

Environmental & Foods

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October 21, 2014

RE: Recommendations for Faith-Based Organizations

Dear Faith-Based Organization:

In response to growing concern about Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), the Tippecanoe County Health Department would like to recommend the attached precautions for your organization.

Also attached are relevant documents from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to advise your community about ways to prevent the spread of Ebola.

- 1) What You Need to Know about Ebola
- 2) Advice for Study Abroad, Foreign Exchange, or Other Education-related Travel

The Tippecanoe County Health Department is committed to assisting our community and local faith-based organizations in ensuring the necessary precautions are in place to protect the health of the community.

Please feel free to contact the Tippecanoe County Health Department Nursing Division with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jeremy P. Adler, M.D. Health Officer, Tippecanoe County Health Department



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Advice for Faith-Based Organizations about Ebola in West Africa

The CDC has posted Warning-Level 3 Travel Notices recommending that people avoid nonessential travel to Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone at this time. We advise that missionaryrelated travel to these countries be postponed until further notice.

Additionally, a small number of Ebola cases were recently reported in Lagos and Port Harcourt, Nigeria. This outbreak was contained to a small number of cases, all of which have now either recovered or died. Their contacts have been monitored and are no longer at risk for getting Ebola. Currently, the risk for Ebola in Nigeria is low, but individuals planning to travel there should be aware that the outbreak is still ongoing in nearby countries and other importations for Ebola are possible.

If individuals from your organization have traveled to Guinea, Liberia, or Sierra Leone in the past 21 days, they should be given instructions for health monitoring (see attached).

If individuals with travel history to countries affected by the Ebola outbreak have not had symptoms for Ebola for 21 days since leaving the area, no further assessment is needed.

If a member of your organization has had high-or-low risk exposure, please notify the Tippecanoe County Health Department and/or the Indiana State Department of Health.