

## **MEDICAL SERVICES EXPAND FOR NORTHERN NYE COUNTY RESIDENTS**

*New services on the way thanks to collaborative efforts between Northern Nye County Hospital District and two Reno-based Care Providers*

**RENO, Nev. (Mar. 27, 2018)** – In a continued effort to provide access to critical health care services for Tonopah and the surrounding area, Northern Nye County Hospital District is excited to announce two collaborations that will expand services in the area.

The Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) and Renown Health have both entered into agreements with the Northern Nye County Hospital District for a phased expansion of services over the next year.

“The Northern Nye County Hospital District is proud to collaborate with REMSA and Renown to expand on the much-needed services for the thousands of residents in central Nevada,” said Justin Zimmerman, a Northern Nye County Hospital District Board Trustee. “Together, we are innovating rural healthcare delivery, creating new ways for residents to access medical care while preserving their local, independent way of life.”

REMSA has recently launched an exclusive phone number for the Nurse Health Line for Northern Nye County residents, 775-482-3377. The free, 24/7 call-in line is staffed with registered nurses providing assessment, care recommendations and/or referrals to appropriate health care or community services. Northern Nye County residents are encouraged to call the Nurse Health Line for illnesses, injuries and symptoms including a sore throat, minor burns, arm or leg pain/injury, cough/cold/flu symptoms, falls, vomiting, rash, low fever, minor pains, sprains/strains, earaches and nosebleeds. However, people should continue to call 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Future phases of the REMSA expansion will include locally-based, 24/7 Community Paramedics, as well as community wellness and public education initiatives.

Renown, in partnership with the Northern Nye County Hospital District, will be expanding on the care already being provided to residents since it opened the medical group in June 2016 at the former Nye Regional Medical Center, 825 S. Main Street.

Primary and specialty care services using telehealth technology were initially offered, with more than 1,500 appointments in the medical office last year. The medical group later expanded to include lab and x-ray, with more than 700 appointments in 2017 for these services.

Medical office hours have recently expanded to 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Urgent care and occupational health services have also been added to Renown’s Telehealth offering, including drug and alcohol testing, as well as treatment and follow-up after a work-related incident.

Plans to expand care will include adding additional telehealth services based on the needs of the community, increasing testing and treatment capacity, and evaluation of hiring an on-site provider. These are in addition to the quarterly visits by a doctor already available.

“The Hospital District is excited to be a part of the ongoing effort to help community partners offer the best care possible to our residents,” said Zimmerman. “This care model can serve as an example to rural communities across the country by providing critical access to healthcare services so people don’t have to travel hundreds of miles for care.”

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### **About REMSA**

REMSA is a high-performance, private, locally-governed, non-profit healthcare organization and emergency medical services agency serving northern Nevada since 1986. Through an exclusive franchise agreement, REMSA provides Washoe County’s 420,000 residents with 24/7 ALS and ILS ground ambulance services. REMSA also encompasses

Care Flight, a regional helicopter, airplane and ground critical care transport service; Care Flight also operates Care Flight Ground in Plumas County. REMSA offers a Nevada-licensed, post-secondary educational institution, a state-of-the-art, fully accredited 9-1-1 dispatch communications center, a Tactical Emergency Medical Support team and special events EMS teams. REMSA and Care Flight are [Always Ready](#).

### **About Renown Health**

Renown Health is a locally governed and locally owned, not-for-profit integrated healthcare network serving a 17-county region comprised of northern Nevada, Lake Tahoe and northeast California. Renown is one of the region's largest private employers with a workforce of more than 6,700. It comprises three acute care hospitals, a rehabilitation hospital, skilled nursing, the area's most comprehensive medical group and urgent care network, and the region's largest and only locally owned not-for-profit insurance company, Hometown Health. Renown has a long tradition of being the first in the region to successfully perform leading-edge medical procedures. For more information, visit [renown.org](http://renown.org).

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