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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** November 14, 2007  
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**SNAMHS RECEIVES FULL JCAHO ACCREDITATION**

**Carson City**—Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Director Mike Willden and Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services Administrator Dr. Carlos Brandenburg announced today that Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS) has received full accreditation following approval of its Evidence of Standards Compliance Response by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

“I am very proud of the leadership doctors Stuart Ghertner and James Vilt demonstrated in working closely with their staff to successfully complete the important task of achieving fully JCAHO accreditation, to the benefit of our clients and the State” Dr. Brandenburg said.

SNAMHS provides both inpatient and outpatient services for people living in Clark County and persons living in surrounding counties that may be closer geographically to this agency rather than to a rural mental health center. SNAMHS includes its state campus facility, located at 6161 West Charleston Boulevard, and four additional mental health clinics, which provide Psychiatric Emergency Services, Inpatient Services, Mobile Crisis, Outpatient Counseling, Service Coordination, Intensive Service Coordination, Medication Clinic, Psychosocial Rehabilitation, Residential Support Programs, Mental Health Court, Senior Outreach, and Programs for Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) teams.

Working in partnership with consumers, families, advocacy groups, agencies, and diverse communities, the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services provides responsive services and informed leadership to ensure quality outcomes. This mission includes treatment in the least restrictive environment, prevention, education, habitation, and rehabilitation for Nevadans challenged with mental illness or mental retardation. These services are designed to maximize each individual's degree of independence, functioning, and satisfaction.

For more information about the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Services, including available programs and service locations, go to <http://mhds.state.nv.us>.

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