## **DISTRICT 4-C5 CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) ADVISEMENT**

March 18, 2020

Dear District 4-C5 Lions and Families,

The District 4-C5 Leadership Team would like to assure our Lions and their families that your safety during the Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19 outbreak is our highest priority for this District! We are working closely with Dr. Joe Villarica and his Health Services Team, to insure we have the most current information from all sources. To help limit the spread of this respiratory virus and to safeguard those at higher risks, we are asking for you to help us in implementing some practical measures that will aid us in preserving our safety and health and by following recommended CDC guidelines and local health departments such as washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; drink plenty of water; and social distancing.

The District Leadership Team met with the Convention Committee and discussed what our next step will be. Although a very difficult decision, our District will comply with the directives of the CDC; other health organizations; and the Local Health Department. It is possible that this timeline may extend further and we will keep you posted of any changes.

We have reached a unanimous decision to cancel our District Convention on April 24-26, 2020 in San Ramon, CA. We are going to be planning a future one-day Convention locally, if it's possible, depending upon the Coronavirus pandemic status. We will keep you informed of the progress.

In the next few days, there will be another letter that will come out with guidelines and instructions on how to cancel your room reservations and other additional information.

As we move forward together during this challenging time, I believe we will emerge as a stronger District and will be closer than ever to serve our community and create a safer place to live.

The rapid development of COVID-19 has created significant challenges and stresses for our Lions' families. Let's take care of ourselves and those around us and exercise even more caution. The District will continue to closely monitor our local health department and the CDC for updates and make all attempts possible to keep you informed and updated.

Again, we thank you for your patience and understanding of our decision as we are going through this very difficult and trying time.

Sincerely Yours in Lionism,

Sarah Enloe District Governor District 4-C5, MD4

**Enclosures** 

Interim Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

alert icon Guidance as of 3/15/2020

"Large events and mass gatherings can contribute to the spread of COVID-19 in the United States via travelers who attend these events and introduce the virus to new communities. Examples of large events and mass gatherings include conferences, festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events, weddings, and other types of assemblies. These events can be planned not only by organizations and communities but also by individuals.

Therefore, CDC, in accordance with its guidance for <u>large events and mass gatherings</u>, recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States.

Events of any size should only be continued if they can be carried out with adherence to guidelines for protecting <u>vulnerable populations</u>, <u>hand hygiene</u>, <u>and social distancing</u>. When feasible, organizers could modify events to be virtual.

This recommendation does not apply to the day to day operation of organizations such as <u>schools</u>, <u>institutes of higher learning</u>, <u>or businesses</u>. This recommendation is made in an attempt to reduce introduction of the virus into new communities and to slow the spread of infection in communities already affected by the virus. This recommendation is not intended to supersede the advice of local public health officials."

California Governor Gavin Newsom announced yesterday directives to address the need to slow the spread of COVID-19, and Sacramento County urges compliance with those directives.

## County Urges Compliance with State/CDC Directives

On March 16, 2020, The Sacramento County also urges compliance with the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) new guidance, released yesterday, recommending events and gatherings across the United States consist of no more than 50 people. The Governor's announcement had several directives to slow the spread of COVID-19, which included: -Closing all bars, night clubs, wineries and brew pubs, as they are considered non-essential; -Restaurants cut their seating capacity in half but not more than 50 to comply with social distancing requirements, and those who are 65 or older or with chronic health conditions should not dine in restaurants; -Those who are 65 or older or with chronic underlying health conditions should stay home. The CDC announced its recommendation that for the next eight weeks, organizers cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States. To learn more, visit: https://www.saccounty.net/news/latest-

news/Pages/County\_Urges\_Compliance\_with\_State\_CDC\_Directives.aspx