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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Department of Health, New Mexico Rehabilitation Center celebrate National Rehabilitation Awareness Week

*Roswell-based facility has served southeast New Mexico since 1968*

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Rehabilitation Center (NMRC), operated by the New Mexico Department of Health in Roswell, commemorate National Rehabilitation Awareness Week this September 19-25 in celebration of the hard-won achievements of patients present and past and recognition of the facility’s highly skilled rehabilitation team.

“Most Americans require at least one rehabilitation service at some point in their lives, and statistics show that medical rehabilitation improves lives and saves money” said Acting Department of Health **Secretary David R. Scrase, M.D.** “Every dollar spent proactively for rehab care increases the chances to save money on long-term disability costs. People participating in rehabilitation programs of care have greater potential to regain productivity and return to work, school and independent living.”

National Rehabilitation Awareness Week is a time to acknowledge the many benefits that can arise from rehab programs. It highlights the positive impact that these services make in the lives of people in need.

The NMRC is the only acute inpatient rehab facility in Roswell and the surrounding area, and while it is focused is on accepting patients from within the southeast part of the state, it accepts patients across New Mexico and occasionally outside the state.

The level of care at NMRC is very different to that found in acute hospitals or skilled nursing facilities; it provides the most intensive level of therapy possible to help get people back home after events such as stroke, spinal cord injury, or broken bones. In addition, NMRC has a unit specifically for treating substance use disorders.

Patients stay onsite, and participate in three or more hours of one-on-one, customized physical or speech therapy (at least 5 days/week for between 1-3 weeks

usually) directed solely at getting them ready to go back to their homes and lives. A family member can stay with their loved one and participate in therapy – helping make sure that everyone is ready to be discharged home, not just the patient.

The New Mexico Rehabilitation Center is located at 72 Gail Harris in Roswell. For more information on services, call (575) 347-3400 or visit online <https://prod.nmhealth.org/about/ofm/lcf/nmrc/>.

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## **NMDOH**

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The Department of Health works to promote health and wellness, improve health outcomes, and deliver services to all New Mexicans. As New Mexico's largest state agency, DOH offers public health services in all 33 counties and collaborates with 23 Native American tribes, Pueblos and nations.