



Uinta County COVID-19 Update 3/25/20

County sets up Emergency Operations Center for COVID-19 Response

The Uinta County Board of Commissioners, the County Health Officer and many community leaders and stakeholders met on Thursday, March 26 to set up an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to coordinate the COVID-19 response.

An EOC is a formalized structure with the task of coordinating and managing the crisis response in a community, and utilizes the standardized management tool known as the Incident Command System. The purpose is to efficiently manage the demands of a crisis situation. Basically, it brings key players together in an organized manner in order to coordinate strategies and resources.

The incident commanders are County Health Officer, Dr. Mike Adams, and Kim Proffit, Uinta County Public Health Nurse Manager.

They established and shared incident objectives and strategies. At the top of the objectives list was continuing to monitor the coronavirus situation and taking part in national and state discussions to be up-to-date on current information and guidelines.

Another important objective is ensuring accurate and frequent communication among stakeholders and healthcare providers, as well as with all community members.

Supporting healthcare providers, including helping them get necessary supplies is also key.

Perhaps the most challenging and difficult to pin down were plans to help manage the impacts or consequences of the virus, as well as the attempts to slow its spread. Representatives from many agencies are working together to address the issues and difficulties being experienced in the community. Leaders working on this strategy will be looking for help from community volunteers, as well as to connect with agencies and groups working to lessen the impacts.

The EOC staff will meet twice a week for briefings and to modify strategies as needed.

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