

**Office of the District Health Officer
District Health Officer Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: June 26, 2025**

DATE: June 12, 2025
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, 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:

DHO activities during May 2025 reflect ongoing efforts to improve public health outcomes, enhance staff development, and ensure efficient use of resources. Key activities include: reviewing mandated activities, particularly HAZMAT authority; UNR-SPH CAB meeting that included discussion of paused activities due to federal cuts; leadership discussions on improved collaboration, coordination, and enhanced data-driven decision-making; review of bi-weekly time sheet for CY25, ensuring transparency and accurate time accounting; presentation on the Technology Adoption and Training Program, which focused on leveraging the County Intranet and SharePoint for standardized and efficient technology training. These activities reflect the DHO's ongoing efforts to improve public health outcomes, enhance staff development, and ensure efficient use of resources.

DHO Performance Measures:

Performance Measure	Metric	Apr 2025 Total
1. Effective Relationships	Number of strategic partnerships engaged	11
2. Communication	Number of internal/external emailed (sent) communications	376
3. Community Engagement	Number of community meetings/forums attended	10
4. Effective Representation	Number of public health activities advocated or supported.	9
5. Personal Development	Hours spent on professional development	11
6. Leadership	Number of staff leadership or mentorship activities conducted	23
7. Strategic Decision-Making	Number of engagement activities for strategic initiatives	11
8. Crisis Management	Number of crisis response or emergency preparedness actions	6
9. Policy/Program/Budget Implementation	Number of public health programs evaluated	6
Standard Practices		
Total Hours		175
Excess Hours (>160)		23
PTO		0
Sick-Time		0
Holiday		8

Communications & Public Information

The NNPH Comms teams was busy during May as we supported several division events and initiatives.

The second Food Business Resource Fair was held with Yera Deavila leading the communication efforts, which included several pre-event media interviews, a paid media campaign with no outside help, social media strategy and event-day media relations (3 TV stations attended). We also organized an NNPH-Washoe County School District media event about the Lawn & Garden Exchange Project, where Air Quality donated battery-powered equipment to replace the old gas guzzlers. NNPH led and executed the effort, which got coverage from three TV stations. The team also played significant roles in the NNPH Earthquake exercise, sharpening our communication skills in the event a major disaster strikes the areas.

NNPH also sent out messaging about hantavirus, air quality advisory for ground-level ozone and other air quality advisories.

Public Health Accreditation

PHAB will be conducting a site visit at NNPH on July 8, 2025, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM as part of the reaccreditation process. As a requirement of the reaccreditation application, NNPH submitted over 100 documents demonstrating our capacity to deliver programs and services in alignment with national best practice standards and protocols. The site visit represents the final step in the reaccreditation process. Its primary purpose is to provide PHAB with an on-site understanding of the operational context related to the documentation submitted. It will also offer an opportunity for PHAB to engage with key stakeholders to better understand NNPH's organizational structure, operations, and community relationships, which are essential to evaluating our public health infrastructure and performance.

Workforce Development

In early May, NNPH concluded its largest-ever cohort for the six-month employee onboarding workshop series, with 11 participants. These workshops provide foundational training on public health principles, quality improvement, and cultural competency, among other essential topics. This initiative ensures all new staff, regardless of professional background, gain a strong understanding of NNPH's mission and core functions.

Strengthening Relationships with Community Members

- Food Business Resource Fair

ODHO's Health Equity Team collaborated with EHS to promote the May 15th Food Business Resource Fair among targeted populations. Staff provided interpretation services for the event and fielded questions about the construction and special events programs. The event drew 109 attendees and included 10 mobile units. A total of 18 agencies and organizations participated, representing local, county, and state government, business support services, and mobile food operations.

- Brotherhood and Balance Event

The team participated in the "Brotherhood and Balance" event, which focused on promoting health, wellness, and self-care among Black and African American men. The 5210 message was shared with 32 participants to emphasize simple ways to build healthy habits. Participants also received easy-to-make recipes to support healthier eating at home.

- Reno-Sparks Tribal Health Center Visit

The team continues to identify opportunities to strengthen our relationship with the tribal communities to improve health outcomes. Maternal and children's health and chronic illnesses such as diabetes are prevalent in the community therefore, the team has been in communication about exploring their health center as a site to distribute mama care kits. Additionally, staff toured the Reno-Sparks Tribal Health Center to explore potential partnerships for implementing 5210 Healthy Washoe initiatives within the clinic, food pantry, and Head Start Program to increase awareness about healthy food and active living.

Community Health Improvement Plan

- 5210 Healthy Washoe

NNPH is continuing its partnership with Glenn Duncan Elementary School on 5210 efforts. To help students maintain healthy habits over the summer, a 5210 challenge was launched. Children who

complete a weekly log of at least one hour of daily physical activity and increased fruit and vegetable intake will be entered into a raffle to win one of 25 donated pool passes. NNPH extends its gratitude to the City of Sparks for generously providing the passes and supporting physical activity among youth. In addition, the team is working with other programs to determine activities to expand program outreach in the provider and early child education communities to build communities with similar messaging and goals.

