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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 2, 2008
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**EVENTS GOAL IS TO INCREASE ATTENTION
OF SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS**

Carson City—Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of Suicide Prevention Coordinator Misty Vaughan Allen today announced the 2nd Annual “Walk in Memory, Walk for Hope” will take on September 13, 2008, at several locations around the state. The goal of the event is to increase awareness of the devastating effects suicide has on our nation and state, and to remember those who have been lost to suicide. The event is sponsored by the Nevada Coalition for Suicide Prevention.

“Unfortunately, Nevada has the second highest rate of suicide in the nation,” Allen stated. “Although we have greatly increased efforts in Nevada to educate people about the warning signs of suicide and how to help someone who may be contemplating suicide, events such as ‘Walk in Memory, Walk for Hope’ assist in the goal of the Coalition and other partners in increasing awareness.”

“Walk in Memory, Walk for Hope” events will take place in Elko, Hawthorne, Las Vegas, Reno, and in Douglas County. For more information or to take part in one of the walks, go to www.active.com, or contact the Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention in Northern Nevada at (775) 684-3475, or in Southern Nevada at (702) 486-8225.

For more information on suicide prevention, including information on learning the signs of suicidal behavior and a Prevention Resource Directory, go to <http://dhhs.nv.gov/SuicidePrevention.htm>. If you or someone you know is in crisis, call the Nevada Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-877-885-HOPE (4673), or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

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