

**Community and Clinical Health Services
Division Director Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024**

DATE: November 4, 2024

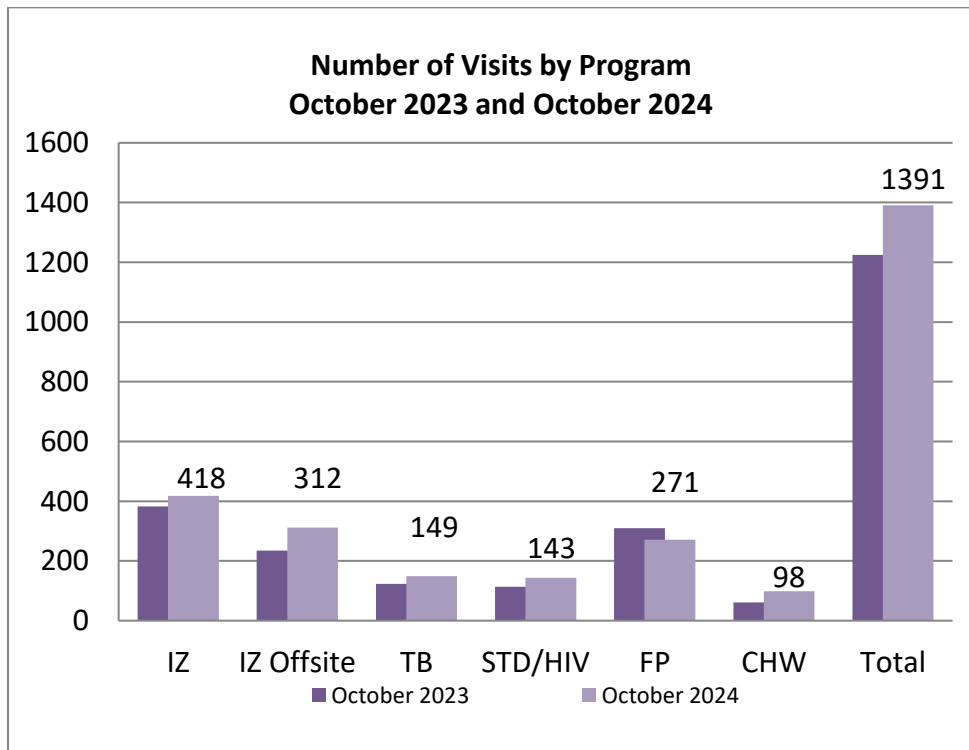
TO: District Board of Health

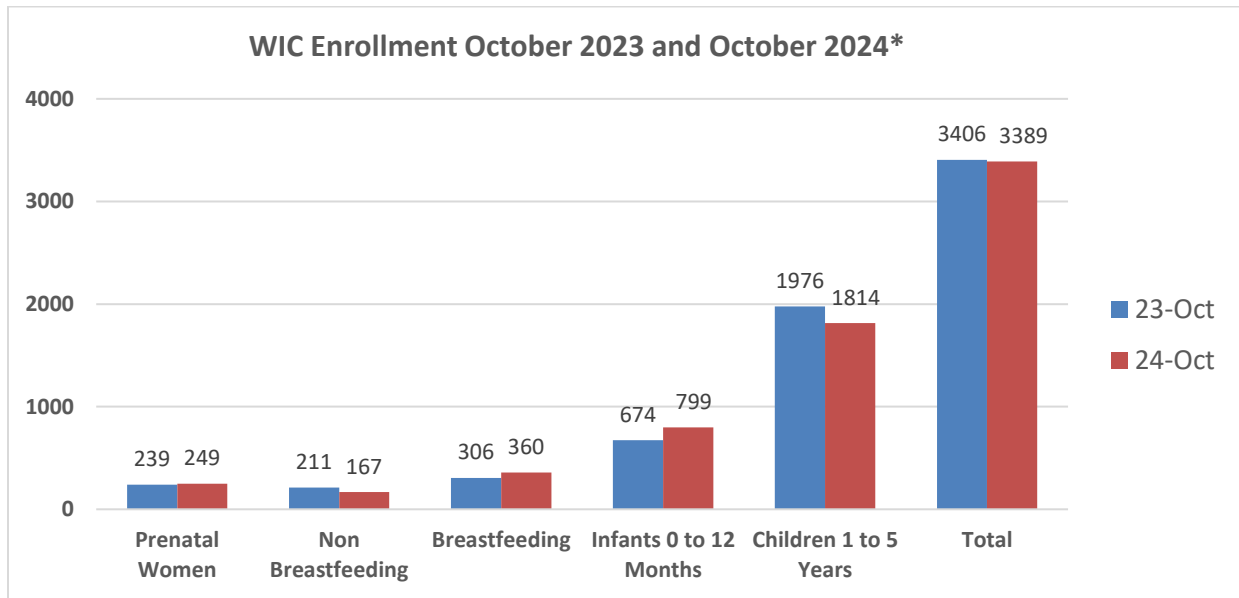
FROM: Lisa Lottritz, RN, MPH
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SUBJECT: Community and Clinical Health Services – Divisional Update – Data & Metrics; Sexual Health (Outreach and Disease Investigation), Immunizations, Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program, Reproductive and Sexual Health Services, Chronic Disease Injury Prevention Program, Maternal Child and Adolescent Health, Women Infants and Children, and Community Health Workers

