

**Office of the District Health Officer
District Health Officer Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: December 18, 2025**

DATE: December 8, 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 affecting local, state, and national interests, as deemed important to NNPH and the DBOH. The scope of NNPH Public Health can be located here www.nnph.org.

AHS Financial Reports for November and December will be shared in January. There will be no Financial Report on December's agenda due to open meeting law for early submission due to holiday schedules.)

Performance Measures Narrative Highlights:

Effective Relationships

This month, I continued to foster strong interagency and intergovernmental relationships. I worked closely with Deputy District Attorney Dania Reid to navigate legal complexities surrounding the revised REMSA Franchise Agreement. Following stakeholder meetings with elected officials, fire chiefs, and REMSA board members, I coordinated the submission of the latest draft for legal review. I ensured alignment with open meeting law requirements.

I also collaborated with Washoe County HR to review department-wide survey results. We scheduled a follow-up meeting to discuss themes and identify actionable improvements for staff engagement and workplace culture.

Communication

I supported internal and external communications throughout the month. One example is the approval of the Air Quality Management Division's (AQMD) PM10 maintenance plan release and the upcoming AQMD notice of proposed action scheduled for December.

Community Engagement

I endorsed a letter of support for Renown Health's grant application for the NSPS Level 2 Special Pathogen Treatment and Network Development (STAND) Award. This initiative aligns with our regional preparedness goals and strengthens our healthcare network's capacity to manage cases involving special pathogens.

Effective Representation

I remained engaged in high-level policy and legal discussions, particularly around the REMSA franchise process. I ensured that NNPH's role was clearly communicated and that our legal counsel was fully informed of stakeholder feedback and proposed revisions.

Strategic Decision-Making

I remained engaged in high-level policy and legal discussions, particularly around the NNPH budget. I ensured that NNPH collaborated with County Financial staff to clearly communicate our budgetary preparations and proposed revisions, assumptions, and projections.

Leadership

I met all 1:1s with core leadership staff and inquired with all leadership regarding increased presence and access for all NNPH staff. I provided timely responses and guidance on several operational matters, including a food safety incident involving foreign material in school meals and mass exposure of students to pertussis in WCSD. I was kept informed and acknowledged the team's swift and professional handling of the situations.

Other Key Activities

- I acknowledged and supported the internal HR process regarding a JEC review request, reinforcing the importance of transparency and procedural integrity.
- I remained accessible and responsive during the holiday week, ensuring continuity of leadership and decision-making.

Upcoming Priorities

- Finalizing legal review and stakeholder alignment for the REMSA Franchise Agreement ahead of the December 3 meeting.
- Continuing internal engagement on staff survey results and implementing responsive strategies.
- Supporting grant-related initiatives and regional preparedness planning.
- Monitoring and addressing any emerging public health incidents or operational risks.

DHO Performance Measures:

Performance Measure	Metric	Oct 2025 Total
1. Effective Relationships	Number of strategic partnerships engaged	13
2. Communication	Number of internal/external emailed (sent) communications	278
3. Community Engagement	Number of community meetings/forums attended	4
4. Effective Representation	Number of public health activities advocated or supported.	17
5. Personal Development	Hours spent on professional development	7
6. Leadership	Number of staff leadership or mentorship activities conducted	29
7. Strategic Decision-Making	Number of engagement activities for strategic initiatives	13
8. Crisis Management	Number of crisis response or emergency preparedness actions	3
9. Policy/Program/Budget Implementation	Number of public health programs evaluated	8
Standard Practices		
Total Hours w/o Holiday		106
Excess Hours (>136)		0
PTO/Flex		30
Sick-Time		0
Holiday		24

Deputy District Health Officer Update:

Under the direction of the Deputy District Health Officer, Public Health funding has once again been adjusted. Fortunately, with the end of the Federal Shutdown, funding was not needed to assist with a reduction in Federal Funding. At the time, the primary concern was for funding for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) staff. Funding has been reverted to the original intent, and projects are moving forward.

Tuberculosis Clinic staff were able to tour the new Clinic construction site to see the progress and ensure that the final decisions being made will best support services to clients. Final furniture selection was completed, and equipment purchases are being researched. The building is located on the southwest corner of 9th Street and Wells Avenue and will be completed before April 1st.

Communications & Public Information

The Communications Team reported strong increases in social media followers, a viral post (not in a good way, unfortunately, but still viral), and solid public outreach for a variety of programs.

