

# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Reggie Wassana  
Governor

Gilbert Miles  
Lieutenant Governor



## **Governor Proclamation – Tribal Vaccination Month**

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES  
A PROCLAMATION

Last year, as our Tribes and the rest of the world prepared for a pandemic of the Covid-19 coronavirus, we had to make some major executive and legislative decisions due to the severity and unpredictability of the virus. Many of our tribal citizens suffered some serious complications from the coronavirus, many of which resulted in hospitalizations and even death. This is not the first time that our country and our people have been affected by viruses that have tragically hit our homes and taken lives of tribal citizens.

As many people are now aware, there are now multiple Covid-19 vaccination shots that have been made available to the American adult population ages 18 and older – Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson. On January 21, 2021, President Joe Biden signed 10 executive orders to ramp up Covid-19 vaccinations, expand testing and to reopen schools. Our Cheyenne and Arapaho Covid Task Force has been working hand in hand with the Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Clinton Service Unit to ensure that our tribal citizens, or anyone, can get the Covid vaccine. Because there is no way to know how the Covid-19 vaccine will affect you if you get the vaccine, I recommend that you consult with your physician to determine whether it is safe for you to get the vaccine. Beyond that, I encourage all of our elders, health care workers, tribal/casino employees, and tribal adult citizens to get the Covid vaccine to protect themselves and those within their care.

All of our tribal citizens can take steps to promote Cheyenne and Arapaho health and to get us through this Covid pandemic. Though people with a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to any component of the COVID-19 vaccine should NOT receive the vaccine, we know that the Covid pandemic is not over and that it will pose serious health

risks for many more of our tribal citizens and for thousands of Americans all across this country.

However, getting a COVID-19 vaccine can help protect you and others around you from COVID-19, particularly people at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19. It is our best protection against contracting and spreading the coronavirus. Within the Cheyenne and Arapaho territory, the vaccine is available through the IHS clinics and mass vaccination events that are being held regularly within our territory. Additionally, the State and local health departments have been holding vaccination events around the state as well. Working together, we can prepare as a tribal nation to survive this pandemic and help ensure that we remain safe, healthy, and strong.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, REGGIE WASSANA, Governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2021, as Cheyenne and Arapaho Covid Vaccination Month. I encourage all adult tribal citizens and employees to get vaccinated this month if they have not yet done so, and to urge your family members and friends to do the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one, and of the Sovereignty of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.



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Reggie Wassana, Governor