1. Divisional Update

a. Data/Metrics





*Changes in data can be attributed to several factors including fluctuations in community demand, changes in staffing and changes in scope of work/grant deliverables

WIC Participation Numbers Past 12 months		
Month	Enrollment	Participation w/ Benefits
Oct 2023	3406	3020
Nov 2023	3408	3031
Dec 2023	3415	2908
January 2024	3357	3076
Feb 2024	3328	3103
March 2024	3342	3114
April 2024	3342	3114
May 2024	3395	3152
June 2024	3335	3091
July 2024	3342	3117
Aug 2024	3395	3179
Sept 2024	3399	3139
Oct 2024	3389	3124
Monthly avg	3371	3096
% change Oct 2023 / Oct 2024	-0.50%	3.44%

WIC participation numbers

Enrollment: All those enrolled in WIC: (women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or post-partum; infants; and children up through age 5)

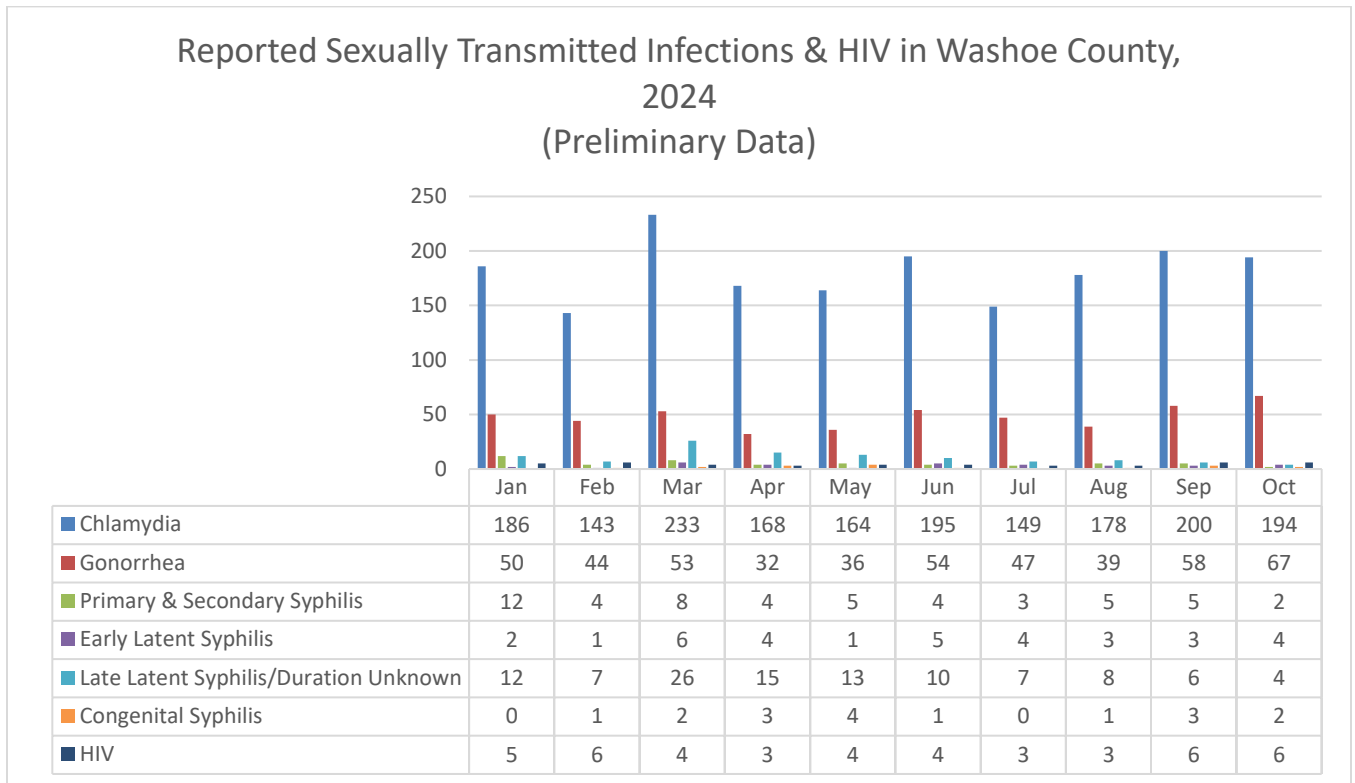
Participation with Benefits: All enrolled WIC participants receive food benefits except

