



Nevada Department of Corrections

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MEDIA ADVISORY

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NNCC Staff, Volunteers, Inmates to Raise Funds, Take a Stand for Mental Health Awareness

One in five people will experience a mental health condition in 2019. Due to the negative stigma mental illness often brings, many who are diagnosed feel they must suffer in silence. With the support of Northern Nevada Correctional Center (NNCC) leadership and staff, the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) has partnered with the National Alliance of Mental Illness of Western Nevada (NAMI WNV) and the Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter 719 to sponsor the first 5 Kilometer Walk/Run.

NDOC invites the media to cover this Walk/Run on September 27, 2019 at 8:00 am at NNCC in Carson City, NV. The event will involve staff and inmates walking together inside the prison to raise funds and take a stand against the stigma of mental health. NDOC Administration, the NAMI WNV Executive Director and Inmates will be made available for interviews. While the walk takes place, a check for \$10,000 will be presented by NNCC to NAMI WNV at approximately 9:00 am.

Media who wish to participate should contact Danielle Meares, NDOC Psychologist at dmeares@doc.nv.gov / (775) 887-9277.

To learn more about NAMI WNV, please contact Laura Yanez, Executive Director at laura.namiwnv@gmail.com / (775) 419-8865.

During the past 2 years, NAMI WNV and NNCC have collaborated in a way unique in the nation that positively impacts how staff and inmates view mental health. The 5K Walk/Run is especially newsworthy as it occurs in September, which has been designated as National Suicide Prevention Month.

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The Nevada Department of Corrections is committed to building a safer community by striving to incorporate progressive best practices in all aspects of corrections. NDOC houses nearly 14,000 persons with felony convictions in 18 facilities statewide. For more information visit www.doc.nv.gov.