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ADVOCATES FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP BY PROMOTING STANDARDS FOR QUALITY AND AFFORDABILITY

March 18, 2020

Dear Member,

We want to take this opportunity to let you know how The Greater Iowa City Area HBA is responding to the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic and related business disruptions.

First and foremost, **our approach is guided by data and recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and US National Institute of Health (NIH).** We will also comply with all future, legally binding mandates of federal, state and/or local authorities.

Currently, The Greater Iowa City Area HBA is "open for business" in terms of normal office functions. Many of our events have been canceled or postponed, while several will still be held. Please see a listing of upcoming events and their status farther down in this letter. Please note that our Parade of Homes IS STILL HAPPENING June 6, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 14.

RATIONALE

Our reasons for canceling and postponing events stem from the following information:

- According to WHO, "...**coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses** that cause illness **ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases** such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV)...Common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties..."
- Further, the WHO, notes **COVID-19** is "...a novel coronavirus (nCoV) [which] **is [simply] a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans...**"
- Regardless of the variant, WHO, CDC and NIH all agree: "...**Standard recommendations to prevent COVID-19 infection spread include regular hand washing; covering mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing;... and avoiding close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness, such as coughing and sneezing...**"

WHAT WE ARE ASKING FROM YOU

- **Do what you feel is the best course of action for you.**
- **If you have any active flu symptoms – particularly fever or severe cough – please stay home to avoid spreading the virus. Please seek appropriate medical attention if warranted.**
- **If you have high risk conditions that may be adversely impacted by COVID-19 – defined by CDC as "...Older adults [and] People who have serious chronic medical conditions like: Heart disease, Diabetes, Lung disease..." – we advise you to severely limit interactions outside your home per the CDC's recommendation**
- **Follow common sense practices that you were taught from a young age:** Cover your mouth when coughing; wash your hands frequently and thoroughly; and avoid being around others if you (or they) are clearly not feeling well.



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SOURCES

- WHO Information on "coronaviruses": <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>
- CDC Definition of "High Risk Individuals" for COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html>

IOWA CITY AREA HBA EVENTS STATUS

- March 24 – Women’s Council at Sobaski Abbey Carpet & Floor **POSTPONED**
- March 26 – Board of Directors Meeting **TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY**
- March 27 – Iowa Finance Authority Seminar at ICAAR **POSTPONED**
- March 30 – YPN Meet Up at Studio H2O **CANCELED**
- April 2 – CPR/1st Aid Class at PSC Distribution **POSTPONED**
- April 9 – Joint IC/CR HBAs Spring Mixer at Green State Credit Union **CANCELED**
- April 14 – Legislative Committee **TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY**
- April 14 – Remodelers Council **TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY**
- April 16 – Board of Directors Meeting **TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY**
- April 16 – Spring Membership Drive **POSTPONED**
- April 18 – Women’s Council Wall Build at IVHFH **POSTPONED**
- April 21 – Build My Future **CANCELED**
- April 27 – YPN Meet Up at Suburban Lumber **CONTINUING AS PLANNED**
- June – Parade of Homes/Remodelers Parade **CONTINUING AS PLANNED**

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