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SEASONAL FLU AND CORONAVIRUS: PLANNING AND RESPONSE EFFORTS

Dear Temple Sinai Members,

The Sharon Health Department has shared a public statement regarding the emerging global health concern, the 2019 Novel Coronavirus, 2019-nCoV. The bulletin can be accessed here: <https://tinyurl.com/Sharon-Flu-Alert>. This strand of coronavirus was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. As of February 11, 2020, there are 13 confirmed cases in the United States (California, Washington State, Massachusetts, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Arizona).

Town of Sharon, Board of Health Program: David and Sheila Miller, RN, Public Health Nurse, will be speaking on Coronavirus at the **Public Service Building (213 South Main Street) on Thursday, February 13th from 5-6:30 pm (all are invited to attend).**

We understand that there is widespread concern and anxiety. There may be questions regarding the precautions that we are taking at Temple to detect and prevent the spread of the seasonal flu and Coronavirus. We take this concern very seriously and assure you that we are working collaboratively with the Sharon Health Department, our Safety & Security and Building & Grounds Committees, and the custodial department to ensure that we take the proper measures to keep our members and guests safe.

Our Safety & Security Chair, David Shore, is in contact with the Sharon Health Department who is closely monitoring new and emerging information from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

We have put several preventative measures in place to keep Temple staff, members, students, and guests safe and healthy, including the following:

- Temple leadership regularly share and send helpful prevention tips, and updates to staff, families, and members via email and literature in our lobby
- Our custodians have been instructed to be extra vigilant and are frequently sanitizing and disinfecting frequently-touched items such as door handles, buttons, and hand rails.
- Healthy school environments are always our priority and we work to stop the spread of unnecessary illnesses such as the flu. As in the past, if a Religious School student has a fever, it is our school policy to arrange to send the child home as soon as possible and the child must remain home, fever-free for at least 24-hours without the use of any fever reducing medications (e.g. Tylenol, Motrin, etc.).
- Any staff member with a fever will be asked to go home and stay home until they are fever-free for 24-hours (i.e. a temperature below 100 degrees without the use of fever reducing medications).

Please know that we take matters of public health concerns very seriously and are closely monitoring this situation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rabbi Amy E. Goodman, Executive Director, in the Temple office. We will send updates as appropriate with any new information.