

# MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 16 March 2020



Neighbourhood Houses  
Tasmania

## The Neighbourhood House Program and the coronavirus. What does it mean for our communities?

This morning Premier Peter Gutwein held a press conference to explain the current state of play for Tasmania in relation to the coronavirus. You can watch the [press conference here](#) There are a range of important public health measures being shared which Neighbourhood Houses are promoting including good hygiene practices and social distancing.

Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania (NHT) and the Department of Communities Tasmania have been working closely to share resources with the Network of Houses and to develop some key messages for Houses and their Committees to use as they make critical decisions over the coming days, weeks and months.

These messages focus on ensuring the safety of staff and communities. In summary, Houses are encouraged to:

- Cancel group activities if required for social distancing or to protect vulnerable people.
- Consider partially/temporarily closing or changing the model of how you support your community during this time.
- Modify face- to- face contact (i.e. less than 15 minutes with social distancing).
- Promote self-isolation for anyone (staff, volunteers and community members) who has travelled internationally.
- Use the [Self-Assessment Tool](#).
- Share and interpret critical information from the [Tasmanian Government](#) and the [Federal Government](#) with community members.

Each House will determine which essential programs, activities and services will be offered; these may change as new public health information is available so please check with your local House for specific details.

**NHT and the Network of Houses remain committed to their communities and to supporting the State Government to #flattenthecurve to reduce the coronavirus spread.**

For more information about these key messages and/or the Neighbourhood House Program please contact Tracey Tasker, NHT CEO, **M:** 0407 499 973 or **E:** [ceo@nht.org.au](mailto:ceo@nht.org.au)

