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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## OASIS TREATMENT HOME EXPANSION WILL SERVE MORE YOUTH

**Carson City**—Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Director Mike Willden was joined today by several dignitaries at the official grand opening of the expansion of the Oasis On-Campus Treatment Homes (OCTH), which serves youth with severe emotional disturbances and developmental disabilities who require out of home residential services to meet their needs.

Also on hand for the official ceremony were State Senator Barbara Cegavske, Clark County Family Court Judge Gerald Hardcastle, Clark County Juvenile Court Hearing Master Frank Sullivan, and Children's Attorney Project Directing Attorney Steven Hiltz.

Located at 6171 W. Charleston Blvd., the opening of two new homes has increased capacity at OCTH from 17 youth to 27. OCTH provides a 24 hour intensive, highly structured treatment program for youth ages 6-18 years with severe emotional disturbances, including clinical oversight by a multidisciplinary team of specialists. As part of the program, residents receive treatment while still being able to remain in school and be active members of their community. Further, the parents/caregivers of youth residents receive home-based training with the goal of being able to fully reunify children in their family setting or transitioning them into a less restrictive treatment home.

"I want to thank Speaker Buckley, Senator Cegavske, Judge Hardcastle, Hearing Master Sullivan, Mr. Hiltz and the Children's Attorney Project for their commitment to this project, which will greatly assist in our efforts to treat young people with dual diagnosed disorders. I am also grateful for the support of many community members and service providers who have made the expansion of this much needed facility possible."

The legislative Interim Finance Committee approved more than \$590,000 in funding for expansion of the facility, including new staff positions, during its September 2006 meeting.

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The expansion of OCTH will help curtail out of state placement of youth with severe co-occurring disorders, who are housed in locked facilities out of state where Oasis is not. Further, the average cost of placement at OCTH per day is \$391, while hospitalization costs the state about \$725 per day.

For more information about OCTH and other residential and day treatment facilities, go to [http://www.dfs.state.nv.us/DCFS\\_ResDayTreatment.htm](http://www.dfs.state.nv.us/DCFS_ResDayTreatment.htm).

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