COVID-19 OUTBREAK
HEALTH ORDER NO. 4
Non-Congregate Sheltering

Issued: **January 14, 2021**
Effective: **January 15, 2021**

By: Governor Mike Dunleavy
Commissioner Adam Crum Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
Dr. Anne Zink, Chief Medical Officer, State of Alaska

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, I issued a Public Health Disaster Emergency Declaration due to the imminent threat of a COVID-19 outbreak. That emergency declaration was extended by the Legislature, and expired on November 15, 2020;

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2020, I declared a Public Health Disaster Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak in Alaska, including over 17,000 confirmed cases, and 84 deaths from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2020, Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) Commissioner Adam Crum certified that an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus is occurring throughout Alaska, as evidenced by the current significant and widespread community transmission of the virus, including significant positive testing rates, and record daily numbers of new cases;

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2021, Department of Health and Social Services Commissioner Adam Crum certified that Alaska is currently experiencing a severe statewide outbreak of COVID-19 and will continue to do so, without immediate intervention, which includes the distribution of vaccines;

WHEREAS, on January 12, 2021, Alaska has had over 47,000 confirmed cases and 222 deaths, and in January 2021, a new strain of the SARS-CoV-2 was identified as being more contagious than the original strain, and is spreading in the United States;

WHEREAS, to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and to respond to the effects of the outbreak, I am issuing this Order based on my authority under the Public Health Disaster Emergency Declaration issued on January 14, 2021, and made effective on January 15, 2021;

The purpose of COVID-19 Outbreak Health Order No. 4, Non-Congregate Sheltering, is to provide clear requirements related to the temporary quarantine and isolation program for specific populations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mike Dunleavy, Governor of the State of Alaska, pursuant to the authority vested in me under AS 26.23.020, am hereby issuing the following order.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

The State of Alaska is issuing COVID-19 Outbreak Health Order No. 4, Non-Congregate Sheltering. This Order goes into effect at 12:00 a.m. January 15, 2021.

The State of Alaska shall implement a temporary quarantine and isolation program utilizing non-congregate shelter solutions including hotels, college and university dormitories, and properly modified, non-traditional structures to provide temporary shelter for six specific populations:

1. First responders and healthcare workers who must quarantine safely to prevent exposing their families.
2. Homeless families in congregate shelter with at least one positive-tested-member that requires isolation.
3. Homeless individuals:
    a. who have tested positive for COVID-19.
    b. have been exposed.
    c. requiring quarantine/isolation awaiting test results.
4. Individuals traveling into or within Alaska who:
    a. are within any of the populations specified in this Order.
    b. have no other means or method to quarantine or isolate.
5. Homeless shelter occupants 65 years of age or older with an underlying medical condition as described by the CDC at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html.
6. Individuals of any age with underlying medical conditions as described by the CDC at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html.
   In general, these medical conditions include cancer; chronic kidney disease; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies; immunocompromised; overweight or obesity; sickle cell disease; smoking; type 1 or 2 diabetes mellitus; moderate to severe asthma; cerebrovascular disease; cystic fibrosis; hypertension or high blood pressure; immune deficiencies; HIV; use of corticosteroids, or use of other immune weakening medicines; neurologic conditions; liver disease; pregnancy; pulmonary fibrosis; or thalassemia.

As of November 6, 2020, there were 17,072 confirmed or presumptive cases of COVID-19 in the state. As of December 10, 2020, there were 36,000 confirmed or presumptive cases of COVID-19 in the state. The Chief Medical Officer for the State of Alaska has reviewed the data regarding actual COVID-19 cases and reported continuous exposures among vulnerable populations.

In order to protect public health and to ensure public safety, as well as to lessen or avert the threat of a healthcare catastrophe, the implementation of non-congregate shelter quarantine and isolation solutions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among vulnerable populations must be put in place.

This Order shall have the power of law and shall supersede all conflicting laws during the duration of the Order. This Order is in effect for the duration of the Public Health Disaster Emergency Declaration, effective January 15, 2021 at 12:00 a.m. This Order may be amended, and additional Orders may be issued, to address mitigation efforts to control the spread of the COVID-19 virus.