

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. and in Nevada; and*

WHEREAS, *the American Cancer Society estimates 2,110 Nevadans will be diagnosed with lung cancer in 2024 and 1,050 will die of the disease; and*

WHEREAS, *risk factors that cause lung cancer include smoking, exposure to secondhand smoke, exposure to elevated levels of radon, chemicals or air pollution, or a family history of lung cancer; and*

WHEREAS, *low-dose computed tomography is available throughout Nevada and can detect lung cancer early when treatment is more effective, and is recommended for adults 50-80 with a 20-pack-year smoking history; and*

WHEREAS, *Nevada ranks 47th in screening high-risk individuals for the disease, with only 1.4% of those high risk and eligible for lung cancer screening in Nevada having been screened; and*

WHEREAS, *some people who are at high risk do not get screened for lung cancer because of stigma associated with lung cancer and lack of access to screening and treatment; and*

WHEREAS, *people of color are more likely to be targeted by tobacco industry marketing, less likely to be diagnosed early for lung cancer, less likely to receive treatment, and have lower survival rates; and*

WHEREAS, *sexual and gender minorities are more likely to be diagnosed with lung cancer but less likely to be screened for the disease; and*

WHEREAS, *those living in persistent poverty have a 16.5% higher mortality rate from lung cancer and are more likely to have higher risk factors, including cigarette smoking and less access to care; and*

WHEREAS, *the Nevada Cancer Coalition and its many community members and partners are working to increase awareness of lung cancer screening, reduce the stigma associated with the disease, reduce the exposure to disease risk factors, and ensure more Nevadans receive lung cancer screening.*

NOW, THEREFORE, *be it resolved, that the District Board of Health does hereby proclaim the month of November 2024, as*

Lung Cancer Awareness Month in Washoe County, Nevada

ADOPTED this 21st day of November 2024.

Devon Reese, Vice Chair
District Board of Health