

Big Sky Resort Area District
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BigSkyRelief.org

Operational Partners Coordination Meeting, No. 27- 12/29/20

On Tuesday, December 29th, the 27th BigSkyRelief.org Operational Partners Coordination Meeting kicked off at 12 p.m. and lasted approximately 15 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 Chair, Kevin Germain coordinated the meeting.

Updates in order of presentation:

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

- Kicked off the call

Daniel Bierschwale, Executive Director of Big Sky Resort Area District (BSRAD):

- Provided an update on testing program. Hours of operation have been expanded to provide more opportunities for participation. An after hour drop off option is also available.
- In the New Year testing pick up/drop off will move to the old American Bank building.
- Latest information including a testing dashboard and hours of operation can be found at BigSkyRelief.org.
- Help spread the word about the testing program, the more participation the better.

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

- **Holiday Volumes:** BSMC is seeing a lower volume of patients than we normally see for the holiday season. We have not seen an influx of COVID patients. Our Viral Triage Clinic is not seeing as many patients as expected.
- **COVID Vaccines for Hospital Workers:** BSMC began vaccinating employees on Dec 24th. This was an allocation from the state for the Moderna Vaccine and we are not able to allocate them to anyone other than hospital workers. We should have employees vaccinated by the end of next week. The second dose will be given 28 days after the initial dose.
- **COVID Vaccines for Others:** We would hope to see a broader distribution in the next month or so. According to the CDC, COVID vaccines are given in phases. See phases listed below:
 - 1a phase: Healthcare personnel & residents of long-term care facilities
 - 1b phase: Frontline essential workers (fire fighters, police, teachers) and people age 75 and older
 - 1c phase: people aged 65 – 74, people aged 16-64 with underlying medical conditions & other essential workers (public health, transportation, food service)
 - As vaccine availability increases, vaccination recommendations will expand to include more groups.
- No Needs from the group currently.

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

- No updates or needs currently.

Sergeant Dan Haydon, Gallatin County Sheriff's Office (GCSO):

- No needs currently.
- Should get vaccines the first or second week of January.
- Search and Rescue just compiled numbers for the year, only 1 mission away from breaking a record. Man and volunteer hours are much higher this year than previous years.

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

- Foodbank is operating on Holiday hours this week and next and are open today (Tuesday) and next Tuesday. They will return to normal hours on January 5th.

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

- No updates or needs currently.

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

- Routes are running as scheduled and reminding riders to wear masks. Have had a few issues with people refusing to wear masks.
- Working with Gallatin County to get vehicles through the TIGER grant.
- Bus Barn is under construction and looking good, working with MDT on move in date.
- CARES act funding will be received through at least March, maybe longer.

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

- President Trump signed the \$900 billion relief bill on Sunday night providing much needed #CovidReliefNOW for our small businesses, as well as households and workers.
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/what-is-in-the-900-billion-covid-19-aid-bill-11608557531>
- COVID-19 Community-wide surveillance testing pick up/drop off continues at the Chamber/VBS Offices located at 88 Ousel Falls Rd., Unit A1; Hours of operation below and attached, as well as at bigskyrelief.org. Moving to the former American Bank location come January 4th – look for signage.
- Patronize our local restaurants which are still operating under reduced capacity and hours of operation: www.bigskychamber.com/lovelocalrestaurants to keep up with hours of operation.
- Governor-elect Gianforte held a press conference yesterday and is planning to make announcements related to business operations among other things based on his COVID-19 Task Force when he is sworn into office next week.
- Fatalities in the Canyon last week due to a car accident in inclement weather conditions – FRIENDLY REMINDER to please drive safely

Mackenzie Johnson, Program Manager of Big Sky Community Organization (BSCO):

- Form for community services and support is available on the Big Sky Relief website. For help with COVID tests, mail delivery and food bank delivery services.

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

- No updates or needs currently.

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*