

A Look at Lummi Nation's Response to COVID-19

Develop a Team Approach

Bring the health system and tribal government together to protect the community.

Health officials provide information and recommendations to Tribal leadership.

Tribal leadership ensures that an empowered health team is built on trust, ongoing communication, shared decision making, and resource allocation.

Increase number of physicians and available staff.

For example, Lummi Tribal Health Center's dental team reduced their appointments and are continuing to provide urgent care visits and offer teledental services.

Build Testing Capacity

Gather medical supplies, including test kits and personal protective equipment, from a range of sources.

Set up telehealth within the community.

Set up a medical tent for those who need hands-on examination.

Offer drive-thru testing for anyone who meets the criteria for COVID-19.

Identify who will process tests for the community.

Reach out to local universities to see if they have the capacity to process tests.

For example, Lummi reached out to the University of Washington to process tests.

Set up Community Resources

Make sure elders and others have what they need (food, prescriptions, access to schooling and telehealth services).

Organize volunteers to distribute groceries or meals door-to-door, and set up drive-up food distribution points.

Communicate data and efforts with the community.

For example, Lummi Tribal Health Center is working with a local tribal college to model data and share with community members.



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This resource was created from information provided in an article written by the Seattle Times. It also includes information shared during the Gathering Grounds Community Meeting on 4/16/20. To read the article visit: <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/a-lummi-nation-doctor-is-self-quarantined-but-the-tribe-has-been-preparing-for-weeks-for-a-coronavirus-outbreak/>