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For Immediate Release

New Positive COVID-19 Test Results in Elbert County, Colorado

16 total confirmed cases in Elbert County

Kiowa, CO, April 13, 2020: Over the past week, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has confirmed a number of additional positive COVID-19 test result for residents of Elbert County, bringing the number of known cases to 16. Because of the larger number of cases, Elbert County Public Health is able to disclose some additional information relating to location. Thus far the confirmed cases in Elbert County have concentrated in two zip codes: 80107 (greater Elizabeth) and 80138 (primarily a Parker zip code which includes residents of northwest Elbert County).

The most current data on Colorado cases can be found at covid19.colorado.gov.

As a reminder, CDPHE conservatively estimates the actual number of cases may be anywhere from four to ten times the number of test-confirmed cases. CDPHE plans to release partial data on the race and ethnicity of COVID-19 cases. They expect to share race and ethnicity data for more cases soon thereafter.

About COVID-19

The state of Colorado is under a statewide stay-at-home order to slow the spread of the virus that causes the illness COVID-19. Residents should remain at home whenever possible and curtail any social or business interactions that are not absolutely necessary.

CDPHE is urging the public to not wait for a test to self-isolate. People who are not at high risk of severe illness may not need to be evaluated in person or tested for COVID-19. Not everyone with symptoms will be tested right away. Call your health care provider only if your illness becomes more severe, especially if you are experiencing shortness of breath.

If you have any symptoms -- even mild ones -- public health urges you to stay home and isolate yourself until:

- You have had no fever for at least 72 hours (without the use of medicine) AND
- Other symptoms (cough, shortness of breath) have improved AND
- At least 7 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared.
- Anyone in your household you have had close contact with (within six feet for approximately 10 minutes) should self-quarantine for 14 days, even if you haven't been tested for COVID-19.
- If you have a medical emergency, call 911. If you have severe respiratory symptoms, especially shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, tell the 911 dispatcher about your symptoms. Do not wait for a COVID-19 test to call 911.

Together we can manage the spread of this disease so that it doesn't overwhelm our health care resources.

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