

**Office of the District Health Officer
District Health Officer Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: October 24, 2024**

DATE: October 17, 2024
TO: District Board of Health
FROM: Dr. Chad Kingsley, District Health Officer
775-328-2416; ckingsley@nnph.org
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, and Public Communications and
Outreach.

DHO Overview

DHO Community Connections/Collaborations/Communications

REMSA (CEO, CFO; Board Meeting); City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Washoe County (City Manager & Asst. Manager(s)); Washoe County Commissioners, Management, Financial, HR Departments; UNR School of Public Health; NV DPBH; SACCHO: NALHO; Environmental Health community responses.

DHO Authorization

Pre-Authorization of Appearance Policy update. A committee of NNPH staff convened to review and update the Appearance Policy, which is focused on equity and increased self-governance. Directors and Supervisors reviewed the policy, which was presented to staff at NNPH's All-Staff quarterly meeting. The policy will be brought to the Board of Health during its annual review and update of the Personal and Policy Handbook in 2025. This policy will tentatively be in effect as a pilot policy until it is adopted into the employee handbook.

Attachment: Appearance Policy Final 09.17.24

Mpox vaccine was added to the CCHS fee schedule through the Family Planning Sexual Health Program. The CDC recommends that a Sexual Health risk assessment be completed when the vaccination is provided. Clients will be able to utilize the sliding fee scale based on their income and will not be refused due to the inability to pay as is the case for all our services.

NNPH Fee - \$252.50 CPT = 90611

NNPH Staff Coordination/Collaboration

Deputy Director (daily/weekly), Department Directors (bi-weekly), Department of District Health Officer (bi-weekly), Budget (as needed), Departments/Divisions (CCHS biweekly team huddle, Vital Records, EHS, PHEP, Public Information/Comms).

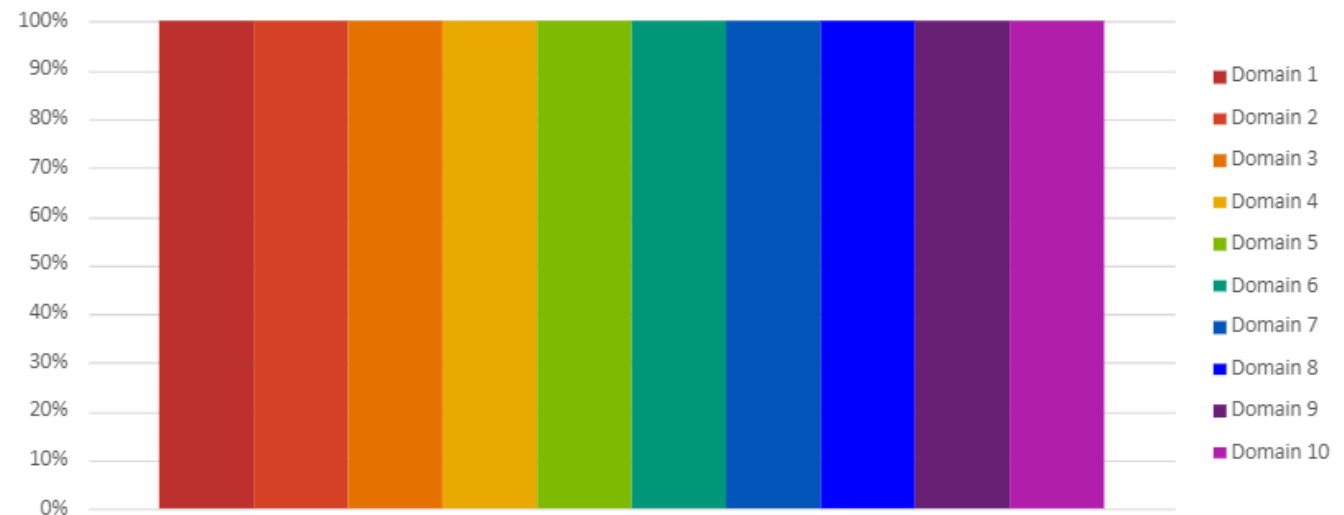
- Held Budgetary meetings for strategic planning.
- Attended EMS JAC for EMS/REMSA.
- Worked with EHS staff to respond to community inquiries/permitting.
- Presented to UNR-SPH undergraduates in seminar.
- Attended Family Health Festival.
- Attended Sequential Intercept Model Planning Workshop

DHO Performance/Updates

DHO average work week September 23 to October 18: 45 hours

Accreditation

NNPH’s application for reaccreditation was submitted on September 20th. The PHAB team will review the documents submitted to request further information to demonstrate conformity if needed. PHAB will schedule a site visit once the documents are reviewed.



Domain 1			Domain 2			Domain 3			Domain 4			Domain 5		
Complete	Total	% Complete	Complete	Total	% Complete	Complete	Total	% Complete	Complete	Total	% Complete	Complete	Total	% Complete
7	7	100%	17	17	100%	11	11	100%	3	3	100%	6	6	100%
Domain 6			Domain 7			Domain 8			Domain 9			Domain 10		
Complete	Total	% Complete	Complete	Total	% Complete	Complete	Total	% Complete	Complete	Total	% Complete	Complete	Total	% Complete
8	8	100%	5	5	1	6	6	100%	9	9	100%	21	21	100%

Communications

The NNPH Communications Program worked on internal and external messaging related to the unfortunate passing of District Board of Health member Dr. John Novak. Dr. Novak was a valued member of the NNPH family and often was vocal in proactive messaging to the community on a myriad of public health topics. May he rest in peace.

