

**Phoenix IHS
Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee
FY2020 4th Quarter Report
April – June 2020**

<p>Area Tribal Representatives: Jordan Joaquin, President, Quechan Tribe Phoenix Area</p>	<p>Federal Liaison: Hope Johnson, Director/Tribal Liaison, Phoenix IHS</p>
<p>Goal 1: To ensure that comprehensive, culturally appropriate personal and public health services are available and accessible to American Indian and Alaska Native people</p>	
<p>Area Telework (TW) Status: Mandatory TW at the Area Office with plan and resources in place to coordinate mail processing and access. AZ gating criteria continues to push Phoenix Area Office (PAO) reopening out until further notice.</p>	
<p>Activities to prepare and respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic have dominated work throughout the Phoenix Area since March 2020. The Phoenix Area Office and all Phoenix Area Service Units remain in an Incident Command (IC) posture and continue to use CDC Guidelines for COVID-19 related care and services. . Regular weekly and daily meetings are held with Direct Care Service Units to ensure they have the resources and support needed to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic and to provide care, treatment and services to their patients.</p>	
<p>Phoenix Area Office Administration continue to participate in the Arizona Area Surge Line calls, and the Service Units continue to utilize the AZ Surge Line to transfer out to a higher level of care when needed.</p>	
<p><u>Detection:</u></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cumulative Direct Care patients: 23,891 tested, 5,505 positives as of July 26, 2020. • Some Direct Service Tribes have designated a limited Public Health Authority for surveillance purposes. • Each direct service clinic and hospital established screening procedures using questions for symptoms and history of travel, and as tests became available, began screening people for COVID. Some of the Service Unit screening areas had to be reconfigured to accommodate for the summer heat conditions. • Public Health Nurses worked with clinical teams, county public health departments, and community health representatives to ensure contact tracing of people who may have come into contact with people who tested positive to identify additional people who may be infected, and to order quarantines. • A few of the Direct Service Tribes are working with CDC to build and enhance their contact tracing capacity. 	
<p><u>Prevention:</u></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact tracing underway at sites with positive cases. • The Phoenix Area Office operations remains in full time telework status. • Phoenix Area IC logistics team continues to work with the IHS National Service and Supply Center (NSSC) to support IHS and Tribal hospitals and clinics and Urban programs for their resupply ordering of Abbott ID NOW test kits and Personal Protection Equipment for all NSSC customers. • Hospitals and clinics continue to use CDC recommended methods to decrease potential exposure of patients to people who may be infected with COVID by limiting needs for patients to visit hospitals and clinics in person. This included rescheduling routine follow up visits to telehealth and phone visits, lengthening times before refills are due (i.e. 90-day refills), refills of routine medications with pharmacy approval without requiring a provider visit, and utilizing drive through pharmacy. • Drive-up pharmacy services continue to be available in some locations. • Phoenix Area OEHE Environmental Health Services staff maintain close consultation with tribes and tribal programs in addressing a broad range of public health practice and policy assessments associated 	

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with tribal business and program operations, including: detention centers, food service establishments, business occupancies, gaming facilities, and child care/educational facilities.

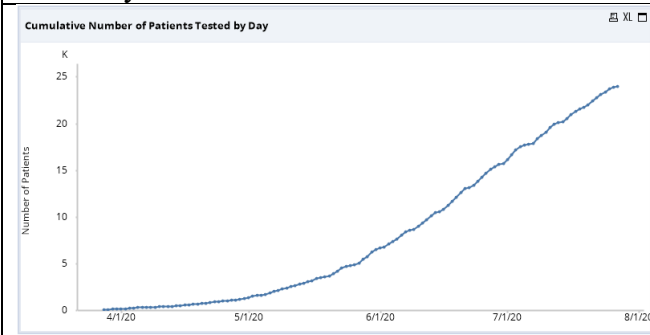
Treatment:

- Direct Service hospitals utilized surge plans this quarter to expand bed availability to increase their ability to care for patients.
- Phoenix Area Office Administration continue to participate in the Arizona Area Surge Line calls, and the Service Units continue to utilize the AZ Surge Line to transfer patients requiring a higher level of care when needed.
- Arizona accepted applications for surge nursing support from IHS and tribal hospitals.
- As of July 06, 2020, 297 patients have been treated with Remdesivir.

