



National Indian Health Board

NATIONAL TRIBAL COVID-19 RESPONSE

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Protecting Tribal Communities During the Holidays

COVID-19 has affected our everyday life, especially celebrations and holidays. Gatherings are important to Tribal communities, and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, many Tribal communities, families, and friends will be exploring how to safely and respectfully celebrate holidays or gatherings such as drum circles, traditional ceremonies, or feasts. One way to help keep your community safe is by receiving a COVID-19 vaccine, if eligible. Remember, getting your COVID-19 vaccine is an Act of Love. For more information on COVID-19 vaccines and other resources, visit the [National Indian Health Board COVID-19 Tribal Resource Center](#).



Tips for Gathering During the Holidays

- If you are not fully vaccinated, wear a mask during an indoor celebrations or gatherings, such as a community potluck or dinner with friends and family from multiple households.
- If you are in an area with a high number of COVID-19 cases or if you will be in close contact with others who are not fully vaccinated, wear a mask in a crowded outdoor setting. For example, an outdoor Powwow, festival, potlatch, or community celebration.
- If you are unvaccinated or immunocompromised continue prevention strategies, such as wearing a mask, staying six feet away from others, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, washing your hands or using hand sanitizer often, cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces, and getting vaccinated if you are eligible.
- If you are fully vaccinated, help to protect elders, children, and those who cannot get vaccinated by wearing a mask.
- Stay home if you are sick, feeling sick, or may have been exposed to COVID-19 recently.



NOTE: Tribal citizens should always refer to the public health orders and guidelines in place within their Tribe, city, county, and state to inform their decision making around holiday planning.

