



March 23, 2020

COVID-19 Guidance for Faith-Based and Civic Organizations

Missoula City-County Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend that faith-based and civic organizations holding events or services with more than ten people use teleconferencing or another platform to conduct the event virtually.

Facts to consider when organizing an event include:

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).
- **The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.**
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.

Who is at higher risk?

Early information out of China, where COVID-19 first started, shows that some people are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. This includes:

- Older adults
- People who have serious chronic medical conditions like:
 - Heart disease
 - Diabetes
 - Lung disease

Events of any size should only be continued if they can be carried out with adherence to guidelines for protecting vulnerable populations, hand hygiene, and social distancing. When feasible and to adhere to guidelines, organizers should consider modifying events to be virtual.

Coronavirus Disease (aka COVID-19) is rapidly changing and so does the information available. To stay informed and up-to-date please visit the Missoula Public Health City-County Health Department website at <http://missoula.co/cvirus> or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html> for the latest information.