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Dear Community Leader:

The Detroit Health Department is working in collaboration with our community partners to protect and promote the health of all Detroit residents and visitors during the recent Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Please help us share the following updates and health information with the public.

The Detroit Health Department speaks about COVID-19 regularly with health experts from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, neighboring health departments in Michigan and Canada, as well as local leaders and healthcare facilities to ensure the safety of everyone in our community. Media coverage about this virus can certainly seem scary. However, the risk of contracting this virus remains low for the general public. Although we are now seeing community spread in other countries, and a small number in the U.S., travelers are being assessed at the Detroit-Wayne Metropolitan Airport upon entry. The Detroit Health Department is also monitoring Detroiters who have traveled from specific areas of the world.

To best ensure you and your family remain healthy, always practice good hygiene habits:

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60-95% alcohol).
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick—and stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and wash your hands.
- Regularly clean commonly used objects or surfaces.

If you or someone you know is experiencing fever, cough, or shortness of breath, with possible exposure to someone who has traveled or potentially been exposed to COVID-19, please contact The Detroit Health Department for guidance at **(313) 876-4000**. If you have general questions about the outbreak please email us at dhdoutbreak@detroitmi.gov. If you need medical care, please call your doctor or the hospital in advance so that they can take the necessary precautions to protect others.

We continue to encourage protection from all viral illnesses. **There is no vaccine for COVID-19**. Influenza is one such viral illness which has impacted many across Detroit, Michigan, and the U.S. this year; and we are in peak season. If you and your family have not received the flu shot, it is available for those ages 6 months and older. Please call your family doctor or The Detroit Health Department Immunizations Clinic at (313) 876-4667 to get vaccinated.

This is a rapidly evolving situation, for the most up-to-date information please visit the CDC's website at (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>). For a link to printable resources for general communication, posters and handouts, visit (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/communication/factsheets.html>).

The Detroit Health Department is following the outbreak closely, and we are prioritizing the COVID-19 outbreak to ensure your safety. We thank you in advance for sharing these important updates with your community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Denise Fair". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Denise Fair, MPH, FACHE
Chief Public Health Officer
Detroit Health Department

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Najibah K. Rehman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N'.

Dr. Najibah K. Rehman, MD, MPH
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