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NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

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For Immediate Release

Newly Appointed Committee Members for the Office of Minority Health

Carson City - The Office of Minority Health (OMH) announces the newly appointed members to its Advisory Committee for their first term: Frances Benally, Cassandra Cotton, Elena Espinoza, and Wendell Myers. The following members are re-appointed for an additional term: Elena Brady, Maria Guenechea, and Committee Chair Debra Toney. The remaining members are completing their current term: Gerold Dermid and Laura Vargas. Board members are approved and appointed by the Nevada Board of Health and reflect the ethnic and geographical diversity of the Nevada population.

The OMH's mission is to improve the quality of health care services for members of minority groups; increase access to health care services for members of minority groups; and disseminate information to educate the public on matters concerning healthcare issues of interest to members of minority groups

"We are very fortunate and honored to have as members of our 2011-2013 OMH Advisory Committee, nine individuals who bring a diverse degree of knowledge, experience and expertise ranging from working both directly and indirectly within the field of public health. All have strong ties to their communities and have demonstrated their commitment to promoting health equity and the elimination of health disparities among racial and ethnic minority populations of our state," said Janet Serial, Program Manager for the Nevada Office of Minority Health. "I have no doubt all will be a tremendous asset to OMH."

The Nevada State Legislature created the Nevada Office of Minority Health under Nevada Revised Statutes 232.467-232.484 during the 2005 legislative session. Nevada is one of the leaders in the nation in the growth of minority populations. The OMH and its Advisory Committee are committed to addressing these issues which have escalated in Nevada's current economic environment.

For specific questions about the Office of Minority Health, contact the program Manager, Janet Serial, at (775) 684-4232, jfserial@health.nv.gov

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