A simple post encouraging people to get a flu shot with a photo of District Health Officer Dr. Chad Kingsley giving a 'thumbs up' quickly went viral in November. The Facebook post garnered over 1,500 comments and 24 shares, mostly by people who are against vaccinations. The other platforms where it was posted did not have such engagement. We're confident that this post helped us increase our following: we saw a 225-follower increase on Facebook alone.

Our LinkedIn page eclipsed 1,000 followers with a gain of 81 followers in November. Overall, we have 13,924 followers across NNPH social media platforms.

For public outreach, we sent out nine releases in November. A great effort was put into our Nov. 15 flu shot clinic, which included press releases in English and Spanish, a social media advertising push, convincing Paws 4 Love to attend, and working with the University of Nevada, Reno athletic department to give away football tickets. We also sent out releases about a nationwide recall of infant formula, news about the Great American Smokeout Challenge to quit tobacco and nicotine for a day, acceptance of a grant to help children travel safely to school, and a notice of revision to air quality regulations.

Community Health Assessment (CHA): Updates:

NNPH and Renown Health, in partnership with Conduent Healthy Communities Institute, have continued collaborative efforts to advance the Community Health Assessment (CHA). Recent meetings have focused on reviewing and validating secondary data sources and finalizing the methodology used to rank key community health topics. This process ensures a rigorous, transparent, and data-informed approach that aligns with national best practices.

The community survey component of the primary data collection closed successfully, yielding more than 600 responses. The Health Impact team has completed the primary data report, which synthesizes feedback gathered through focus groups and stakeholder interviews. These findings will be integrated with the secondary data analysis and incorporated into the final CHA report.

In addition, NNPH and Renown Health are coordinating plans for a community forum to publicly unveil the CHA findings and priority health topics. This event will serve as a platform for inclusive community engagement, allowing residents, partners, and stakeholders to participate in prioritizing the health issues that will guide strategic action over the next three years. The priorities identified through this process will directly inform the development of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), ensuring alignment with ODHO's goals to strengthen cross-sector partnerships, elevate community voice, and drive health system modernization.

This coordinated approach demonstrates ODHO's commitment to evidence-based planning, shared governance, and community-centered public health; core elements of the foundational

public health services and positions the organization to more effectively address the region's most pressing health challenges.

CHIP

1. Aca Entre Nos- Staff are currently evaluating the continuation of the AEN initiative into 2026. As part of this process, a comprehensive SWOT analysis will be conducted with the AEN project team to assess strengths, challenges, opportunities, and resource needs. Recognizing that a pilot project of this scope requires multiple years to demonstrate meaningful culture change, the initiative has already achieved several notable successes. However, organizational capacity will be a critical factor in determining the appropriate structure, scale, and sustainability of ongoing implementation efforts. Findings from the SWOT analysis will inform recommendations for the future direction of the AEN initiative.
2. 5210 Healthy Washoe- The team has finalized the recommendations for the Donner Springs Elementary School wellness assessment. These recommendations were developed based on the school's current environment and its interest in fostering a healthier and more active campus culture. The proposed improvements focus on four key areas: Limiting unhealthy snack and celebration options to promote more nutritious choices; Expanding opportunities for physical activity throughout the school day; Strengthening engagement with community partners to support wellness initiatives; and Educating families, students, and staff on healthy eating and lifelong active living habits. In alignment with efforts to broaden the impact of school wellness initiatives, additional Washoe County schools are currently being assessed to evaluate their readiness to participate in the 5-2-1-0 Healthy Washoe program. This phased assessment approach helps ensure that program implementation is strategic, sustainable, and tailored to each school's unique needs.

Reducing Health Disparities

Staff presented the Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative (BARHII) assessment results to the committee as the first step in developing a comprehensive three-year implementation plan. This assessment provides a critical foundation for strengthening the agency's capacity to reduce health disparities and advance equitable health outcomes, core responsibilities of a modern public health agency. Using the assessment findings, the committee will draft an action plan that prioritizes strategies to embed equity across programs, policies, and organizational practices. Once finalized, the action plan will be brought forward for leadership approval and subsequently presented at the Strategic Plan Retreat in February. This process will ensure alignment with agency priorities and reinforce our commitment to addressing the root causes of health inequities within the community.

Staff Transfers/Promotions/Resignations

Resignation:

Tyler Henderson – Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) – effective 12/12/2025