- Infants that are exclusively breastfed
- Breastfeeding mothers whose infants receive more than 4 cans of formula per month

2. Program Reports – Outcomes and Activities

- a. **Sexual Health (Outreach and Disease Investigation)** – With the support of a donation from United Healthcare, the program is developing a media campaign focused on syphilis and congenital syphilis. In addition, provider education is being conducted through the initiation of a syphilis taskforce for Washoe County. The first meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2024, and stakeholders from across the community will be invited. The donation also provides incentives for pregnant syphilis cases and their sexual contacts to complete treatment. This project will continue until September 2025.

Preliminary data for October 2024 indicates the same trends among cases as have been reported in previous months.



- b. **Immunizations** – The immunization team focuses on providing vaccines to individuals who are uninsured or underinsured and unable to receive vaccines elsewhere. Walk-ins are accepted daily in addition to established appointments. In October, staff vaccinated a total of 350 clients with 893 vaccination doses. To reflect the start of respiratory season, the program began offering seasonal 24-25 influenza and COVID-19 vaccines and the RSV product for infants; 161 influenza, 140 COVID, and six RSV doses were administered. The team noted an increase in appointments and

clients, requiring the addition of several clinic shifts. Staff serve as community vaccine experts for provider education regarding vaccine storage and handling, vaccine inventory, and address special medical and employee vaccine cases. In October, the program immunized seven NNPH employees to meet routine job requirements and another 45 employees to accommodate seasonal influenza and COVID workforce protections.

In October, there were multiple vaccine events in which staff provided vaccines to over 300 clients, 116 were at the EPHP/Immunizations COVID/ Flu POD Exercise in partnership with United Healthcare, MRC, and Unitek School of Nursing. Outreach teams provided 27 influenza and COVID vaccines to 21 clients at Carrington College, 60 vaccines to 30 clients at Children's Cabinet, 121 vaccines to 83 clients the Family Health Festival, 19 vaccines to nine clients at Our Center, and 91 vaccines to 53 clients during the Neil Road Mobile Harvest.

Outreach events continue through November, including Mobile Harvest, Neil Road Community Health Resource Fair, Gerlach Flu/ COVID, and Northern Nevada Dental Health Program events. Advertising and social media reels were developed to emphasize the importance of annual COVID and influenza vaccinations and will continue through 2024.