- **Aca Entre Nos (AEN)**

On May 20th, the team and AEN partners participated in Swope Middle School's parent night by hosting an Aca Entre Nos event. The purpose of the initiative is to improve mental health in the Spanish speaking community by de-stigmatizing the topic through family connection and peer support. The event focused on supporting parents and their children as they transition from elementary to middle school. Eight families attended, totaling 20 participants.

- **Native Youth Wellness Retreats**

NNPH is partnering with Tribal Minds to improve youth mental health through Native Youth Wellness Retreats. The team has been involved in program planning to ensure the curriculum is culturally sensitive. The activities will focus on identity and culture, physical activity, healthy relationships, mindfulness, nutrition, and nature-based connections. The retreat is scheduled for June 8–14.

Family Health Festival

The Family Health Festival was recognized as a grantee and community partner with Renown Health at a luncheon hosted by Renown in early May (Community Impact Grantees are pictures in the attached image). Several months ago, Renown sponsored the 2025 FHF series with \$8,000 to host two festivals related to joint Renown and NNPH public health goals. The themes selected were expanding access to mental and behavioral health (May 2025 FHF) and expanding access to infant and maternal care (October 2025 FHF).

The Family Health Festival held its first event in May 2025 at the Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center. This was the most expansive venue FHF has yet been able to reserve, and thus 67 vendors were able to provide their direct services and community education/outreach to 340 total clients. Attached is a one-pager denoting some key highlights on direct services provided to the under-resourced in our community, some of which are expanded upon below:

- The FHF committee was thrilled to partner with community agencies it had not seen at an FHF event for the past several years, including Northern Nevada Legal Aid (who provided free, 15-minute legal consults to clients) and RTC (who provided free bus passes). Clients experiencing access to healthcare challenges also experience barriers in several other areas of their lives, including transportation and involvement with the justice system for various reasons. Thus, FHF aims to foster connections with service providers even outside the traditional clinical- and health-related domains.
- Additionally, there were more than a dozen mental health, behavioral health, and disability resource service providers on deck during this event, given the theme that FHF and Renown Health agreed to center this event around. Most of these service providers were partners that FHF

had never partnered with, thereby strengthening the possibility for future collaborations between FHF, NNPH, and these community agencies.

- With the Asian Community Development Council (ACDC) now having a representative on the FHF committee, ACDC staff were able to translate the FHF May event flier into three different Asian languages (Chinese, Tagalog, and Vietnamese). This allowed the committee to market this event more effectively to individuals within these demographics. Approximately 18% of households attending this latest FHF self-reported as being Asian, in contrast with only single-digit averages of Asian household attendance at previous FHF's since the committee started measuring household attendance by ethnicity in 2024.
- Despite these successes, attendance was lower than expected, particularly among Hispanic families. NNPH and community partners attribute this, in part, to the current political climate, which may be discouraging undocumented families from participating in public events - even those where immigration status is not questioned. NNPH remains committed to fostering inclusive, accessible, and community-centered public health initiatives through continued collaboration and responsive programming.

Performance Management

NNPH's performance management database, ClearPoint, is undergoing a significant revamp aimed at enhancing the accessibility and visibility of historical performance data across strategic objectives. Historically, performance data has been collected through a variety of decentralized methods - including department-specific spreadsheets, dashboards, and miscellaneous documents maintained by individual teams and supervisors.

Over the past several years, NNPH has steadily worked to consolidate this data into ClearPoint. This effort will culminate in FY26 with the integration of performance data from FY22 through FY26 into a single, centralized platform. This will enable program supervisors and division directors to more easily identify trends and patterns across fiscal years, ultimately supporting more informed decision-making and targeted quality improvement (QI) efforts.

Quality Improvement

During the May QI Council meeting, NNPH staff shared key learnings from recent QI projects. Notably, members of the Health Equity Team (HET) presented outcomes from their project focused on improving bilingual pay access for staff. The team identified inconsistencies in how staff tracked bilingual work for pay purposes and collaborated with Human Resources to revise and clarify guidance materials. The updated information was then effectively communicated to staff and supervisors.

Reducing Health Disparities

- Completing BARHII

NNPH is currently conducting the Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative (BARHII) self-assessment to evaluate the organization's capacity and ability to address health disparities. This process involves several tools, including a staff survey, a partner survey, staff focus groups, and management interviews. The staff and partner surveys have been completed. In May, seven focus groups were conducted with staff from various levels and divisions. Management interviews are

scheduled for June. The findings from this assessment will help inform NNPH's upcoming strategic planning retreat.

Legislative Update

A comprehensive review for the 83rd session of the Nevada State Legislature will be presented at the July DBOH meeting.

Staff Transfers/Promotions/Resignations

Victoria LeGarde – Epidemiologist – EPHP – Resigned effective 6/28/25