

Oneida Nation

Post Office Box 365

Phone: (920)869-2214



Oneida, WI 54155

DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY

The recent outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in the United States and worldwide threatens the safety and well-being of the Oneida Nation and Oneida Community. The Oneida Nation Business Committee does hereby declare a Public Health State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak in our state.

COVID-19, is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and possesses a higher risk to our elders and community members who have underlying medical conditions and compromised immune systems. The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Pandemic on March 11, 2020. The State of Wisconsin also declared a Public Health State of Emergency earlier today.

COVID-19 has yet to be adequately contained. National, regional, local and Tribal Health Officials have encouraged defensive measures including providing correspondence on COVID-19 prevention, use of infectious disease plans, and declaration of Public Health Emergencies.

The Oneida Nation shall coordinate and maximize all efforts and call upon County, State, Tribal and Federal Resources to assist to address the situation and to protect the Health, Safety, and Well-Being of our community.

The Oneida Nation Business Committee has identified the need for the Nation's Public Health Officer to oversee the response to COVID-19 and to coordinate with all Local, Tribal, States and Federal Partners according to the Sovereign Power of the Nation to respond to a Public Health Emergency. The Nation's Public Health Officer is designated the authority and responsibilities for public health preparedness per Title 3. Health and Public Safety – Chapter 302 Emergency Management and Homeland Security law.

In an effort to slow transmission and decrease the spread of COVID-19, this Public Health State of Emergency is effective for 30 days from today and is intended to address threats to public health, safety, and the well-being of the Oneida Nation Community Members and Employees.

The Oneida Nation Business Committee hereby issues this Declaration of a Public Health State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak in our state. The Nation's fund units are directed to coordinate the use of Tribal Resources with and follow the recommendations of the Nation's Public Health Officer in order to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 outbreak.

BY: Tehassi Hill
Tehassi Hill, Chairman
Oneida Nation

DATE: March 12, 2020