



# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Confirmed Deaths Associated with COVID-19 in Northeast Colorado**

Sterling, Colo – April 16, 2020: It is with heavy hearts that the Northeast Colorado Health Department (NCHD) announces that we have been notified of 3 confirmed deaths, one each in Logan, Morgan and Yuma Counties that are associated with COVID-19 and additional deaths may be attributed to COVID-19 pending further review. The case investigations are ongoing. We are working with local County Coroners and funeral directors, as well as the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to investigate details and more information will be forthcoming when it is available.

*“We want to express our sadness and condolences to the families and loved ones of these individuals,” said Trish McClain, Director of NCHD. “These are difficult times for everyone and is especially challenging for families who have lost loved ones. “*

Tracking death data for COVID-19 differs from tracking positive cases in several ways. Because of multiple factors involved, NCHD’s data for deaths associated with COVID-19 may be delayed and may not always match the information available on the

CDPHE website, however NCHD will diligently work to bring you the most up to date information available.

NCHD and partnering agencies have been doing everything possible to protect the health of the residents of our communities. The unfortunate loss of these loved ones reaffirms that everyone must continue being diligent with social distancing and being out in the community only when it is necessary in order to make sure we are all doing everything possible to protect those who are most vulnerable among us.

As of April 16, 2020 the total of positive COVID-19 test results in northeast Colorado is 162 (Yuma County (2), Morgan County (133), Logan County (17), Washington County (5), Phillips County (5) and we know there are several test results pending so these numbers will likely continue to increase.

NCHD continues to emphasize the importance of abiding by the public health order to stay at home. It is important that we all take steps to protect our families, ourselves, our friends and our communities. We want to remind people that if you believe you have been exposed, self-quarantine for 14 days. If you develop any of the cold or flu-like symptoms, self-isolate and call your primary care provider. Your healthcare provider is able to provide the most direct guidance relative to your health conditions.

Information about COVID-19 continues to change as we learn more about this virus. Reliable and up-to-date information is available at <https://covid19.colorado.gov/> or by calling CO Help at 1-303-389-1687 or 1-877-462-2911 or email them at [COHELP@RMPDC.org](mailto:COHELP@RMPDC.org).

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