

**Office of the District Health Officer
District Health Officer Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: November 20, 2025**

DATE: November 13, 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 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.

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

Throughout October, I prioritized maintaining strong relationships with local, state, and federal partners. I provided timely updates to DBOH officials regarding the implications of the federal government shutdown on NNPH operations, particularly the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. I also engaged directly with congressional offices, including those of Senator Jacky Rosen and Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, to ensure their teams were informed of potential service disruptions and staffing constraints.

Communication

I led proactive communication efforts to clarify the operational impacts of the federal shutdown. On October 1, I issued a comprehensive briefing outlining the anticipated effects on federal funding streams, CDC staffing, and WIC service continuity. This communication was shared with local leaders and congressional staff to ensure alignment and transparency. I also responded to follow-up inquiries from stakeholders, including clarification on the role of state funding in sustaining WIC benefits.

Strategic Decision-Making

I worked closely with Deputy Health Officer and the CCHS Division Director to assess the implications of the CDC furlough on immunization policy and funding. We discussed the potential adoption of California's AB 144 framework and the need for CDC action on ACIP recommendations. These discussions informed our internal planning and external advocacy strategies

Leadership

I provided internal guidance on the REDCap implementation process following the execution of our license agreement with Vanderbilt University. I coordinated to ensure a secure system setup and compliance with data governance protocols. Additionally, I supported staff in preparing WIC budget materials for Division Directors and Board presentations, reinforcing our long-term goal of achieving net-neutral funding for the program by

Other Key Activities

- I scheduled and led internal planning sessions related to federal furlough response and communications.
- I participated in the Data Labels Q&A/Support Session hosted by Washoe County, contributing to cross-departmental data standardization efforts.
- I reviewed and provided feedback on the EMS franchise and staff report drafts in preparation for Board submission.

Upcoming Priorities

- Looking ahead, I will continue to monitor the federal funding landscape and its implications for NNPH programs.
- Monitoring and supporting legislative engagement on immunization policy (NV Special Session) and Medicaid coverage.
- Strengthening partnerships with academic institutions and community-based organizations.
- Moving EMS Franchise Forward.

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	370
3. Community Engagement	Number of community meetings/forums attended	13
4. Effective Representation	Number of public health activities advocated or supported.	19
5. Personal Development	Hours spent on professional development	27
6. Leadership	Number of staff leadership or mentorship activities conducted	52
7. Strategic Decision-Making	Number of engagement activities for strategic initiatives	11
8. Crisis Management	Number of crisis response or emergency preparedness actions	2
9. Policy/Program/Budget Implementation	Number of public health programs evaluated	21
Standard Practices		
Total Hours w/o Holiday		167
Excess Hours (>152)		15
PTO/Flex		0
Sick-Time		0
Holiday		8

Deputy District Health Officer Update:

Two projects under the Deputy's direction include the Public Health Funds and the construction of the Tuberculosis Clinic.

Increasing the NNPH budget authority for the Public Health Funds was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on October 21st. Most activities supported by this funding are considered one-time funding projects and include projects such as:

- Fee study analysis to ensure that Air Quality and Environmental Health fees are modeled after best practices and are comprehensive in scope.
- New nurse call system for the 9th street clinic to improve safety

In addition, the budget has been adjusted to assist with the potential impact of the federal shutdown. The primary concern as of the time of writing this report is funding for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) staff.

The new Tuberculosis Clinic building reached several milestones in October, including the paving of the client parking lot. The building is located on the southwest corner of 9th Street and Wells Avenue and will be completed before April 1st.

Communications & Public Information

In October 2025, Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) received strong local media coverage and engagement across multiple topics. News outlets, including KRNV, KOLO, KTVN, KUNR, and the Reno Gazette -Journal featured NNPH in stories ranging from flu and RSV vaccine availability to restaurant inspections, medication drop-off events, and community health festivals.

