



## ***News Release***

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority (NARBHA) is working with Little Colorado Behavioral Health Centers (LCBHC) to provide support to the Wallow Fire as more communities in eastern Arizona evacuate.

NARBHA staff traveled over to Springerville on Tuesday to provide manpower and administrative support to LCBHC as the clinic relocated operations from Eager and Springerville to its St. Johns office.

Approximately 300 members receiving behavioral health services from LCBHC were identified in the affected area. During a staff meeting at noon on Tuesday, LCBHC reported that all members in the affected area had been contacted by their clinical liaisons and evacuation safety plans were already in place. Clinical staff at LCBHC helped many members move their belongings and families to safer locations earlier in the week. "LCBHC is completely impressive with their outreach and planning for their members, I am proud to be a part of the efforts here in Springerville," reported NARBHA Crisis Manager, Trever Davis.

Now with a mandatory evacuation in progress in Eager and Springerville, NARBHA and LCBHC staff remain in Springerville to provide crisis management and debriefing to the fire crews and first responders for the Wallow Fire. Christina Mencuccini, Director of Communications/PIO for NARBHA, explains the need to provide continued community support, "We know that our members and staff are safe, now we are here to serve the crews for their safety and wellbeing. Our support will help crews to work effectively and not breakdown from the mental exhaustion that an event like this often brings on to even the strongest of persons."

"We are here to help in any way we can and provide the assistance, not only during the fire, but for a long time after to help people recover and rebuild emotionally" pledged Susan Morley, NARBHA Deputy Director. NARBHA will continue to support LCBHC with staff and administrative resources until this event is over.

For more information, please contact Christina Mencuccini, NARBHA Director of Communications/PIO, at 928-380-4004 or [christina.mencuccini@narbha.org](mailto:christina.mencuccini@narbha.org).