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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - March 13, 2020

ELKHART COUNTY CVB SUPPORTS PRECAUTIONS CAUSED BY CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19 OUTBREAK

While the Elkhart County region continues to be open for business, the Elkhart County CVB respects and applauds the decisions to cancel or postpone events and programs in response to the ongoing outbreak of coronavirus infections and COVID-19 illnesses. We believe that the best decisions and recommendations in response to this outbreak have the mutual interests of visitors, staff, partners and Elkhart County residents in mind. Protecting public health with reasonable proactive steps recommended by experts must be the top priority to slow down the spread of this contagion.

The Elkhart County CVB is continuing to monitor this evolving situation. We urge our partners and stakeholders to rely on information published by expert sources such as the <u>Centers for Disease Control</u>, <u>Indiana State Department of Health</u>, and <u>Elkhart County Health Department</u>, and to abide by the guidance given by your government entity (city, town, county, etc.).

The Elkhart County CVB trusts that event planners, venues and attractions in Elkhart County will make factually sound decisions with the best interests of their visitors, employees and residents in mind. We stand ready to assist our tourism and hospitality partners as they cope with the public health danger and economic impact. We are resilient in Elkhart County and we are hopeful that as medical professionals gain a better handle on this contagion, that the dangers will lessen, and we can resume normal activities.

Cancellations of events are frustrating, create inconvenience, and can result in lost income to our Elkhart County economy. The Elkhart County CVB stands ready to advise our tourism and hospitality partners as they cope with the economic effects. We are resilient in Elkhart County and we are hopeful that as medical professionals gain a better handle on this contagion, that the dangers will lessen, and we can resume normal activities.

The Elkhart County Convention & Visitors Bureau is the official tourism advertising/marketing and public/community relations organization for the Elkhart County hospitality industry. The ECCVB advances quality-of-place initiatives in our downtowns and rural spaces, parks and natural environment, arts and culture, and events, festivals, groups and activities that help forge social connections.

WE BELIEVE IN HERE. -30-

MEDIA CONTACT

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