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Division of Public and Behavioral Health NEWS RELEASE

Division of Public and Behavioral Health Awarded Up To \$4,000,000 From the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Carson City --The Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) recently received notification of this four year award for Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT). This is a service-delivery model directed toward individuals with serious mental illness who are in need of supervision to safely maintain and live in their communities. The funding will allow this program to be expanded to other service areas in Nevada.

"A central component of AOT is the establishment of a written outpatient treatment plan which is then presented to the court to obtain court orders for approved individuals to receive outpatient treatment," said Cody Phinney, DPBH Administrator. "AOT services include medication management and support; mental health treatment; housing support; and other services (e.g., transportation, vocational, substance abuse treatment)."

Criteria for admission to the AOT program includes:

- Individuals 18 years of age or older
- The individual has been diagnosed with a mental illness pursuant to NRS 433A.115 to NRS 433A.330.
- Individuals have a history of noncompliance with treatment.
- Individuals can live safely in the community with supervision.
- Court-ordered treatment would prevent the person's illness from worsening. The worsening of the individual's mental illness would result in harm to self or others.
- Individuals are unable to make an informed decision to seek treatment or to voluntarily comply with recommended treatment.
- The proposed program of treatment (AOT) is the least restrictive available based on the needs of the individual.
- The needed services are available in the community where the person resides.

This was a competitive process in which 15 grants were awarded. To access the grant announcement go to <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-16-011>.

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