

Alpha Delta Pi

BE THE FIRST

HOUSE CORPORATION COMMUNICATION REGARDING CORONAVIRUS 2019 (COVID-19)

March 4, 2020

TO: Chapter Presidents, Directors of Facility Management, Property Management Specialists, All Advisors, and
All House Corporation Officers

CC: All International Officers and Executive Office Staff

Like your college or university, Alpha Delta Pi Sorority and International House Corporation (IHC) are closely monitoring the outbreak of the respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China.

According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, colleges are bracing for more-widespread outbreaks of COVID-19 including possible college closures. Alpha Delta Pi Chapters, House Corporations and Chapter Advisory board members should follow suit. With the large numbers of students and faculty members who travel internationally to study and teach, colleges may be especially vulnerable. With that said, as of today's date, no sorority member living in an Alpha Delta Pi IHC facility or locally owned facility has been diagnosed with COVID-19. Please encourage members to notify their parents that Alpha Delta Pi is proactively educating its members about proper precautions and doing everything possible to provide a safe and healthy living environment for its members. This communication is out of an abundance of caution to ensure that our members living in Alpha Delta Pi facilities are informed.

It is understood that there may be concern, uncertainty, and anxiety in your respective campus community. ADPi encourages everyone to take general preventive measures to reduce the risk of acquiring or transmitting any virus, as recommended each flu season. If you are sick, please take steps to avoid spreading any illness to others and seek appropriate medical care. Please encourage members of your chapter who are leaving on spring break to pack disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer for their trip.

Additionally, listed below are actions that you can take to ensure we all stay as healthy as possible:

STAY INFORMED

Coronaviruses, including COVID-19, are contagious respiratory illnesses. According to the World Health Organization, symptoms can include fever, cough, headache, sore throat, runny nose, and shortness of breath. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure, and even death.

The Centers for Disease Control believes at this time that symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure. According to the CDC, the spread of COVID-19 from person-to-person most likely occurs among close contacts who are within about six feet of each other. It is unclear at this time if a person can get the virus by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes.

CDC information; share this information through your email distribution lists, GroupMe, or chapter Facebook pages so that members of the chapter have access to correct and accurate information. If your chapter experiences a confirmed case of COVID-19 or suspects an outbreak, members should seek medical attention immediately and inform advisors, House Corporation Board president, and the Housing Resource Director on your District Team for additional direction on group living considerations.

PRACTICE DAILY PREVENTATIVE CARE

The CDC recommends everyday preventative sanitation actions to avoid the spread of COVID-19, influenza, and other respiratory illnesses.

- Ensure that cleaning supplies are available at the house and a good supply of tissues, soap, paper towels, alcohol-based hand rubs, and disposable wipes are on-site.
- Clean and disinfect highly touched surfaces such as counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, and bedside tables regularly.
 - Have conversations with your cleaners or cleaning company about areas to pay special attention to (i.e. doorknobs, handles, etc.).
- Encourage members to:
 - Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - When coughing/sneezing use tissue, elbow, or mask to prevent the spread of droplets, and wash hands after contact with respiratory secretions.
 - Be extra vigilant about cleaning up after themselves and wiping down areas where they have eaten. Have members clean items they may have touched.
 - Frequently clean living quarters, including high-touch surfaces.
 - Avoid attending chapter events and minimize interactions if sick.
 - Practice healthy habits:
 - Get plenty of sleep.
 - Be physically active.
 - Manage stress.
 - Drink plenty of water.
 - Eat nutritious food.
 - Do not smoke or use e-cigarettes.
 - Have good hygiene habits such as thorough handwashing and no sharing of personal items.
- Keep sick members and facility staff separated from others as best as possible.
 - Ask that any food service employee stay home or away from food prep if they are feeling ill.
 - Ask that ill members stay in their room, if possible.

- Develop alternative plans for housekeeping and cooking services should staff become ill and are unable to work.
- Research and contact your campus health center or community resources to learn about its protocol for COVID-19 cases.

WHAT TO DO IF A MEMBER IS INFECTED

If a member feels she has been in contact with someone with COVID-19 or has symptoms, she needs to go to the hospital immediately for testing. Should the member test positive for COVID-19, the CDC and the local health department will conduct contact tracing which will lead back to the fraternity/sorority facility (if applicable). It will be under the control of the CDC and the local health department to determine the next steps. Individuals should not be quarantined in a fraternity/sorority facility, nor would it be allowed if there was a known case of COVID-19.

Should COVID-19 be present in any facility, the facility needs to be properly decontaminated prior to approved reentry. For information on certified decontamination specialists, please consult the [Global Biorisk Advisory Council](#).

While the progression of COVID-19 is still emerging, the CDC is reporting that for the general American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus at this time, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is considered low. Executive Office Staff will continue to provide House Corporations with updates as they become necessary. If you have additional questions, please email [Cassie Sherry](#), Director of Housing, or [Amy Poklinkoski](#), Housing Coordinator. Your Housing Resource Director is also available for questions. You are welcome to forward this message to those living in the chapter house, post this communication in common areas of your facility, and share this information at your next meeting.