



**DOMESTIC ABUSE PROGRAM**



DATE: 3/19/20

**Tribal Community Official Notice**

**Temporary Closure of Lac du Flambeau Statewide Shelter Program**

From: Andrea Wolfe: Program Supervisor

The Lac du Flambeau Statewide Shelter Program has made the very difficult decision to temporarily close the shelter for a period of two weeks due to extreme staffing shortage. To prevent the spread of the COVID virus the program office will be locked and all potential clients must call **715-588-7660** to speak to a staff member. Services will be limited to crisis line, phone assistance with restraining orders and police department advocacy services. If you are sick with fever, cough or flu like symptoms we recommend isolation and contacting Pete Christensen Health Center **715-588-7717** for further instruction. The shelter cannot accept any new clients at this time. We will make every effort to refer and care for those affected or displaced due to domestic violence to the very best of our ability. For the last several days, I have been in personal communication with DV Program Directors throughout Wisconsin. In an attempt to locate open shelters and advice from our sister agencies. Unfortunately, all the other shelters are experiencing the same circumstances we are. Many of them are not accepting new clients, while others have completely temporarily closed.

I will continue to work closely with Tribal Administration to assess the continued safety of staff and clients. This is truly an unprecedented time for our program and community. This is a situation that no one has ever experienced before. I can personally attest that there are many individuals continuing to work and provide services to the community because they care about the community and the clients they serve. I assure you tribal administration, council and program managers have been working around the clock to make the best decisions possible for the health and safety of the tribal community. Our program remains committed to serving the Lac du Flambeau Tribe and victims of domestic violence to the best of our abilities.

At this uncertain time in our life, it is important that we continue to help others to the best of our abilities.

Respectfully,

Andrea Wolfe

Lac du Flambeau Statewide Shelter  
**Lac du Flambeau Band  
of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians**

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