



Nevada H.A.N.D., Inc.

Housing And Neighborhood Development

For Immediate Release

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Richard's Quest To Walk The Mile

Veteran walks in Great Santa Run after surviving car accident that left him paralyzed

LAS VEGAS, NEV – Nov. 29, 2011 – On Saturday, December 3 Richard 'Rick' Constantine will join a multitude of suited Santas during the 1 mile Kris Kringle Jingle walk, as part of the Las Vegas Great Santa Run at Town Square.

"I've learned two things through all of this: first and for most, is never give up and the second is you're never too old to learn," said Rick Constantine, a U.S. Air Force veteran and resident at Horizon Pines Senior Apartments. "I've been right-handed all my life and I have to write left-handed now," he said.

Rick was involved in a head on collision in July 2008. This crash left him paralyzed on the right side of his body. Doctors said he would recover after surgery and physical therapy, but just a few months after the accident Rick's colon ruptured and he was bedridden until mid-2009.

Doctors told Rick he would not survive after several life threatening colon surgeries, but he persevered and was able to get around with the help of a wheelchair. Rick was advised to move into a nursing home, but he was determined to prove that he could take care of himself. Rick moved to Horizon Pines Senior Apartments, a senior independent living community, in July 2010.

"The first day that I moved in I had to learn to cook and clean, and do everything one handed because I'm paralyzed in my right hand," said Constantine.

Nevada HAND's Resident Services Coordinators worked together with Rick and ensured he was able to attend therapy three times a week at HealthSouth Rehab Hospital in Henderson. He started out in the aquatics therapy swimming pool and then moved on to treadmill therapy. "I've beaten all the doctors' odds, they said I would never recover or do anything," he said.

Rick's doctors and therapists will walk the mile by his side. His family, friends and fellow neighbors from Horizon Pines will also be there to cheer him on.



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“Nevada HAND is proud to have a resident like Rick Constantine. He is a true inspiration to our community”, said Susan Markham, Resident Services Manager at Nevada H.A.N.D., Inc.

About Nevada H.A.N.D. Inc.

Formed in 1993, Nevada H.A.N.D., Inc. is a non-profit corporation with the mission to improve the lives of low-income individuals by providing affordable housing solutions and supportive services. In pursuit of this mission, Nevada HAND has grown into a full service real estate development company with the ability to design, develop, finance, construct, and manage affordable housing for rent.

As a Nevada-based non-profit organization and HUD-certified Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO), Nevada HAND finances its developments by using funds from the Nevada Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program, HOME and Low-Income Trust Fund Program, and the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco’s Affordable Housing Program. For more information about Nevada H.A.N.D., Inc., visit www.nevadahand.org

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