April 1, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elisa Livengood, Custer County Public Health Director at publichealth@custercountygov.com or (719) 458-9211

Subject: At 3:45 PM on April 1st, 2020, Custer County Department of Public Health is reporting the first positive case of COVID-19, or coronavirus, in Custer County.

The patient is a female in her 60s. The case is confirmed positive, which means test results have been lab confirmed.

The patient is working with public health officials in the ongoing investigation to identify people that may have had close exposure. **If you haven't been contacted by Custer County Public Health, then you have not been exposed to this individual.**

There is currently no vaccine or treatment for COVID-19. Custer County Public Health and its partners will focus their response efforts on slowing the spread of the disease, which will require the community's assistance. Although more than 80% of people who have contracted COVID-19 have relatively mild illness, there are greater risks for complications among older adults, especially above the age of 60 years, as well as people with pre-existing health conditions.

Custer County Public Health continues to instruct the community to stay home unless you have essential business to conduct. It is vital that the community abides by the Stay-At-Home order to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Those with questions about COVID-19 can call the CO HELP Hotline at 1-877-462-2911. Updates or changes in guidance will be posted to:
https://www.facebook.com/CusterCountyEmergencyManagement
and https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus