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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NORTHERN NEVADA ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
RECEIVES ACCREDITATION FROM NATIONAL ORGANIZATION**

Carson City—Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Director Mike Willden and Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services Administrator Carlos Brandenburg today announced that the Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services residence (NNAMHS) located in Sparks, Nevada, has received the *Gold Seal of Approval* from The Joint Commission, an independent, not-for-profit national certification group that evaluates and accredits health care organizations and programs across the United States. The goal of The Joint Commission is to help health care organizations provide safe and high quality care, treatment, and services by identifying opportunities for improvements in processes and by evaluating the organization's compliance with nationally-recognized standards for treatment.

"We have made great strides in mental health care in Nevada over the past decade and receiving recognition from such a distinguished national group is a compliment to the efforts of the State and the many outstanding Mental Health and Developmental Services employees who are dedicated to providing quality care," Willden said.

Brandenburg added, "The staff at NNAHMS has worked diligently to meet national standards for care. The staff deserves credit for their commitment to the people they are charged with caring for on a daily basis."

Staffed by more than 270 employees, NNAMHS serves seriously persistently mentally ill residents of Washoe County, as well as some residents of rural Nevada. NNAMHS programs include: Dini-Townsend Inpatient Facility, medication clinic, outpatient counseling, Outpatient Pharmacy, Program of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT), Psychosocial Rehabilitation Program (PRP), Consumer Peer Counseling, dual diagnosis treatment services, and Service Coordinator Services, all of which are located on site. For information about The Joint Commission, go to www.jointcommission.org. To find out more about the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services, visit <http://mhds.state.nv.us>.

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