

**Office of the District Health Officer
District Health Officer Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: July 25, 2024**

DATE: July 18, 2024
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, and Public Communications and Outreach.

DHO Overview

DHO Community Connections

REMSA (CEO, CFO, Board Meeting); City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Washoe County (City Manager & Asst. Manager(s), Fire Chief); Washoe County (CSD; County Managers; Fire Chief); Nevada Association of Counties (Chair, board meeting); Truckee Meadows Water Authority; Media presentations (see Comms report); Nevada Department of Public and Behavioral Health (Director, Staff); NV Public Health Association (Chair); NV Public Health Foundation (Chair); Incline Village/Tahoe Fire District; Washoe County School District Superintendent

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).

- NNPH annual BBQ and quarterly all-staff training
- QI training and development course; Translation/Interpretation overview/planning
- ADQ field shadow/observation
- EHS food inspections at Rodeo; EHS Food Truck Friday Inspections; EHS Quilici Project; EHS Dancing in the Streets
- Government Affairs Coordination for drafted or proposed legislative bills.
- Workforce Development/Personnel meetings

DHO Performance/Updates

Kevin Dick reports for the last day of service, July 5th.

DHO average work week June 24-July 19: 43 hours (PTO/Comp taken for family)

ODHO New Administrative Assistant

Susy Valdespin accepted a promotion with Washoe County Public Defenders Beginning July 8. Jaqueline Lawson, who previously worked in EPHP, laterally transferred from Washoe County Animal Control to assume Susy's position.

NNPH Communications Update

A media day was conducted for the new District Health Officer, Dr. Chad Kingsley. He participated in five English and five Spanish interviews, including local TV, news reports, radio segments, and a sit-down interview on KTVN's Face the State program. An additional sit-down interview with This is Reno was scheduled for July.

NNPH has 27 media requests/questions regarding local air quality and air quality sensors, food safety impacts of re-useable cups at restaurants, food safety at Food Truck, and mosquito abatement. Additionally, seven press releases including topics such as open advisory boards (Sewage, and Wastewater and Sanitation Hearing Board & the Food Protection Hearing Advisory Board), Air Quality Management's general source permitting, a ground-level ozone exceedance, the Reno Brewery District winning NNPH's Extra Mile Aware and encouraging parents to get their children vaccinated before the rush in August.

Government Affairs Update

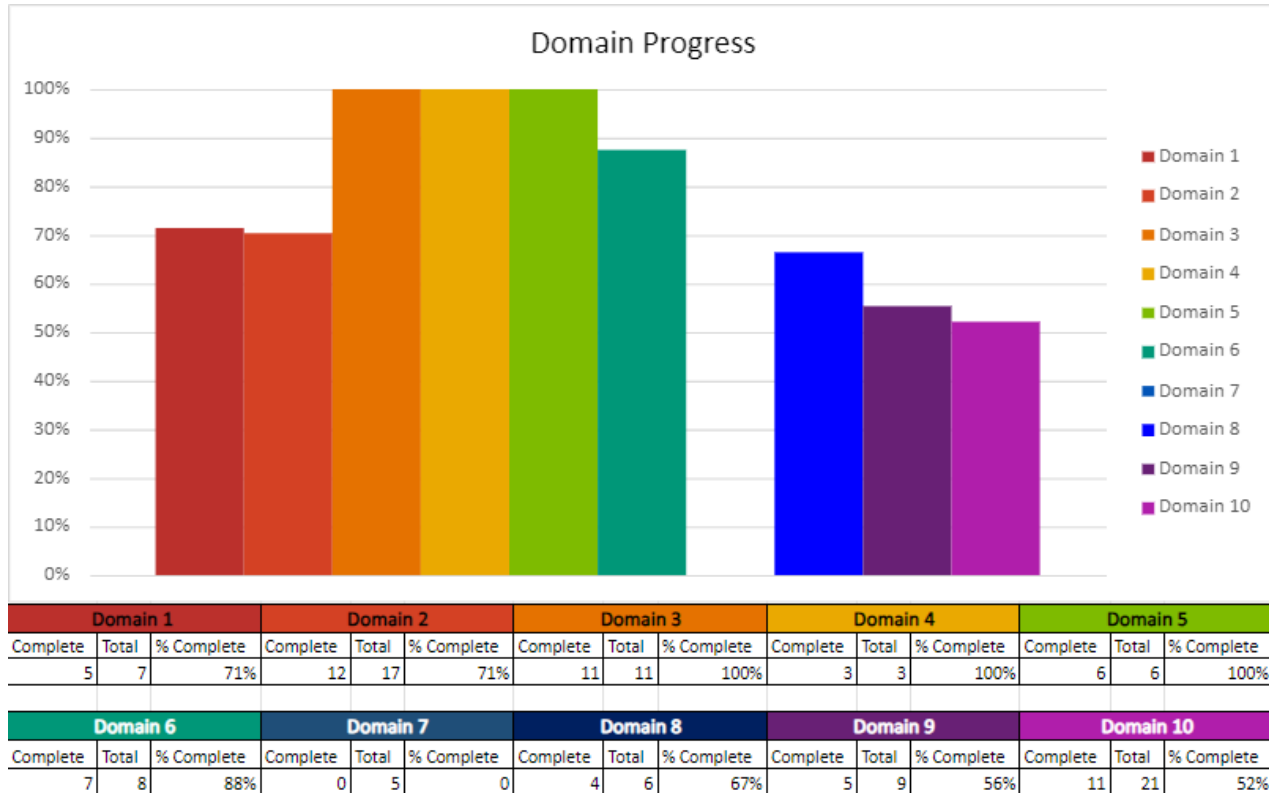
NNPH has been busy strategizing with key partners for the upcoming 2025 Legislative Session beginning on the first Tuesday in February 2025. Public Health partners throughout the state have been working on finding a sustainable stream of money that will allocate non-categorical funding to local health authorities and districts. Key factors that were missed in last session's SB118 are being addressed, including a base funding formula that will give smaller counties enough money to work with (\$200k per year per county), and funding for Tribal agencies offering public health services will also be included in the upcoming session's ask. Improvements to SB118, like the base funding formula, have been adopted in other states and have been proven to be successful. Key partners include the Nevada Association of Counties, Department of Public and Behavioral Health, UNR School of Public Health, Southern Nevada Health District, Carson City Health and Human Services, and Central Nevada Health District.

