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Meghin Delaney
Communications Director
CONTACT: pressroom@nvhealthresponse.nv.gov


Carson City, NV — Today, Caleb Cage, Nevada COVID-19 Response Director and Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator of Community Health Services, provided updates on the ongoing COVID-19 response in Nevada during a daily teleconference with members of the media.

This bulletin provides facts, figures, and informational items from the call. As a reminder, data is provided in a dashboard on the home page of the Nevada Health Response website and can be accessed 24 hours a day.

SUMMARY:

- As of today, Nevada has logged 40,885 cases, an increase of 966 cases since yesterday. Of these new cases, 791 or 81.9% were in Clark County, with 124 (12.8%) in Washoe County. The other 51 (5.3%) were spread throughout the State. 13 deaths were also reported.

- Nevada has now completed a total of 537,720 PCR tests since the beginning of COVID-19, an increase of 11,427 since yesterday.

- The cumulative test positivity rate is 9.7%. The daily positivity rate is 11.9%.

- For the most recent 7-day period ending July 23rd, cases are growing at a rate of 3%, or 1,084 new cases per day. For comparison, the
growth rate for the 7-day period ending June 30 was 3.9%, or 644 new cases per day. The growth rate for the 7-day period ending May 31 was 1.4%, or 116 new cases per day.

• In the most recent 7-day period, Nevada tested 14.4/1000 population/week and had an average test positivity of 18.2 percent. This is indicative of high levels of COVID in our community.

• Nevada’s COVID-19 hospitalizations have continued to increase steadily since the middle of June. Intensive care therapies such as mechanical ventilation and high-flow nasal cannula interventions are also rising, however, at a much slower pace with no immediate concern of exceeding ventilator capacity. In Nevada, as with the rest of America, qualified critical care nurses are becoming the skilled professional that is in short supply.

• Nevada has 1,160 hospitalized COVID-19 patients as of yesterday, July 23, 2020. Statewide hospital occupancy rates are 76% while intensive care units (ICU) are at an occupancy rate of 69%. About 41% of the ventilators statewide are in use right now for all patients.

• Since the State’s first case of COVID-19 through yesterday, we have identified 6,454 new COVID-19 cases (40,885) as a result of contact tracing. This represents 16% of the total to date.

• This means that we were able to identify more than 6,000 people who may not have known they were exposed to a positive case, who were then able to get tested and get connected to resources.

• Contact tracers through the State’s contract with Deloitte are working 12 hours a day, seven days a week in Clark County, to complement state and county efforts.
Deloitte agents logged a total of 837 calls as of 8 PM PST on July 23. Of these calls, 91 were inbound and 746 were outbound.

Deloitte’s SMS (text) campaign resulted in 971 total SMS messages sent, with 540 unique outbound communications and a 73% response rate from unique contacts.

- Nevada has been invited to participate in the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS) Pilot testing. Nevada was one of four states accepted to participate in this program.

- This project is designed to develop a COVID-19 vaccination registry that allows for timely and accurate collection of data from our provider community and for reporting and analysis.

- Given the increase in numbers it is extremely important to social distance, wear a mask, not socialize in big groups, and maintain general hygiene and cleanliness.

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