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## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **No Cost Vasectomies Offered by Clark County Health District's Family Planning Clinic**

(Las Vegas, Nev. – December 13, 1999) – Clark County Health District's Family Planning Clinic currently has funding to offer approximately 30 free vasectomies to men who meet income requirements. Funding for this program was received in the form of a grant from Title X of the Public Health Service Act, and men interested in this method of family planning must be signed up before December 31, 1999.

According to Arlene Carter, clinic supervisor, "Vasectomy is the surgical method of family planning for men. It is a safe and effective option for any man who is sure that they do not want to father children in the future." Carter goes on to state that the sterilization procedure for men is easier, safer and less expensive than the woman's operation.

Anyone considering the operation should consult with his partner, and the consent for sterilization cannot be obtained if the applicant is under the influence of

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alcohol or other substances that affect their state of awareness. The consent form must be signed at least 30 days before the operation and the applicant may change his mind at any time. These conditions are enforced in order to ensure that all applicants understand the sterilization process and that they freely choose to have this operation.

In addition to this service the Health District's Family Planning Clinic offers counseling on temporary family planning methods such as oral contraceptives, prophylactics, and natural family planning. Additional services include breast exams, testicular exams and sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing and treatment. For more information on the free vasectomy program or a complete listing of services offer by the Family Planning Clinic call 383-1315.

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