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AMERIGROUP NEVADA GIFT SUPPORTS UNLV SCHOOL OF MEDICINE'S GOAL TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO CARE FOR SOUTHERN NEVADA CHILDREN

LAS VEGAS – May 10, 2016 – Amerigroup Nevada President Eric Lloyd presented UNLV School of Medicine Founding Dean Dr. Barbara Atkinson, with a \$15,000 gift to improve access to health care services at several Clark County School District school-based health care centers (SBHCs).

"We know that when children don't receive regular access to care, their health often suffers, and when they're sick, it impacts their health and ultimately their ability to be in the classroom learning," said Lloyd. "This is why Amerigroup Nevada is proud to work with UNLV School of Medicine to enhance its community outreach, clinical and medical education of its future pediatricians to increase access to health care services, such as acute care, well visits and sports physicals for Clark County School District (CCSD) children," added Lloyd.

Currently, there are about a dozen SBHCs in the Clark County that offer a range of services for low-income and underserved children, such as primary and preventive medical screenings, immunizations, sports physicals and treatments for common illnesses and minor injuries.

The University of Nevada School of Medicine (UNSOM) Department of Pediatrics currently staffs four of these clinics with residents who are training to become pediatricians under faculty supervision. In July 2017, the UNSOM Department of Pediatrics in Las Vegas and its residency program, will transition to UNLV School of Medicine.

"The UNLV School of Medicine hopes to lead the way in improving access to health care for Medicaid and underserved populations – it's one of the medical school's core missions," says Dr. Tracey Green, vice dean for clinical affairs, UNLV School of Medicine. The medical school wants to have a more visible presence at SBHCs and to offer comprehensive health care services, including prevention, primary care and behavioral health. Long-term, the medical school would like to expand the services offered to include dental and vision care; and to increase the number of SBHCs in the state."

This unique partnership provides Clark County' students access to quality health care services, from UNSOM and soon -- UNLV School of Medicine's future physicians. CCSD SBHC's are typically located at schools located in communities that have been impacted by economic challenges. SBHCs reduce barriers to care for students by facilitating access to sports physicals and wellness exams, which provide preventative care and keep them from going without treatment for common health problems.

"UNLV School of Medicine aims to integrate the care provided at SBHCs into each child's network of care. That way, the SBHC will not be an isolated entity but will be part of a coordinated network,

working with primary care physicians or helping children get connected to the care they need. “We want to be proactive, not reactive with our children’s health care,” emphasized Dr. Green.

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Amerigroup Nevada helps improve health care access and quality for approximately 185,000 low-income Nevadans by developing innovative care management programs and services. Members are assured care that is not only accessible, but also accountable, comprehensive, integrated and patient-centered. Amerigroup Nevada provides ongoing community relations and outreach to encourage members to become active participants in their health care. Through health education programs, members are empowered to choose and sustain a healthy lifestyle.

UNLV is a doctoral-degree-granting institution of approximately 29,000 students and more than 3,000 faculty and staff that is classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a research university with high research activity. UNLV offers a broad range of respected academic programs and is on a path to join the top tier of national public research universities. The university is committed to recruiting and retaining top students and faculty, educating the region's diversifying population and workforce, driving economic activity through increased research and community partnerships, and creating an academic health center for Southern Nevada that includes the launch of a new School of Medicine. UNLV is located on a 332-acre main campus and two satellite campuses in Southern Nevada. Learn more at UNLV.edu

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