



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Public Information Officer
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Free Breast Cancer Screenings available at the Health Department

Weld County, Colorado – On September 28, actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus announced she has breast cancer. She said she is included in the one in eight women who will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Breast cancer can affect women of every age, race, and ethnicity. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and serves as a reminder to get screened. It also serves to inform women who may need assistance that the Weld County Health Department offers free breast exams and mammogram vouchers. “Breast cancer does not always have symptoms so regular mammograms are critical in early cancer detection,” said Mark E. Wallace, MD, MPH, Executive Director of the Weld County Health Department.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women (except for skin cancer). Current recommendations from the American Cancer Society show women should begin having annual mammograms between the ages of 40 and 50, depending on their family history and medical provider recommendations. After age 55, women can transition to having mammograms every other year if they choose.

To assist women in getting these critical screenings, the Health Department offers free breast exams and mammogram vouchers to women ages 40 to 64 through the Women’s Wellness Connection (WWC). To qualify for these free services, women must meet certain income limitations, be in the United States legally, and have no health insurance or have health insurance with high deductibles or co-pays. Through this program, women are also eligible for certain diagnostic procedures. In the event a woman enrolled in the WWC program is diagnosed with cancer, she will likely qualify for treatment through Health First Colorado’s Breast and Cervical Cancer Program.

For more information about the WWC program, to check eligibility and clinic locations (including the Health Department satellite office in Longmont), visit www.weldhealth.org (click on Health Hot Topics) or contact the Community Health Outreach Worker at (970) 400-2400 or swittrock@weldgov.com

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