

**Office of the District Health Officer
District Health Officer Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: April 24, 2025**

DATE: April 17, 2025
TO: District Board of Health
FROM: Dr. Chad Kingsley, District Health Officer
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SUBJECT: **District Health Officer Report** - Northern Nevada Public Health
Communications Update, Accreditation, Quality Improvement, Workforce
Development, Community Health Improvement Program, Equity
Projects/Collaborations, Community Events, Public Communications and
Outreach.

DHO Overview

Current Update:

Due to the nature of public health, the District Health Officer may provide updates on subject matter that affects local, state, and national interests regarding issues deemed important to NNPH and the DBOH. The scope of NNPH Public Health can be located here www.nnph.org.

Performance Measures Narrative Highlights:

- Continued weekly Federal correlations with national partners (NACCHO, ASTHO, APHA). It has evolved that a grass-roots network of information is more productive nationally than reliance on Federal partners.
- AGC held its Building Contractor community correlation meeting.
- Presented to UNR School of Public Health for seminar PBH 320.
- Completed UNR School of Medicine adjunct authorization to be able to present and coordinate with medical students and faculty.
- Presented to Reno City Council for bi-annual NNPH report.
- Attended and testified at several NV legislative sessions.
- Attended REMSA Health Board; partially excluded for closed session.
- REMSA's Health Board held annual strategic planning; DHO was excluded due to changing the format to a closed session.
- Completed CPR recertification.

DHO Performance Measures:

Performance Measure	Metric	Mar 2025 Total
1. Effective Relationships	Number of strategic partnerships engaged	18
2. Communication	Number of internal/external emailed (sent) communications	225
3. Community Engagement	Number of community meetings/forums attended	11
4. Effective Representation	Number of public health activities advocated or supported.	12
5. Personal Development	Hours spent on professional development	10
6. Leadership	Number of staff leadership or mentorship activities conducted	27
7. Strategic Decision-Making	Number of engagement activities for strategic initiatives	14
8. Crisis Management	Number of crisis response or emergency preparedness actions	3
9. Policy/Program/Budget Implementation	Number of public health programs evaluated	6
Standard Practices		
Total Hours		194
Excess Hours (>160)		34
PTO		0
Sick-Time		0
Holiday		0

Communications & Public Information

In March, Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) garnered significant media attention around key public health issues. Measles prevention dominated the month's coverage, with over a dozen regional media outlets – including KOLO, KRNV, KTVN, RGJ, and Univision – highlighting NNPH's calls for vaccination amid rising national cases.

NNPH partnered with Renown Children's Hospital for a press conference, and staff members appeared on multiple platforms, including Que Buena Reno and KOLO, to educate the public. Coverage also included responses to respiratory virus trends, food safety violations, and behavioral health funding initiatives. Notable stories involved school exclusion policies for unvaccinated students and closures of establishments due to health code violations.

In addition, NNPH issued four press releases and received 26 media inquiries, spanning topics such as tuberculosis, hantavirus, immunization records, and food inspection transparency. Community engagement was strong, with NNPH staff participating in interviews on sexual health and youth vaping.

Accreditation

Staff are working with the Public Health Accreditation Board team to schedule the organization's site visit in July of 2025. The dates will be shared as the team receives more information.

Workforce Development

The Workforce Development team and Communications team have wrapped up their "Introduction to NNPH" video featuring NNPH senior leadership and division directors. The video highlights each NNPH division's key functions and their role in furthering NNPH's mission. This short movie will now be a part of the new employee onboarding experience, with new employees watching the film and immediately after meeting senior leaders face to face for an informal Q & A session. The WFD team created this new workshop to better orient employees to the functions of the health district, particularly since many NNPH employees do not come from a public health background, and to streamline the delivery of information consistently. This video is a component of the QI project designed to improve the new employee onboarding experience.

Quality Improvement

The Quality Improvement Council is actively exploring strategies to enhance the organization's utilization of performance management data to support informed decision-making for program and service improvements. To support this effort, the team has been provided with tools from the performance management system to begin learning the fundamentals of data-driven decision-making. The goal is to empower team members to play an active role in helping their respective divisions identify and implement process improvements.

Staff continue looking for ways to improve program outcomes and daily workflows using the NNPH QI Plan framework. Most recently, the Air Quality Management Division submitted a QI proposal to "develop an automated process with the goal of getting 100% annual permit maintenance fees paid within 45 days of invoicing." This new process will decrease the amount of staff time and resources AQM currently spends working on the invoice process. Throughout the course of last year, AQM collected on average approximately 87% of stationary source permit maintenance fees within the 45-day target range. The division aims for a 100% rate stemming from the improved data collection, data management, and general automation this QI effort will bring.

Community Health Improvement Plan

Family Health Festival- The Family Health Festival committee is proud to announce festival times and locations for 2025 as shown in the attached Save the Date flier. NNPH will play a leading role facilitating the FHF committee to ensure events are structured to improve the community's access to health services.

5210 Healthy Washoe- The 5210 team recently presented the 5-2-1-0 messaging to parents, families, and students at Donner Springs Elementary, a new school participating in the program. In the new school year, the team plans to further their engagement with the school through family engagement events to increase awareness of Healthy Eating and Active Lifestyle activities.

Financial Literacy- Two Financial Literacy Classes were held with 18 participants from the Women's and Children's Center of the Sierra. Post-survey results indicate positive outcomes, with participants reporting increased confidence in managing their finances, planning for the future, and a shift in their mindset about money.

Fresh Connect (NEW to the CHIP)- The project team has initiated outreach to local farmers to establish partnerships for becoming an approved site for Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada's WIC participants to utilize their vouchers to obtain produce from July to September. Additionally, discussions are in progress to define the invoice reimbursement process between the agency and local farmers, and the project team is finalizing procedures for the program to ensure WIC participants are able to regularly access more fruits and vegetables.

Staff Transfers/Promotions/Resignations

Pia Braunstein – Promoted from Public Health Nurse I to Public Health Nurse II – CCHS 3/13/25

Ryan Vogler – Promoted from Air Quality Trainee to Air Quality Specialist – AQM 3/27/25

Alexander Messinger-Patton – Promoted from Air Quality Trainee to Air Quality Specialist – AQM 3/27/25

Christina Sheppard – Promoted from Nurse Practitioner Supervisor to Division Director of CCHS – 4/21/25

Donna Wainscoat – Promoted from Public Health Nurse I to Public Health Nurse II – CCHS – 4/24/25

Lissa Callahan – Statistician – EPHP – resigned effective 3/1/25