSHIP & GUIDANCE

- Engaging with Tribal Health Leadership
  - Zoom Meeting Every Tuesday at 10, Forum for Information Exchange & Sharing
  - Individual Meetings with American Indian Health Commission, Oregon Health Authority, and Idaho Health & Wellness
  - Policy Advocacy
  - Technical Guidance & Support for Tribal Leader's Decision-Making



# THE ROAD AHEAD

- Vaccine Rollout....SNAFU, Charlie Foxtrot, messy & uncoordinated
- Implementing the Vaccination Program
  - Be as transparent as possible – keep the community informed
  - Consider expanding vaccine availability to the next group when....
  - Demand in the current phase appears to have been met (e.g., appointments for vaccination are < 80% filled for several days)
  - Supply of vaccine increases substantially (e.g., more vaccine doses are available than are necessary to complete vaccination of persons in the current phase)
  - Most people in the current phase are vaccinated (e.g., when approximately 60-70% of the target population in a phase has been vaccinated)



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• <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/phased-implementation.html>

# THE ROAD AHEAD

- Anticipated Advancements & The New Federal Administration
  - Next COVID-19 Vaccine: Johnson & Johnson, expected to request FDA review soon – EUA Approval
  - More Contagious Virus Variant May Fuel a Spike in Cases & Deaths
    - [https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7003e2.htm?s\\_cid=mm7003e2\\_w](https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7003e2.htm?s_cid=mm7003e2_w)
  - Imperative to Continue Promoting & Enforcing Practices & Policies That Prevent & Control COVID-19 Infections
  - Biden Administration Plans, <https://joebiden.com/covid-plan/>
    - ***A decisive public health response that ensures the wide availability of free testing; the elimination of all cost barriers to preventive care and treatment for COVID-19; the development of a vaccine; and the full deployment and operation of necessary supplies, personnel, and facilities.***



# THE ROAD AHEAD

- Anticipate ICS and Emergency Operations to Continue
  - Dependent on situation and Federal, State, and Tribal States of Emergency and status of declarations
  - Hopeful goal of standing down by April 2021
- Integrating Efforts into new COVID-19 Plans
  - Hope to hire an Emergency Coordinator
    - After-Action Reviews
    - Update and Develop Emergency Response Plans
- Focus on Improving Health Disparities
  - Policy Advocacy
  - Research on COVID-19, Health Services & Policy Research



# END

- THANK YOU!
  
- CELESTE DAVIS
- [cdavis@npaihb.org](mailto:cdavis@npaihb.org)
- 505.670.8380 (cell phone)



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