



REHABILITATION HOSPITAL
OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO

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Press Release

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REHABILITATION HOSPITAL OF SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO CELEBRATES NATIONAL AWARENESS REHABILITATION WEEK

Las Cruces, NM September 15, 2005: The Rehabilitation Hospital of Southern New Mexico has announced activities for the 2005 National Rehabilitation Awareness Celebration during the week of September 19 through 24. RHSNM joins the National Rehabilitation Awareness Foundation and more than 6,500 facilities nationwide in observing the occasion.

The week is designed to promote the value of rehabilitation, highlight the capabilities of people with disabilities, and to salute the professionals who provide service to people with disabilities. Nearly 50 million Americans are disabled. The National Rehabilitation Awareness Foundation reports that most Americans will require at least one rehabilitation service at some point in their lives.

Activities for the week include a community presentation on Thursday at 10:00 am at the Rehabilitation Hospital of Southern New Mexico by Dr. Kevin Brown, the hospital's Medical Director. Dr. Brown is a physiatrist, which is a physician who specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation. The public is invited to attend this informative presentation regarding what rehabilitation can mean to someone who has lost functional capabilities as the result of an illness or an injury. For more information on the community presentation or on touring the facility, please call 505-521-6400.

. Since opening in January 2005, RHSNM has provided acute inpatient rehabilitation services to more than 300 patients, and outpatient services to almost 500 patients in the Southern New Mexico area. At the end of August, RHSNM successfully completed their first accreditation survey and are now fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

RHSNM is a state-of-the-art, free-standing rehabilitation hospital with 40 private patient rooms, a 6,000 square foot therapy gym, aquatic therapy pool, therapy courtyard, multiple day rooms, activities of daily living suite and a transitional suite for patient and family education. More information is available on our website at www.ernesthealth.com/RHSNM. END