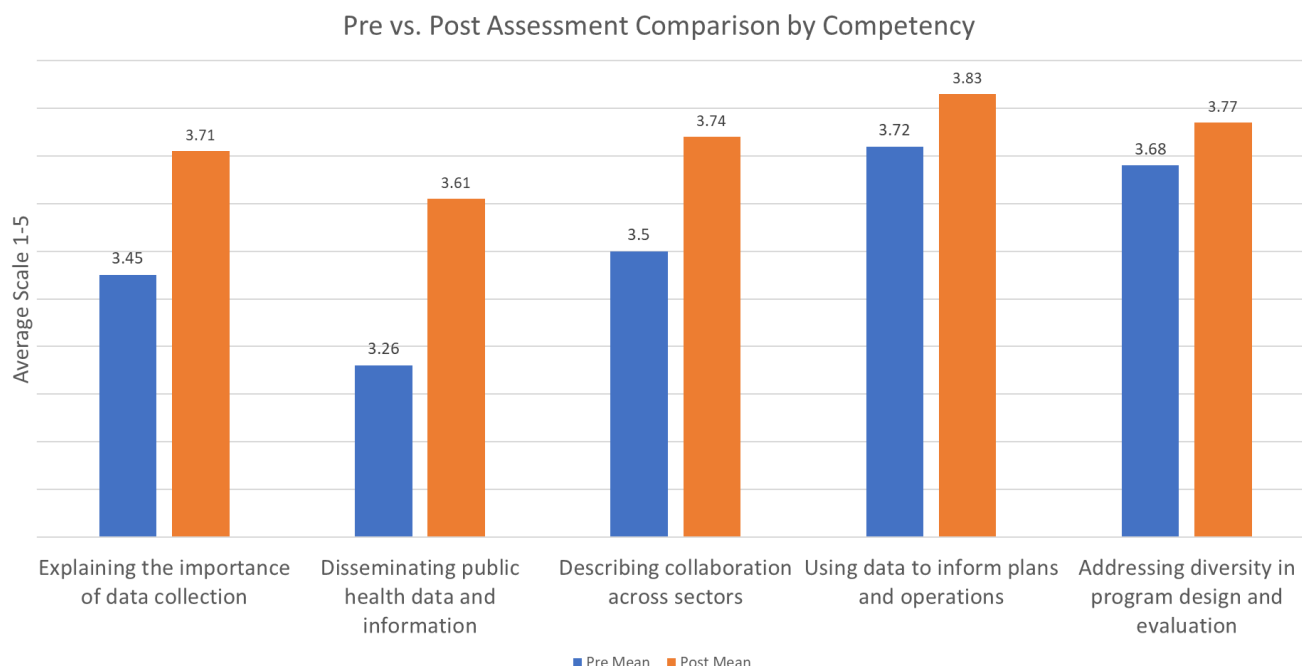
The communications team also managed numerous media inquiries and interviews, providing timely responses and expert commentary to regional reporters. This ongoing visibility underscores NNPH's active leadership and responsiveness in promoting public health awareness throughout Northern Nevada.

Community Health Assessment (CHA): Updates:

The team has translated the Community Health Assessment Survey into Spanish. The survey is now live and is available to the community until November 21st. The Community Health Assessment (CHA) represents a collaborative effort among regional partners to better understand the health priorities and needs of residents across Washoe County, the City of Sparks, and the City of Reno. The purpose of the survey is to collect input from residents regarding health in our community and to identify priorities that can help improve the overall quality of life in Washoe County. The survey can be accessed here: [2026-2028 Washoe County Community Health Assessment Survey](#).

Workforce Development

As part of the 2022–2025 Workforce Development Plan, NNPH provided staff training focused on using data to tailor programs, services, and interventions to advance public health. The session also explored the interconnectedness between NNPH's daily operations and the broader communities and systems we serve to improve health outcomes. Following the training, the leadership team is working with individual programs to apply systems thinking through a data-driven activity, including identifying and analyzing feedback loops to recommend program and service enhancements. To evaluate training effectiveness, NNPH collected pre- and post-training data to assess staff perceptions of knowledge gained. The results indicate that the training was effective and that staff found the content meaningful and applicable to their work.



CHIP

Aca Entre Nos

Clayton Middle School and AEN partners hosted a Mental Health Session focused on the importance of self-management and how it affects healthy family dynamics. Seven families attended the session with their children and received valuable information that inspired requests for additional sessions in the upcoming year.

5210 Healthy Washoe

Donner Springs Elementary School is completing a comprehensive school-wide assessment to identify opportunities to enhance the school environment and promote healthy living activities for students. The team continues to collaborate with the Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention team to align resources and provide schools with physical activity materials and the technical assistance needed to support healthy school transformations.

Additionally, NNPH teams are collaborating with the UNR Cooperative Extension to determine which schools to engage with next year, ensuring resources are used efficiently and not duplicated. The program aims to onboard three additional schools this year to continue fostering healthy, active communities across Washoe County.

Family Health Festival

In collaboration with dozens of community partners, NNPH helped host its final Family Health Festival for the year on October 8. Altogether, FHF served 2,509 clients in 2025 – the most it has ever seen in the approximately one decade this initiative has existed. For the October festival, 35 agencies came together to deliver a variety of health, education, legal, employment, food, safety, and transportation-related services to the community. The FHF expects to take this momentum into 2026, once again working with trusted

community partners to host a fresh series of festivals aimed at expanding access to healthcare within Washoe County.

Reducing Health Disparities

The team is currently compiling data for the BARHII assessment and will finalize a comprehensive report by the end of the year. Findings from this assessment will help inform NNPH's strategic retreat discussions.

In addition, the team is analyzing data collected from the CHA focus groups and will complete a primary data report for inclusion in the Community Health Assessment (CHA).

Staff Transfers/Promotions/Resignations

Progressive Promotions:

- Ryan Rennie – Environmental Health Trainee to Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) – effective 9/25/25
- Nicole Drisdale – Human Services Support Specialist I to Human Services Support Specialist II (CCHS) – effective 11/4/25

Transfer:

- Janeth Jordan – Clinic Assistant in CCHS to Office Specialist in HAS – effective 9/15/25
- Michael Escobar – Program Coordinator in ODHO to Learning Development Coordinator in HR – effective 11/3/25