

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of the State of Illinois

Stephen F. Oakley Most Worshipful Grand Master

March 2, 2020

Dear Illinois Masonic Family:

In light of recent news reports about the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), the Grand Lodge of Illinois wanted to provide you with needed information. Your safety is a priority to us and we would like to extend help to you and your loved ones, if required. We cherish the values that unite and encourage us to help one another in times of need.

We have gathered a list of helpful resources that provide up to date information regarding the coronavirus, prevention methods, and actions that could be taken for your protection. We would encourage everyone to take a moment and get educated with the following State and Federal information available, as follows:

## Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)

- Go to their direct website that is dedicated specifically to the coronavirus at: <a href="http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus/faa">http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus/faa</a>
- Call the IDPH at: 1-800-889-3931
- Email concerns or questions to: <u>DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV</u>

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

• Go to their direct website that is dedicated specifically to the coronavirus at: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</a>

We understand that everyone's situation is different and would advise that anyone having any concerns to contact their own primary physician or local clinic for more specific guidance.

Both the Illinois Masonic Outreach Services (IMOS) and Illinois Masonic Children's Assistance Programs' (IMCAP) are available for financial assistance to those who may be impacted by the coronavirus. The amount given is determined on a "case by case" basis, dependent on varying situations and needs. Types of needs that may qualify for financial assistance include (but are not limited to):

- Assistance paying for the cost of medical related expenses (e.g. bills, copays, treatment costs, prescriptions, supplies, etc).
- Assistance with supplementing monthly income (if work is impacted).
- Assistance with paying for food/other basic needs.

If you are an Illinois Master Mason, Spouse or Widow, in need, please contact our IMOS Director, Mrs. Talia J. Dean, at: (217) 529-8900 ext. 212 or by email at: <a href="mailto:outreach@ilmason.org">outreach@ilmason.org</a>. For needs specifically related to Masonic related children, please contact Ms. Gale Kilbury, at: 217-529-8900 ext. 222; or by email at: <a href="mailto:gkilbury@ilmason.org">gkilbury@ilmason.org</a>.

Your Illinois Masonic Family wish you the best and I sincerely hope you and your loved ones stay safe.

Fraternally and sincerely;

Stephen F. Oakley M.W. Grand Master

"I Remember"







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