

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## NURSTEAD CONSULTING CONTRACTED TO PROVIDE FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING

Law Enforcement, Fire, and EMS to receive Mental Health Crisis Intervention Training

Clovis, New Mexico - The New Mexico Department of Health Office of Injury & Violence Prevention has contracted Nurstead Consulting Services to provide crisis intervention training sessions open to all first responders at the local, state, and federal level within the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of New Mexico.

The intention of this training is to train first responders to more effectively respond to and intervene in mental health crises they encounter in the course of their work. "Our greatest hope is we can assist our first responders in changing the current status of crisis level interactions they encounter," said Nurstead CEO, Justin Nutt. Additionally, in partnership with the New Mexico Suicide Prevention Coalition, this course will include training connected to first responder trauma and suicide prevention. Nurstead Consulting Services is in the process of establishing three sets of training dates with these departments to meet the need of the departments to be involved in this project.

Crisis Intervention Training is a specialized training that is designed to reduce risk and increase safety of officers and individuals while interacting with community members experiencing a mental health crisis. Crisis Intervention Training teaches first responders the signs and symptoms on mental health, substance use, developmental delay, and other cognitive conditions which could lead to crisis situations. This 40-hour course trains first responders to identify when these conditions are present and to respond in an effective way via de-escalation to ensure the best outcome for community members and first responders. The projected outcomes of these trainings are improved outcomes for individuals in crisis, improved relations between community members and law enforcement, and reduced arrests of individuals in mental health crisis.

## About Nurstead Consulting Services

Nurstead Consulting Services is a behavioral health consulting and training firm based in Clovis, New Mexico. Nurstead Consulting Services' focus in training is on mental health, substance use, ethics, leadership, and wellness, and provides training to a wide array of first responders, clinical staff, and business sectors. Nurstead Consulting Services also performs direct service in behavioral health with a focus on crisis response and has responded to some of the largest crisis events of the past decade.