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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 29, 2007
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*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

Carson City— The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of Suicide Prevention, will conduct a news conference on Thursday, May 31, 2007, at which time the first Nevada Suicide Prevention Plan will be released. The plan, a 61-page comprehensive guide and tool that outlines best-practice suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention measures, includes 11 goals and 35 objectives with multiple action steps.

Nevada's suicide rate is almost double the national average. Suicide is the 6th leading cause of all deaths in the state; the 3rd leading cause of all deaths among people between the ages of 15 to 24. In 2006, more than 400 Nevadans died by suicide.

First Lady Dawn Gibbons, a suicide survivor whose father died by suicide, will speak about her personal tragedy of losing her father at a young age. Nevada State Suicide Prevention Training and Networking Facilitator Linda Flatt, a suicide survivor who lost her 25-year-old son to suicide and who has played a major in the development of suicide prevention plans in Nevada, will also talk about the pain of living in the aftermath of a loved one's suicide.

WHAT: Release of Nevada Suicide Prevention Plan

WHEN: Thursday, May 31, 2007, 12:30 PM

WHERE: Nevada Legislature Building, Room 1214

For more information, please contact Misty Vaughan Allen, Nevada State Suicide Prevention Coordinator, at (775) 684-3475.

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