

- Gov. had a phone call with the Vice President this morning to discuss SD's testing capacity and the need for adequate testing supplies
 - o Gov. had a follow up call with Dr. Birx from the White House Task Force; was very encouraged after these calls
- Gov. highlighted the state's Small Business Loan program
 - o GOED is working to get the funds out ASAP after the applications come in, are reviewed and processed
 - Fund was set up by bill that was passed on last day of legislative session
 - Loans are for \$5,000-\$75,000
 - Applications total \$5 million to date
 - \$3 million has been sent to small businesses so far
 - All application and decision info will be shared on the state's covid website
- Gov. said the CARE 19 app is now available for android phones; prior to this, it had only be available for iPhones
 - o Using the app will greatly help with contact tracing if someone tests positive
- Marcia Hultman (Dept. of Labor secretary) – For weeks, we have talked about unprecedented volume of UI claims that have been/will be filed
 - o Today, I am asking people to be considerate when they make contact with DOL staff
 - o Person answering the phone is not responsible for the rules
 - Using existing DOL staff to take calls
 - Only takes 1 week to train existing DOL staff to handle UI claim calls; training a new hire would take 30 days
 - Am not trying to be defensive, just trying to get public to set realistic expectations
 - o DOL has already processed 74% of claims
 - Working to verify and process remaining 26%
 - Can take up to 4 weeks if there is an issue
 - o DOL has trained 20 additional people to assist with UI claims; training 20 more staff this week; plan to train 20 more staff next week
 - o Paid \$11 million in state UI benefits last week, and \$9+ million in federal benefits
 - The week prior DOL paid \$8 million in state benefits; a total of nearly \$30 million back into SD economy in past two weeks
 - DOL started taking claims from people who qualify under expanded federal UI rules this week
 - SD was one of the first six states in the nation to get this program up and running
- Reporter ?: What is your reaction to the news that the Jefferson race track will hold car races this weekend?
 - o Gov.: I don't think it's a good idea for people to go to the races; need to continue practicing social distancing
- Reporter ?: What do you say to those who are planning to attend the races?
 - o Gov.: We need to continue practicing social distancing; it's incredibly important so that we don't spike in a way that overwhelms our health care systems
- Reporter ?: Does Gov. take any personal affront to the fact that the races are going forward?
 - o Gov.: There is a lot of things in this job that I don't take personally
 - I will continue to strongly recommend that people do not go to the races

- Reporter ?: There is a factual report that a halfway house in Sioux Falls is reporting 14 positive cases among residents and 2 employees and none of those people have been contacted by state officials to do follow up/contact tracing. Why haven't these people been contacted?
 - o Kim Malsom-Rysdon (Dept. of Health secretary) – I am not aware of the circumstances surrounding this
 - When state DOH is notified, staff makes contact with the individual who tested positive within 24-36 hours
 - Will follow up on this after the press conference is over
- Reporter ?: What should halfway house employees do? Should they tell other employees they tested positive?
 - o Malsom-Rysdon: employees need to stay home for 14 days, and follow other CDC guidelines for those have tested positive
- Reporter ?: Gov. said on Fox News last week that 99% of Smithfield Foods community spread was employees who spread the disease to people in their immediate homes. Is that a verified number, and if so, how did you arrive at that number?
 - o Gov.: We will continue to look at the actual percentage; at the time of the Smithfield closure we believe the stated percentage would be factual
- Reporter ?: Reporter talked to members of the Union County Commission earlier today, and commissioners feel that they do not have powers to shut down the car races in Jefferson this weekend. Will these races empower other out-of-state promoters to hold big events in SD?
 - o Gov.: We will continue to recommend that people stay home; We brought a bill during the last day of the Legislative session that would have given counties powers similar to what cities currently have-was not supported by the Legislature; am sure that county commissioners wish they had the same kinds of powers in their tool boxes
- Reporter?: Any news on when the final report from the CDC will be available for the Smithfield Foods plant?
 - o Gov.: Do not have the final report yet; when we get it, we will make it available to the public
- Reporter ?: As news of some trials for HCQ drug being used in the Sanford/state trial come out, the results seem to be mixed. Is it important to go forward based on what you are seeing so far?
 - o Malsom-Rysdon: Sanford Health team is looking at all info; all involved feel the trail is safe for those involved based on current guidelines; we are encouraged about we believe HCQ can do for Covid healing as well as preventative measures
- Reporter ?: Comparing this year's UI claims with last year, what do you see?
 - o Hultman: Last year for this same week, SD paid \$500,000+ vs this year, SD paid \$11 million; that is 20x more this year vs last year, and that is running consistent with the number of filed claims