Additionally, the restoration of vaping prevention funding is being discussed.

More regular reports will begin in the fall when deadlines for BDR submissions begin (September).

Accreditation

Efforts continue to prepare NNPH for reaccreditation in July 2024. The Access to Health Care Assessment was delivered, and the findings are being discussed to determine how to prioritize focus areas with a committee of subject matter experts. The next steps are to create an improvement plan with at least 1-2 strategies that address the findings.



Quality Improvement

24 NNPH staff from all divisions attended a Quality Improvement training presented by Sonja Armbruster, a nationally-renowned consultant with the Public Health Foundation. Sonja delivered engaging presentations on measuring community impact and tools to identify the root causes of lingering challenges that decrease efficiency and productivity. Attendees learned how to apply QI concepts to create a high-performing culture with measurable outcomes we can use to improve our programs and to inform future decisions. The next steps will include taking the learnings to create NNPH’s new Quality Improvement Program and delivering mini lessons and hands-on “hip pocket” workshops to train all staff on QI methods.

Community Health Improvement Plan

5210 Healthy Washoe:

The Health Equity team and CDIP partner with Washoe Count Nutrition Services to uplift the School District’s Student Wellness Policy in School Year 2024-2025. This year, both teams will collectively promote smarter lunchrooms and physical activity in the classrooms to merge the two components to create a healthier school site. Furthermore, the teams are bridging efforts into the community where Healthy Corner Stores are located and where provider offices are delivering the program to expand the

messaging of a healthy community. The teams will participate in Glenn Duncan's back-to-school fair to promote 5210 Healthy Washoe at the end of July.

Family Health Festival:

The next event is Saturday, 8/3, at Hug High School from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Traditionally, this is the largest event, with attendees mainly seeking back-to-school vaccines and BTS supply giveaways. The committee anticipates having about 50 community partners on site, many of whom will be providing direct services to our clients, such as scoliosis checks, SNAP application assistance, dental screenings, mobile harvest, etc.

Aca Entre Nos:

The Aca Entre Nos team is discussing implementing the program in the upcoming School Year 2024-2025 with Clayton Middle School. To increase the program's impact, a series of mental health conversation sessions will be delivered, and the project team will recruit the same Clayton Middle School families to attend all four sessions happening throughout the school year. To make this an attractive opportunity for busy parents, the project team seeks funding to incentivize participating families to attend all four sessions. The team will also collaborate with the WCSD Parent University office to provide childcare assistance during each Aca Entre Nos session to reduce childcare barriers and help families stay engaged.

Equity Projects/Collaborations

Food Business Resource Fair:

The community organizers will support the upcoming fair by helping connect incoming event attendees to the appropriate agencies, resources, and information they seek and providing interpretation as needed. They will also help promote the event at targeted locations with existing food business owners.

Language Accessibility:

In the 2023 legislative session, Assembly Bill 266 (AB 266) was passed, requiring the County to create a Language Access Plan and ensure equitable access to services for residents with limited English proficiency (LEP). Washoe County's new Language Access Policy and Plan were approved at the April 16 Board of County Commissioners meeting. Using the County's Vital Document Identification Guidance, NNPH works with Washoe County Human Resources to identify and translate vital documents.

NACCHO Poster Board Presentation:

The team was invited to provide a poster board presentation at the NACCHO 360 Annual Conference on NNPH's efforts to advance the organization's mission through partnerships. The presentation focused on building a sustainable relationship management system to track and sustain mutually beneficial relationships with community leaders and organizations to reduce health disparities.

Relationship Management:

The team is successfully implementing the pilot phase of the relationship management project. The team has updated about 600 community contacts with detailed information about the populations they serve, focus area(s), and NNPH initiatives they are engaged in. These categorizations have helped staff determine where to focus outreach and engagement efforts more effectively and identify opportunities to leverage resources and community partnerships working on similar initiatives.

June Media Mentions