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### **BigSkyRelief.org**

*Big Sky Relief Partner Meeting- 01/04/22*

On Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, the Big Sky Relief Partner Meeting kicked off at 12 p.m. and lasted approximately 45 minutes.

The purpose of the virtual 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 Member, Kevin Germain** coordinated the meeting.

*Updates in order of presentation:*

#### **Kevin Germain, Big Sky Resort Area District (BSRAD):**

- Regrouped after not meeting for the month of December considering recent events.
- Promote and spread the word for people to get vaccinated and boosted.

#### **Daniel Bierschwale, Big Sky Resort Area District (BSRAD):**

- Just over \$100,000 in Big Sky Relief funds available. Visit BigSkyRelief.org to apply.
- Testing has been a big undertaking, thank you to all the partners.
  - Testing distribution doubled last week; 1,000 tests available weekly from Visitors Center.
  - Only available to residents and workers of Big Sky not visitors.
  - Currently have enough testing supply to get through the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of January. An order has been placed and more tests will arrive soon.
  - Private employers can contact the District if they need tests for their employees.

#### **Taylor Rose, Bozeman Health Big Sky Medical Center (BHBSMC):**

- Testing demand peaked last week, last year the demand dropped in January, peaked again around Presidents Day and the month of March.
- Seeing high patient volumes at the hospital and a high number of patients seeking PCR tests.
- Testing with the Panther machine has gone well, and results are coming back in about a day. Implemented new testing procedures to streamline testing process and see more patients.

- Requested and will be receiving Binaxnow tests from the state which can be used for large event testing. Contact Taylor if there is a need for this type of testing.
- Seeing COVID patients daily in the viral clinic and the ER. Can still meet the demand of the people requesting medical care.
- Seeing a high number of people who test positive continuing to request PCR testing. If you test positive do not continue to request a PCR test, people are likely to test positive for 90 days and it puts a strain on resources.
- Employers can contact BSMC if they have more than 10 people to vaccinated and would like to host an off-site vaccine clinic.
- People who have had COVID may be vaccinated once they no longer have symptoms and are no longer in isolation.

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

- Very busy holiday season with a high number of calls.
- Working hard to keep the department healthy and safe.
- No needs currently.

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

- Very busy holiday season and staff is staying healthy so far.
- No needs currently.

**David Kack, Big Sky Transportation District (BSTD):**

- Having a hard time finding employees for bus service. Adjusting service as needed and possible.
- Looking for CDL drivers.

**Sarah Gaither, Big Sky Community Food Bank (BSCFB):**

- The food bank has been very busy, services doubled from November to December.
- Saw a significant increase of people requesting food box deliveries either due to quarantine or a lack of transportation. Have plenty of volunteers and food for deliveries.
- Have a small number of tests available at food bank.
- No needs currently.

**Brad Niva, Big Sky Chamber of Commerce (BSCC):**

- Been busy handing out tests to the community starting at 9am.
- Demand for masks has gone up, more businesses are requiring them locally. Reach out to the Chamber if your business needs masks.

**Whitney Montgomery, Big Sky Community Organization (BSCO):**

- No updates or needs currently.

**Dustin Shipman, Big Sky School District (BSSD):**

- School is back in session as of yesterday (1/4) and masks are still required. But it is becoming difficult to enforce masks at extra-circular events.
- Using rapid tests from the Montana Department of Health and Human Services.
- There have been some staffing issues due to COVID exposures, but those are becoming fewer and fewer.

**Laura MacPherson, Morningstar Learning Center (MLC):**

- Had a couple shutdowns at the school over the last few weeks due to COVID exposures.
- Continuing to test staff weekly and trying to keep everyone healthy.

**Scott Poloff, Big Sky Discover Academy (BSDA):**

- School back in session starting Monday, a few students are staying home this week to be safe.
- Staff testing is taking place weekly.
- Investigating other options for testing moving forward.
- Masks are required on campus.
- Looking for children's masks for the students.

**Troy Nedved, Big Sky Resort (BSR):**

- Successful and busy Christmas week, happy to be in the New Year.
- Working on plans moving forward to keep people safe throughout the winter.

**Kevin Hinkle, Lone Mountain Land Company (LMLC):**

- Changes in protocols and increased testing demands by large employers may put a strain on the testing supply.
- Isolation requirements may start requiring people to test before returning to work, which may also affect testing demand.

**Hannah Richardson, Spanish Peaks Community Foundation (SPCF):**

- SPCF still has relief funds available and working with non-profits.

**Anna Shipley, Moonlight Community Foundation (MCF):**

- Wrapped up the vaccine incentive program at the end of November, it was a very successful program.