NNPH comms participated in the Davis Fire response in Washoe Valley. NNPH participated in the Joint Information Center established by Washoe County and sent a press release informing residents of air quality impacts from the wildfire smoke. Coincidentally, September was Emergency Preparedness Month, and we used the recent wildfire as an example of why making a plan and building is important. NNPH comms sent out messaging about the Anything But The Gym program, a collaboration with NNPH and a local health coach to promote healthy activity substitutions outside of a gym membership. We also helped distribute information related to the upcoming Family Health Festival.

NNPH comms responded to media requests about the shutdown of Brewer's Cabinet in Reno. Social media site Reddit discussed the closure and local media station KRNV found the inspection reports on our website, which detailed several violations.

Lastly, food safety and permitting requirements were not met by a local street food vendor in Washoe County. NNPH discarded food from the same operation multiple times in early September, which was filmed by bystanders. One video was uploaded to social media. We collaborated with the City of Reno both on the enforcement side and messaging side. District Health Officer Chad Kingsley conducted an interview in Spanish with Telemundo, which gave our side to the story. On a positive note, many of the comments on the social media video were in support of local government involvement for the sake of food safety.

Community Health Improvement Plan

Family Health Festival

The final FHF of 2024 will take place at O'Brien Middle School on Wednesday, Oct. 9, from 3-6 PM. 52 community organizations will be present to deliver a variety of health-related services, including hearing tests, blood pressure and vitals checks, free food, and free children's books. Additionally, organizations will be onsite to help clients sign up for Medicaid insurance, as well as connect individuals to off-site primary care services and providers.

5210 Healthy Washoe

The 5210 Healthy Washoe coordinators connected with Glenn Duncan to implement two initiatives to increase vegetable consumption during lunch time. The two initiatives will incorporate smarter lunchroom tactics and the Fuel Up Healthy Go! Program offered by NNPH CDIP by adding nudge name cards to fruits and vegetables and a poster board with messaging on how kids can fuel their bodies with the 5210 message. In addition, Alice Smith is a new school participating in the program. 5210 coordinators will work with the school to incorporate smarter lunchroom concepts and physical activity opportunities.

Un Plan Financiero para Abrir Puertas, a Financial Plan to Open Doors (Financial Literacy)

The Health Equity Team, Hello Real Estate, and the Women and Children's Center of the Sierra (WACCS) are collaborating to host a series of classes for their bilingual families. Last month, the team worked together to collect community input about the topics they were most interested in. st two sessions will focus on budgeting and saving, utilizing credit effectively

Aca Entre Nos

The first session at Clayton Middle School will be in October. The project team is working to identify a location close to the school so that transportation barriers remain minimal for families and students

in October. The project team is working to identify a location close to the school so that transportation barriers remain minimal for families and students who attend the school. Additionally, program staff are looking for incentives to provide to families who attend the AEN session series.

Equity

The Health Equity team (HET) is focusing efforts on building relationships with Washoe County's faith-based community by learning about congregations' needs and being present during conversations about community partnerships. For example, a representative attended the Faith-based and Law Enforcement Breakfast to discuss safety concerns for congregations and how to implement community engagement strategies.

The HET has continued to build relationships with the tribal communities in Washoe County through several means, including CHIP support, event attendance, and ongoing conversations about the tribal community's needs. Recently, the HET attended the Reno-Sparks Tribal Health Center Annual Health Fair to continue building relationships attended the Reno Sparks Tribal Health Center Annual Health Fair to continuing building a relationship with Tribal communities. The HET interacted with 70+ clients on direct services that NNPH offers. In addition, the HET is looking for opportunities with tribal partners to support mental health among youth.

Language Accessibility

In accordance with Assembly Bill 266 (AB 266), NNPH has utilized County resources to identify and translate vital documents using the County's Vital Document Identification Guidance. The Language Line and Wordly are now being used by staff to provide interpretation to those seeking NNPH's services. In addition, the Communications and HET are collaborating on developing signage to inform visiting community members about NNPH's ability to provide services in multiple languages. The signage also serves as a tool to help community members request services in their preferred language. A draft of the signage has been developed and the project team has met with program staff to identify signage location.

Quality Improvement

NNPH's first official QI project is underway. The project aims to improve the overall experience of new hires through the employee onboarding process. The project is a collaboration between AHS and ODHO, and includes several components, among them:

- Streamline the process between HR and supervisor responsibilities to ensure new hires are prepared for their first day at NNPH.
- Revise the Onboarding Program to incorporate feedback received from program evaluations to include relevant information about performance management, quality improvement, and cultural competency
- Modernize "Intro to Health" to educate new hires about NNPH's divisions and programs

Additionally, preparations are underway for World Quality Month in November. Employees will participate in various fun activities that month to learn about NNPH's new QI Plan and highlight existing initiatives around the health district.

Workforce Development

NNPH is partnering with the de Beaumont Foundation to conduct the organization's 2024 PH WINS Survey (workforce development survey). The Public Health Workforce Interests and Needs Survey (PHWINS) will measure strengths and gaps to inform future investments in funding, training, recruitment, and retention. NNPH aims for 100% participation in this survey, and just under 50% of employees have already taken it. To receive the data from the de Beaumont Foundation, the organization must have at least 80% of staff respond to the survey. This will ensure the data is valid and can be compared to other jurisdictions of similar size.