

## NEWS RELEASE

**APRIL 4, 2020 | NR #040420019**

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### **Abilene Taylor County Public Health District reports first COVID-19 related death in Taylor County**

ABILENE, Texas – The Abilene Taylor County Public Health District reports the first COVID-19 related death for Taylor County on Saturday, April 4, 2020.

The deceased patient was a female in her 40s, and a resident of Disability Resources, Inc. (DRI) with underlying medical conditions. The patient was taken to an area hospital after developing symptoms of COVID-19, and having direct contact with a previously identified COVID-19 positive DRI resident. She later tested positive for COVID-19, and was hospitalized until the time of her death.

The City of Abilene extends its deepest sympathies to the family and friends of the deceased patient.

The Abilene Taylor-County Public Health District urges area residents to protect themselves, and our medically fragile community members from the spread of COVID-19 by:

- Practicing social distancing, and staying home as much as possible
- Washing or sanitizing hands often
- Covering sneezes and coughs
- Avoid touching your face
- Staying home if you are sick
- Routinely cleaning commonly touched surfaces

If an individual feels they may be showing symptoms for COVID-19, it is important they first call their medical provider or the Abilene Taylor-County Public Health District at 325.692.5600 for screening and further instruction. Please do not arrive at a medical office, facility, or hospital without first making contact by phone and receiving instruction.

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