FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HAYDEN, ID – Panhandle Health District (PHD) is celebrating the first graduate from Idaho’s Nurse-Family Partnership program. Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) pairs low-income, first-time mothers with a trained nurse, who coaches and counsels them throughout the pregnancy and until their child’s second birthday. Nurses mentor the young mothers – encouraging them to finish their educations, apply for better-paying jobs and set themselves on a path to financial stability, so they can support their families.

Danielle Addy from Shoshone County became the first NFP graduate in the state of Idaho. With the program’s help, Addy and her son got themselves into a steady apartment, she has
two jobs and is working towards become an RN. She is now a confident mother of a
beautiful, healthy boy.

“Back when I was pregnant, I couldn’t have imagined this. I truly can’t put value on the
experience and knowledge my nurse, Diana, has given me. It’s priceless. There’s still a lot to
learn, but I know that I am on the right track and that I’m the best advocate for my family,”
Addy said.

Nurse Family Partnership allows the nurses to develop long-term relationships with the
mothers, working with each client for over two years. During a typical visit, they measure
Addy’s son and track his milestones, even while he was still in the womb. They discussed
challenges from baby blues and breastfeeding to getting rid of diaper rash.

“All mothers want the best for their children, said Nurse Diana, who calls this the best job
she’s ever had. “This program enables them to see their strengths and use them in
parenting. I’ve seen clients who are in abusive relationships and I try to help them find
resources to be safe. Others need help finding work or transportation or someone to point
them to good child care.”

NFP is one the most rigorously tested programs of its kind. Randomized controlled trials
conducted over the past 35 years demonstrate multi-generational outcomes for families
and their communities. Mothers and children who have participated in the program have
consistently demonstrated significantly improved prenatal health, fewer subsequent
pregnancies, increased maternal employment, improved child school readiness, reduced
involvement in crime, and less child abuse, neglect and injuries.

Currently, the program is managed through the Panhandle Health District with 3 staff
members, but increasing demand has left 15 women in need on a waiting list to get paired
with a nurse. Two additional nurses will be joining the team in North Idaho in the coming
months. This will allow the program to reach 100 local women at any given time.

Referrals to Nurse-Family partnership are encouraged. For more information on how to
apply for the program, call (208) 415-5298 or visit our website.

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