



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**NURSTEAD OPENS WARMING CENTER TO HELP COMBAT WINTER COLD**

Clovis, New Mexico – Nurstead Mental Health & Consulting Services announced Monday January 22, 2024 that they would open and operate a Warming Center in Clovis to assist individuals that are homeless, without heat, and in need of a place to get warm and sleep safely. A warming center is a short-term emergency shelter that operates when temperatures or a combination of precipitation, wind chill, wind and temperature become dangerously inclement. Their paramount purpose is the prevention of death and injury from exposure to the elements.

Nurstead CEO Justin Nutt was in attendance with other community organizations and Emergency Management Monday in connection with the possibilities of warming centers and later said in a briefing “it needed done, we have the capability, and that meant we had the responsibility to do more than talk about what we might do and open the doors.” Nurstead Mental Health & Consulting Services began providing Mobile Crisis Services to Roosevelt and Curry County in August of 2023 and began Drop-In Center services in November of 2023 and began operating a local Crisis Access Line the first week of December of 2023. In reference to the less than 24-hour timeframe of activation, Nutt stated “it is a natural progression to add this when needed, we were scheduled to go to 24-hour operation on February 1, but there was a current need, and no need to wait with our staff fully supporting the project.”

Nurstead’s Drop-In Center is open 24-hours a day and accessible by any individual at no cost and the sleeping area of the warming center is open between the hours of 8:00 pm and 6:00 am. Individuals accessing the Drop-In Center have free case management services available to assist with applying for benefits, finding employment, obtaining birth certificates and drivers license, finding sustainable housing and many other basic services as well as crisis counseling.

**About Nurstead Mental Health & Consulting Services**

Nurstead Consulting Services is a behavioral health consulting and training firm based in Clovis, New Mexico. Nurstead Consulting Services’ training focus is in topics such as 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. Nurstead Mental Health is the direct service arm of Nurstead Consulting Services, which operates mobile crisis team services in Roosevelt and Curry County, mental health services locally, and addiction treatment options which are offered statewide.