

Big Sky Resort Area District
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BigSkyRelief.org

Operational Partners Coordination Meeting, No. 14 – 6/16/20

On Tuesday, June 16, the 14th BigSkyRelief.org Operational Partners Coordination Meeting kicked off at 12 p.m. and lasted approximately 25 minutes.

The purpose of the virtual bi-monthly meeting is to consolidate regular updates for the Big Sky Community as well as to identify and coordinate needs.

Big Sky Resort Area District Board Chairperson Kevin Germain coordinated the meeting.

Updates in order of presentation:

Kevin Germain, Chairman of Big Sky Resort Area District Board of Directors (BSRAD):

- Working with County Health Departments on testing and tracing being available in Big Sky
- Currently people can only receive a test in Big Sky if they have symptoms
 - Would like a more robust testing system available
- May be reaching out for support with contact tracing and testing in Big Sky from the group

Taylor Rose, Director of Clinical Services & Operations at Bozeman Health Big Sky Medical Center (BHBSMC):

- Currently working with the Bozeman Health at the System level and the Gallatin County Health Department on a plan to roll out in Big Sky for testing asymptomatic patients for COVID. Employers will also be involved to support their employees if they need to be quarantined after testing positive. The test kits will be provided by the state at no charge. There will be more to come on this once the plan has been finalized.
- Currently, BSMC has testing available for symptomatic patients. Please call the COVID hotline for more details. 406-995-6995 Option “0”
- Updates on our current COVID testing ability:
 - Currently have testing for symptomatic patients. It is being sent to BH or the county for processing and can take approximately 1 to 3 days for results.
 - Continue to struggle to get test kits for the current machine, as they are nationally back ordered
 - BSMC does have a new COVID testing option being used for emergent cases. It is with the Biofire machine and it runs an entire respiratory panel (including COVID). This is a very expensive test and takes approximately 45 minutes to run.
- Ventilators: These were ordered months ago they are still not on site. Big Sky has not been targeted nationally as an area that is seeing high number of cases, therefore, these have not

been sent out to Big Sky. BHBSCMC continues to actively pursue this, including a new letter of support. Taylor Rose will send out information to the group in the event others would like to write letters of support in hopes these ventilators will be sent to us sooner. Currently, there is one ventilator available for patients at Big Sky Medical Center.

- No other needs currently

Chief Greg Megaard, Big Sky Fire Department (BSFD):

- BSFD team is continuing to wear masks and practice social distancing when out in public
- There has been an increase in cases across the state in the past two weeks
- Contact tracing training has not taken place yet, but will begin working on it soon with Tracy from the County
- No current needs

Sergeant Brandon Kelley, Gallatin County Sheriff's Office (GCSO):

- No updates currently

Sarah Gaither, Program Coordinator of Big Sky Community Food Bank (BSCFB):

- West Yellowstone: BSCFB has been asked to join with the health dept. and other West Yellowstone social service agencies to help quarantined families stay in their homes. Will be helping with transportation of goods and information sharing between support services.
 - Big Sky Chopped: virtual cooking tournament, based on items found at the food bank. To raise awareness and support, money raised will be added to the BSCFB account at the Hungry Moose
 - The event will be June 23rd @ 5pm
- Kidspacks are still available at the food bank - transportation available to households
- Looking for a new advisory council member
- Use of Food Bank services have slowed to about 10 people per week
 - This June is comparable to last June

Jean Behr, Executive Director of Women In Action (WIA):

- Limited in-person counseling is taking place in WIA's offices
- 25 Big Sky residents accessed 46 hours of free counseling in the month of May
- WIA awarded 13 families \$10,145 in summer camp scholarships

David Kack, Coordinator of Big Sky Transportation District (BSTD):

- Yesterday began the summer season schedule
 - 2 buses in Big Sky and 5 round trips between Big Sky and Bozeman
 - Some delays due to bridge construction project
- CARES funding through September, leading to a reduced Resort Tax ask
- Asking for people to wear masks while riding the bus but it is not a requirement
 - Plenty of space on bus for people to spread out but that may change in July as it gets busier
- No current needs

Candace Carr Strauss, CEO of Big Sky Chamber of Commerce (BSCC) & Visit Big Sky (VBS):

- No updates currently

Ciara Wolfe, CEO of Big Sky Community Organization (BSCO):

- Matches of volunteers for quarantined families are still available
- First week of summer camp was last week and the summer is going to be very busy
 - Only open to local kids (enrolled in Ophir or Discovery)
 - Camp is full for June and July with just local kids
 - Would like camp staff to be included in testing when available to keep kids, families, and camp staff safe
- Parks and Trails are busy
 - Another bear/human interaction took place in Beehive Basin this week... more details to come from FWP
- Softball starts July 1st and almost full on teams

Dustin Shipman, Superintendent of Big Sky School District (BSSD):

- The school is starting to allow students on campus for practice of extra-curricular activities in small groups, while practicing social distancing measures and with regular sanitizing.
- Working on plan for what school will look in the fall

A cohort of Resource Partners was also invited to the virtual meeting. Those names and organizations included:

Daniel Bierschwale, *Big Sky Resort Area District*

Taylor Middleton & Troy Nedved, *Big Sky Resort*

Matt Kidd, *CrossHarbor Capital Partners*

Kevin Hinkle, *Lone Mountain Land Company*

Hans Williamson, *Yellowstone Club*

Heather Morris, *Moonlight Community Foundation*

Ania Bulis, *Moonlight Community Foundation, Women in Action*

Loren Bough, *Yellowstone Club Community Foundation*

John Haas, *Spanish Peaks Community Foundation*