



March 10, 2020

## To all Summit County Business Owners and Managers,

As the COVID-19 situation evolves, it is likely to affect your business in some way. As the Health Department, we are cognizant of the business-related implications resulting from this situation. To minimize this impact, we encourage business owners and management to take the health and welfare of their employees into special consideration over the next few months. While there are currently no cases of COVID-19 in Summit County, we believe it is a matter of when, not if, this Coronavirus will affect all aspects of our community.

When considering how businesses can help deter the introduction and spread of COVID-19 into our community, we encourage you to consider the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations for ill employees. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

*All employers should be ready to implement strategies to protect their workforce from COVID-19 while ensuring continuity of operations. During a COVID-19 outbreak, **all sick employees should stay home and away from the workplace, respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene should be encouraged, and routine cleaning of commonly touched surfaces should be performed regularly.***

These guidelines present special concern for employees that do not have paid sick leave. However, we believe following these recommendations are in the best interest of your staff and the health of our community. Where possible, we encourage you to provide employees who are sick with options and resources to work remotely from home. These considerations may also include alternative compensation schedules and structures depending on the needs of the business and the employee. We recognize these measures may be considered drastic, but it offers the best chance of maintain a healthy, viable workforce within your organization.

We believe these steps will directly benefit you in keeping your workforce safe while helping to slow the introduction and spread of COVID-19 in Summit County, Utah. We hope that the information provided will help you make the best decision to protect you, your employees, and your business during this trying time.

For the latest information and updates, we encourage you to visit [www.summitcountyhealth.org/coronavirus](http://www.summitcountyhealth.org/coronavirus).

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