



**For Immediate Release, thru March 23, 2020**

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**The 2020 Annual Pima County Fair is cancelled**

Fair time should be a fun time and never a time for fear. Public safety and wellness have always been and will always remain our priority.

The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) has created much confusion with numerous and everchanging guidelines resulting in the closing of events and event venues. Governor Ducey's recommendation last week of eliminating gatherings of 50 people or more for an 8-week period, includes the Pima County Fair, scheduled April 16 – 26<sup>th</sup>.

The necessary actions taken by the Pima County Board of Supervisors Thursday, March 19, 2020, includes new restrictions outlined in the State of Emergency Proclamation that render it impossible to proceed with the Pima County Fair.

Not being able to bring this great tradition to Tucson and surrounding communities is disappointing. The Pima County Fair impacts our local economy with over \$36 million per year. The annual fair food drive provides 80,000 meals to the hungry. These losses, combined with the loss of proceeds from the 4-H livestock auction, will be certain to cause local financial ripples and waves in the months to come.

Like other events facing cancellation, the financial impact negatively affects many to include; vendors, exhibitors, sponsors, rodeo athletes, feed and bedding providers, service providers, entertainers, medic and security staffing, rental companies, along with hundreds of hourly workers who count on the fair for income to provide for their families.

The Covid-19 virus affects us all. It is our most sincere hope that we all remain healthy and that those who are currently ill, become well again soon. Our hearts go out to the lives lost thus far to Covid-19. We encourage our community and employees to be responsible and help mitigate further spread of the virus by following recommendations of the CDC. In these troubling times, we encourage our employees and community to be of help to neighbors and vulnerable groups. We encourage our employees as well as our community to remain calm and be creative in finding ways to get keep our community economically stable.

Regretfully, your Pima County Fair