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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** April 30, 2007  
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**NEVADA SUICIDE PREVENTION OFFICE FACILITATOR  
EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION**

**Carson City**—Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Director Mike Willden and Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP) Coordinator Misty Vaughan Allen announced today that Linda Flatt, OSP Trainer and Networking Facilitator, received the Survivor Services Award from the American Association of Suicidology at the organization's 2007 national conference. Flatt, whose son Paul died by suicide in 1993, was honored for her tireless efforts and tremendous accomplishments to improve suicide prevention in Nevada.

A tireless advocate whose mission has been to educate people about suicide prevention measures and assist with support for family members who experience a suicide, Flatt played an instrumental role in passing legislation that led to the creation of a certified statewide suicide prevention hotline, and eventually the Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention.

In her position with OPS, Flatt has collaborated in the development of numerous training presentations, including "Preventing Suicide: Saving Lives One Community at a Time." She is also the chairwoman of the Nevada Coalition for Suicide Prevention.

"We are honored to work with Linda, someone whose inner strength helps drive our enthusiasm and who has such a positive influence on our communities," Allen said.

The mission of the Office of Suicide Prevention is to reduce the rates of suicide and suicidal acts in Nevada through statewide collaborative efforts to develop, implement and evaluate a state strategy that advances the goals and objectives of the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention. For more information on suicide prevention, go to <http://dhhs.nv.gov/SuicidePrevention.htm>.

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