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**NEWS
RELEASE**

03 / 14 / 2020
El Paso, Texas

Public Health COVID-19 Education Taskforce Deploys in El Paso

The Department of Public Health (DPH) Education Taskforce was deployed across the region this afternoon.

More than half a dozen teams consisting of two educators visited local shopping centers, malls, and public transportation hubs. The proactive approach comes less than a day after the Public Health Laboratory confirmed the first presumptive positive case of Novel Coronavirus in El Paso County.

“This is a small part of the larger plan we’ve been talking about for weeks, and a presumptive positive case was the trigger to be proactive in education and calming fears,” said Public Health Director Robert Resendes.

Specially trained health educators will be answering questions and providing printed literature to help reduce the stress and anxiety being experienced by residents who are emptying grocery shelves despite recommendations to focus on self-care and monitoring. Hoarding cleaning products and dry goods is creating undue stress. Area residents should heed the advice to shop as they would before the pandemic was declared.

The media is invited to cover teams who will be at the following locations today from **3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** (Teams will be wearing orange vests).

Sun Metro Transit Center
Arves E. Jones at Northgate
9348 Dyer

Sun Metro Boarding
Robert E. McKee
2830 Montana

DPH officials continue to urge residents to stay up-to-date with the latest information by following the City and DPH on Facebook and Twitter and by visiting www.EPHealth.com or www.EPSalud.com for updates. Additionally, the 2-1-1 Texas information and Referral Center is available 24/7. Callers can dial 211 and select option 1 for more information.

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