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NEWS RELEASE

Nevada Rural RSVP aims to increase dementia awareness in Pahrump

A campaign to tackle the stigma and lack of understanding around dementia is underway with the support of the Nevada Rural Counties RSVP Program (RSVP).

RSVP is hosting a ‘Dementia Friends’ Information Session on March 26, 2020 and is looking for local community members, RSVP volunteers, those living with dementia, along with their caregivers to join in learning about dementia and helping people who are living with dementia in our community. The session will take place at the Pahrump Community Library, 701 East St., Pahrump, 2:30– 4:00 pm.

RSVP is a valued partner in the Dementia Friendly Nevada Initiative. RSVP’s Independent Living Programs such as transportation and respite care, are an essential service connection that aligns with this Initiative – which aims to develop and promote communities that are **informed, safe, respectful** and **inclusive** of persons living with dementia and their care partners.

Dementia Friends is the biggest ever initiative to change people’s perceptions of dementia. It aims to transform the way we think, talk and act about the disease. The Dementia Friends session helps you learn about dementia and the small ways you can help. From telling friends about the program to visiting someone you know living with dementia, every action counts.

According to the Alzheimer’s Association’s, there are approximately 45,000 individuals living with dementia in Nevada. By the year 2025, that number is projected to increase by 42% to 64,000 people.

“I signed up to be a Dementia Friends Champion because I want to help people understand that people living with dementia are not to be feared or excluded. They are still a part of the community and society, have much to share and contribute, and should be valued and treated with respect just like any other person. I’m now proud to be part of a growing network of people and organizations creating dementia friendly communities together,” said Susan Haas, RSVP Executive Director & C.E.O.

Anyone interested in attending the FREE ‘Dementia Friends’ Session should contact Tonya Brum, RSVP Nye County Field Representative, at (702) 845-4748 or pahrump@nvrsvp.com. Please RSVP as space is limited.