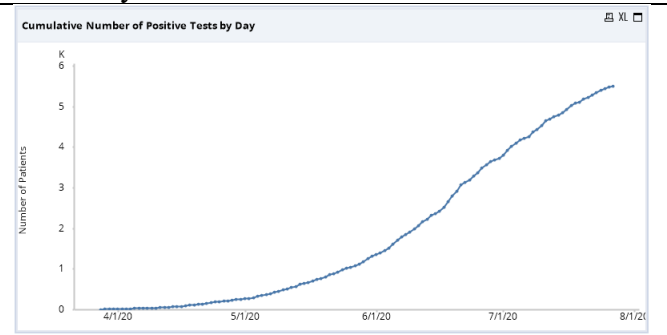
Goal 2: To promote excellence and quality through innovation of the Indian health system into an optimally performing organization

- The Phoenix Area coordinates and makes available data for direct care facilities and when needed for national facilities. Below are a few of the data sets utilized.

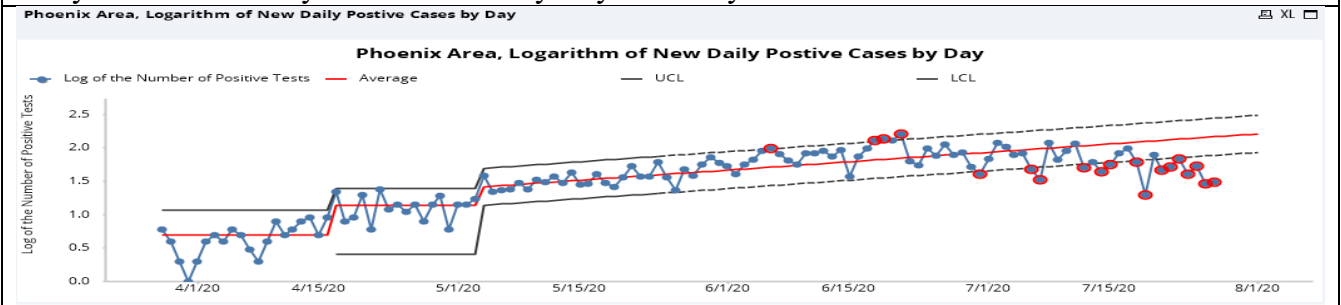
Cumulative # COVID tests – up to 23,891 tested as of July 26th



Cumulative # positive COVID-19 Tests by Day as of July 26th



Daily #'s of New Daily Positive Cases by Day as of July 26th



- The Phoenix Area supported HQ with data and information on the decreased numbers of ED visits as hospital prepared for surges across the country.
- Coordinated and provided to 11 Direct Services facilities the Abbott ID Now Analyzers for COVID Testing, and 8 Cepheid, to have multiple platforms, and send outs.

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Goal 3: To strengthen IHS program management and operations

- Distributed to Direct Services Facilities and utilized COVID-19 funding to supplement and augment services with needed resources, all have Paycheck Protection Program Healthcare Enhancement Act (PPPHCEA) testing plans in place
- Phoenix Area Weekly Tribal/Urban COVID-19 update call
- Continue extended communication with Tribal/Urban partners – 1:1 calls, Area Director Director/Tribal Liaison
- Continue to ensure safe transportation methods out of the Grand Canyon in the case of a person testing positive for COVID.
- Continue to work with Public Affairs Liaison to promote PSAs in Direct Service tribal communities
- Hopi Health Care Center (HHCC), Phoenix Area Office participating in CDC Technical Assistance, the Hopi Tribe (Tripod approach), 1st phase ended, 2nd phase.
 - Resources, tools and best practices shared, coordinated PSA
 - A recognized need to increase ground transportation capabilities at Hopi Healthcare Center resulted in an emergent ambulance contract.