



Board of County Commissioners

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March 18, 2020

The Honorable Michael Bennet
United States Senate
261 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC, 20510

Dear Senator Bennet,

Our mountain communities have been making requests to the state EOC for medical surge support. We are writing to you today to tell you we believe getting this support across the region will save a lot of lives.

Eagle County now has 55 lab confirmed cases, more than a quarter of the cases in Colorado. On March 14, Eagle County made a request for a DMAT (Disaster Medical Assistance Team). We met with Greg Stasinis, Operations/Response Section Chief of CDPHE's Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response. We look forward to continuing to work with him and receive information as these requests move forward.

Gunnison County has also made requests for a 12 patient critical care MASH type unit and a regional DMAT (Disaster Medical Assistance Team). Gunnison Valley Hospital has no ICU, and would be hard pressed to cope with the kind of surges we have been seeing across the country.

Similarly, Vail Health and Eagle County Paramedics anticipate a similar surge and need to establish an alternate care site as well. We ask that you help move along these medical surge support requests from the High Rockies and Western Slope to ensure critical care is given to our many residents.

Sincerely,

Kathy Chandler-Henry

Chair

Matt Scherr

Commissioner

Jeanne McQueeney

Commissioner