



Sunday April 5, 2020

Salem & Keizer Community,

Here we are, all of us, in a place that we have never been before. The COVID-19 Pandemic is real and continues to infect, disable and unfortunately take lives. It's not particular to a person, location, time or place. The Salem Keizer NAACP asks and promote the recognition and the required steps for all of us to follow:

- Stay home
- Practice social distancing
- Wash your hands for a minimum of 20 seconds with soap and water

This time additionally allows us, as a people and community, to work toward the goals that the NAACP were founded upon:

- Work to toward the betterment of all
- See that social and government services are available to all, not a few or select
- See that our very young to our most senior of citizen needs (thru family, friends, love ones and neighbors) are being addressed [health and welfare]

Monday April 6<sup>th</sup> is the 1<sup>st</sup> and possibly not the only General Membership Meeting to be canceled because of a nationwide crisis. But this cancellation does **NOT** mean we are not working to take care of the business that has this organization, at one hundred and eleven years old, continues to fight: discrimination, racism and bigotry.

We invite you, our members, friends and coalition partners to continue that work with us to carry this mission forward in new ways- technologically. We are now forced to utilize the technology of the basic telephone (calling), our computers (emails) and our cellphones (text) in new more productive ways: live streaming, video conferencing and more. This latest challenge (COVID-19), is a challenge to our collective will to continue the fight for what is right and provide the means to bring it into reality.

Let's get started.

Sincerely,

Benny