The team is actively involved with Nevada State Immunization Program (NSIP) required activities for 2024-2025 VFC (Vaccines for Children) and 317 Provider Compliance, as well as IQIP (Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers).

Program staff continue the development, case management, and reporting activities for the Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Program (PHBPP) with 13 cases currently under management.

- c. **Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program** - The World Health Organization recently published a report on Tuberculosis, and it revealed that approximately 8.2 million people worldwide were newly diagnosed with TB in 2023, the highest number ever recorded. Tuberculosis has resurged as the top infectious disease killer.

The TB program is currently managing two cases of active TB disease. In addition to the active disease cases, the program is currently managing/evaluating over 44 clients for Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI). In October 2024, the program completed 11 evaluations for LTBI, conducted 17 case reviews with the consulting physician, performed 88 instances of directly observed therapy, and started one client on LTBI treatment.

The NNPH TB program held the annual Northern Nevada TB Cohort Review on October 31, 2024. This is a yearly event where the team presents the TB cases from the previous year (2023) to include standards of care, shortfalls encountered, treatment challenges and successes. Contact investigations are also reviewed. The Cohort Review is a great learning opportunity for community members who attend.

- d. **Reproductive and Sexual Health Services** – On October 31, the Family Planning Sexual Health Program (FPSHP) held their own Training Day for staff. Morning sessions included presentations on caring for clients after sexual violence and mandatory reporting for sexual abuse and statutory sexual seduction. Ivy Spadone, PA-C, from the Nevada AIDS Education Training Center, presented on PrEP and PEP for HIV prevention, initiation of HIV treatment, and exciting medications in the research pipeline to end the HIV epidemic. The FPSHP staff were joined by Sexual Health and Clerical program staff for the morning sessions. In the afternoon, staff attended breakout sessions specific to their role. The APRNs learned how to use a bedside ultrasound to confirm IUD placement and practiced performing lidocaine blocks for IUD placements with hot dogs (hot dogs make a good mock cervix). The RNs and Clinic Assistants improved their blood pressure measurement skills and learned non pharmacologic interventions to support clients during IUD placement. FPSHP supervisors are currently reviewing evaluations and determining if it would be beneficial to do Training Day annually for program staff.

The FPSHP will be the only program offering mpox vaccine starting in November. Standing orders have been updated and fees for the mpox vaccine have been added to the fee schedule. The CDC recommends that a sexual history be done for clients receiving the mpox vaccine therefore it was decided that the FPSHP is better equipped to offer the mpox vaccine based on CDC recommendations and the commercialization of the vaccine. Staff have also implemented referring all clients with a positive pregnancy test or who are already confirmed as pregnant to a Community Health Worker to ensure timely access to prenatal care. Early prenatal care is associated with better pregnancy outcomes. Staff are hopeful that with the navigation assistance of the CHW clients will be able to obtain early prenatal care.

- e. **Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention (CDIP) Program** – Staff attended the Northern Nevada Health & Wellness Summit hosted by the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce. Staff learned about the challenges healthcare partners are facing in Reno and Sparks and participated in dialogue to move the community forward.

Staff provided Washoe Suicide Prevention Alliance (WSPA) outreach to Washoe County HSA for their community providers meet & greet on October 2nd. About 40 HSA staff received information and resources about the WSPA program.

Staff helped coordinate, promote and host a location for the community-wide Rx Take Back Day event on October 19th. This county-wide event provided an opportunity for the community to dispose of all unneeded and unwanted prescription medications and supplements at nine different locations. This was led by Join Together Northern Nevada.

Staff finalized a request for proposal for research and strategy development for a campaign to raise awareness about the dangers of youth vaping, and to promote quitting. The RFP was sent out to vendors.

Staff met with Washoe County School District's Substance Misuse Counselor to discuss opportunities to provide technical assistance or resources for adopting alternative-to-suspension policy and educating school staff. Staff is currently ironing out ideas to work with vertical schools to approach them about these efforts in collaboration with the Substance Misuse Counselor.

