



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Director's Office Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Richard Whitley, MS Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 1, 2020

Contact:

Shannon Litz, Public Information Officer sdlitz@dhhs.nv.gov

## Warmline launched to support Nevada's health care workers

Confidential call line for resources, referrals available

Carson City, NV - On Tuesday, May 26, the Nevada HealthCARES Warmline went live to support health care workers statewide.

The toll-free phone line, administered by the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) School of Medicine, in partnership with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), will serve as a confidential mental health resource for health care professionals to seek support before they have reached a crisis point.

"The partnership between UNLV and DPBH is a tremendous resource for health care workers across our State. These workers have been on the front lines helping Nevada battle COVID-19 and it's important we provide them the same care and consideration they provide to patients on a daily basis," said Governor Steve Sisolak.

Through the warmline, trained volunteers are available to provide emotional support, stress management, and resources for health care providers who are responding to COVID-19 in Nevada.

"The UNLV School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health is proud to partner with the Division of Public and Behavioral Health to coordinate a warmline to support health care providers across Nevada," said Dr. Alison Netski, Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health. "We know that working in health care during this public health crisis can be difficult and cause emotional and mental distress. This resource will allow for health care providers in Nevada to anonymously reach a volunteer mental health or health professional for support, resources, and referrals."

The Division of Public and Behavioral Health was awarded funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to support the warmline along with 24/7 psychiatric triage for children, adolescents, and adults and an expansion of the Division of Child and Family Services Children's Mobile Crisis Teams.

The Nevada HealthCARES Warmline is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.to 8 p.m. at 833-434-0385.

If you are a licensed medical or behavioral health provider and would like to volunteer to support the warmline, please go to Battle Born Medical Corps at <u>SERVNV.org</u> to register. For more information about the warmline contact Dr. Sara Hunt, UNLV School of Medicine, Assistant Dean of Behavioral Health Sciences, at <u>sara.hunt@unlv.edu</u>.

More information about COVID-19 in Nevada, including resources and guidance, can be found at <u>nvhealthresponse.nv.gov</u>.

###