

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Delta, Colorado, March 20, 2020** – Delta County COVID-19 Response Efforts and Updates

Delta, CO – Delta County, Public Health Department, Delta County Memorial Hospital, and our community partners have been working tirelessly for the past three weeks in preparation for when we do begin see positive cases of COVID-19 Coronavirus in our communities. “We launched our Emergency Operations Center early in the week, and have seen significant coordination and implementation of Emergency Preparedness Protocols said Robbie LeValley, Delta County Administrator. “We also have an active virtual Joint Information Center in place, with individuals from Delta County, the City of Delta, Delta County School District, and Delta County Memorial Hospital, all working in tangent to push out accurate, vital information.”

Delta County has also teamed up with Montrose County to form a COVID Business Support team, to identify, and find solutions for needs in our business communities that we can address locally, at the State level, and at the Federal level. Delta County set up an Information Call Center (970-874-2172) and volunteers have answered over 150 community calls.

The City of Delta passed a resolution declaring a Public Health Emergency, in order to activate their Tier II - Statewide Concern, which allows the Interim City Manager to take the necessary steps to help protect the public, and the City of Delta’s staff in mitigating possible exposure. Additionally, the City of Delta has had to extend the closure of Bill Heddles Recreation Center to April 30 due to the most recent Public Health Order that called for the prohibiting public gatherings of more than 10 people, the closures of all restaurants, and bars, theaters, and casinos, as well as hair and nail salons, spas, massage and tattoo parlors.

Delta County Memorial Hospital (DCMH) remains dedicated to ensuring the health and safety of patients, staff and community, and will continue to provide resources, insights and information regarding COVID-19. DCMH and other local agencies have combined our efforts to keep the community informed and safe during this time. DCMH has confirmed that to date, they have administered 84 COVID-19 tests; 37 of the tests have come back negative and the remaining 47 are pending, with zero (0) positives to date.

Delta County School District has also had to adjust their school closures based on an order from the Governor, to extend to April 17, and will be implementing a distance learning model for all students starting on March 30.

“We are incredibly proud of the herculean efforts being put forth by so many agencies and Delta County Community members” said Delta County Commissioner Chair Mark Roeber, “We are going to get through this but it’s going to take all of us to continue to work together. It’s critical that we adhere to the social distancing protocol, 6-8 free from one another, for the safety and well-being of all Delta County residents.”