- f. **Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH)** — Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health activities include Lead Screening, Newborn Screening, Cribs for Kids, and Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR).

The position at the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Lead Program Specialist has been eliminated. The NNPH Lead team is currently following 30 open cases.

Public Health Nurses and Community Health Workers (CHWs) continue to follow-up and provide coordination, education, and resources to referrals from the Nevada Newborn Screening Program to ensure all infants receive the second newborn screening.

NNPH CHW's assisted three individuals in Cribs for Kids classes in October and held three classes at the Anthem Wellness Center with ten attendees. CHWs are Baby and Me Tobacco Free facilitators and promote PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System), and Nevada 211.

The Fetal Infant Mortality Review Board (FIMR) meets monthly, except for June and December. The FIMR Board met on October 17, 2024, and reviewed five cases. Four cases were received in September and 10 in October.

Two staff attended the Renown Conference Supporting Nevada's Children: A discussion on the impacts of gestational exposure to substances on October 30, 2024.

Staff continue to provide updates on fetal and infant deaths at the Washoe County Community Child Death Review as requested. The last Child Death Review meeting was held on October 4, 2024. Child Death Review meetings are held every other month.

The Northern Nevada Maternal Child Health Coalition (NNMCHC) met on October 10, 2024, and the presenter was from Northern Nevada Restorative Health. Supplies for 600 New Mama Care kits were received and resource booklets with Northern Nevada maternal and child health resources are being printed. A packing party is scheduled for November 14, 2024. Menstrual flow kits will also be

distributed to people with a uterus in the community through similar distribution partners as the New Mama Care Kits.

A grant was received from United HealthCare to evaluate and promote "Count the Kicks" further in the community. Data entry for the backlog of cases, evaluation of Count the Kicks and how it is being used by maternal and child health providers are all components of the grant. A "Count the Kicks" live webinar or in-service for office staff and providers will be coordinated by FIMR staff with technical support from Healthy BirthDay, INC. and will support efforts to address preventable stillbirth in Nevada.

- g. **Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** – WIC leadership conducted interviews for a vacant Human Services Support Specialist position at the Moana WIC location. A top candidate was selected and will start full-time with the program in November.

The NNPH WIC team was recognized by the State WIC office for the biggest increase in participants "Exclusively Breastfeeding for 6-months" in FFY 2024.

WIC staff held an in-person meeting on October 23rd, which included a training titled "Substance Misuse Education for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Staff". The training prompted team discussions that can help improve the WIC team's efforts around substance use screening, education and referral related to strategic plan goals and State WIC program goals.

- h. **Community Health Workers (CHWs)** – The Community Health Workers (CHWs) were busy in October with client assistance and outreach activities. CHWs provided health and social service navigation to 98 clients in October. Additionally, they attended 10 outreach activities. The NNPH Mobile Harvest food distribution continues to be an accessible place for families to receive fresh, healthy foods with 81 served in October. The CHWs also provided NNPH resources at multiple offsite vaccine events and at an event for families experiencing infant loss. The Sexual Health team has resumed providing STI screenings at TMCC and CHW staff are accompanying the team monthly to provide additional NNPH resources.

The CHWs are currently in the process of updating several documents for CCHS clients and staff. CHWs are revising the CCHS Directory of Services. This document will include all services accessible to clients at CCHS and will be used at outreach events and to provide to community partners. The CHWs have also started updating the Community Resource List. The Community Resource List is a comprehensive list of community partners providing health and social services in the area. The CHWs update this document annually to ensure accuracy. After updates have been made the CHWs will work with CCHS staff to determine if the document meets language accessibility guidelines and will adjust as needed.

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On October 29th, part of the CHW team joined ODHO to listen to a presentation from Riverside University Health System on how they have implemented Medicaid billing for CHW services. The presentation elicited dialogue on the next steps to expand billing Medicaid for CHW services within CCHS programs. A standing order for the CHWs to provide services has been drafted with a goal to roll out CHW billing for services in the WIC program at the beginning of 2025.