



## Emergency COVID-19 Updates

7/16/20

Round Valley  
Indian Tribes

Round Valley  
Indian Health  
Center

*Updates to COVID-19 information and critical community services will be provided weekly. Look for updates on the RVIT and RVIHC social media page(s) & websites.*

We would like to thank the Round Valley Tribal Community for sheltering in place and practicing social distancing. We understand that these are uncertain times and appreciate your patience and understanding as rules and regulations both State and County wide are changing daily. We are taking all precautionary measures as issued by the State of California and Mendocino County.

From day one of this global pandemic it has been a priority of the Tribal Council to keep our community a safe place following all shelter in place orders as directed by the State and County. We want to be sure we are doing our part to ensure that we are continuously working to stop the spread of the disease.

We have received funding from various sources to aide in our preparation and battle with the virus. Through the coronavirus relief fund the RVIT received CARES Act funding in two appointments. The first was \$26 million (60%) plus and the second totaled \$1.1 million (40%) plus. This funding is solely for purposes to preparing and providing relief during the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds cannot be used to enhance or improve current programs and/or businesses. In alignment with funding guidelines we issued general welfare assistance to Tribal Members. Tribal Council has approved a \$5 million dollar cell tower project. This will improve cell and internet services to Tribal Members through high speed lines which during this time are essential for individuals to work sheltering in place as well as for our students to continue with school through virtual learning. We are also in negotiations with the current owner to purchase the Round Valley Business Park Property. Having access to this property will increase our capacity to provide healthcare services to individuals in the event of a major COVID-19 outbreak in the community. The facilities could be converted into a hospital and/or quarantine area.

We have been working closely with the Round Valley Indian Health Center (RVIHC) and the Mendocino County Public Health Department to manage any positive cases. We have had some positive cases within the community of which we were able to isolate and quarantine successfully, thus far. From these cases we have not had any additional positive cases, it is however important to note that as of 7/15/20 we do have 7 positive cases in the Valley. We will continue to work with the RVIHC and the County Public Health Department to track positive cases. The RVIHC is following all precautionary measures to keep the facility a clean environment for employees and patients, continuing to monitor symptoms through temperature checks, disinfecting, having patients wait in their cars and triage over the phone.

The RVIHC is offering COVID-19 testing if you are experiencing symptoms a quick Abbot test can be performed. If you are not exhibiting symptoms (asymptomatic) a test may also be conducted although results will take 4-5 days. Asymptomatic individuals can also go to the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds in Ukiah, CA to get tested for free.

It is important as a community that we continue to minimize the spread by sheltering in place, practicing social distancing, and wearing facial coverings in public. The current County orders mandates that we limit our groups to 6 people.

The State of California and Mendocino County are currently experiencing spikes in positive cases which has led to new orders as of July 13, 2020 to again close many businesses. The RVIT will be following these mandated orders ensuring that we are doing our part to keep our community safe.

**Thank You,**  
**James Russ, Tribal President**