

Health in All Policies Pilot Projects (as of Aug 4, 2020)

1. LatinX Health Action Network

Background

This project is a collaboration between the Community Health Alliance (CHA), the Latino Research Center, Washoe County Health District, City of Reno and the NV Public Health Training Center to determine, evaluate and make recommendations on existing communications lines and strategies to the Latino Community in Northern Nevada during public health emergencies such as the COVID-19 outbreak.

Tasks:

- Compile baseline demographic data on the populations in general from available information.
- Conduct surveys (on phone, via web) of the larger target population on risks, barriers, needs (~200+) related to COVID-19.
- Conduct key informant interviews of key stakeholders via phone (~20) on community communication needs.
- Host e-town hall meeting (1 -- 2) on current problems on the ground/community observations.
- Conduct a resource inventory of current programs, communications strategies, and services available.
- Conduct a gap analysis (matching identified needs to resources).
- Create a targeted online resource guide (if appropriate).
- Make strategies or recommendations that are stratified by importance of next steps to address the issues within the communities.

2. Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County (RTC) Health in All Policies - Pedestrian Experience Index (PEI)

Background

The RTC serves three roles for the urbanized area of Washoe County: it is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the transit service provider, and constructs improvements to the regional roadway network. The RTC has worked closely with the community to develop guiding principles for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), the region's long-range, multimodal transportation plan which defines the policies and priorities for the community's future transportation system. The guiding principles are the overarching themes that recur throughout the RTP and on which the goals and selection of transportation investments are based. Enhancing the pedestrian environment directly supports the four guiding principles in the RTP including: Safe and Healthy Communities, Economic Development & Diversification, Sustainability, and Increased Travel Choices.

The PEI is a pedestrian complement to the Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress analysis. It incorporates infrastructure and built environment data to quantify the quality of the pedestrian experience for each block face (one side of the street between intersections) and each intersection in the project area. It relies on factors well-known in the transportation and urban design literature for their connection to walkability and pedestrian comfort. The output is a PEI score for each block face. A score of 1 indicates a more

comfortable pedestrian environment, while a score of 4 indicates a less comfortable pedestrian environment. PEI scores can be used to help prioritize pedestrian improvements or to evaluate progress toward improving pedestrian comfort over time.

The RTC is proposing to partner with the University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada Public Health Training Center to collect PEI attributes in the vicinities of downtown Reno and Sparks utilizing web-based software.

This valuable data will assist the RTC in prioritizing pedestrian infrastructure investment at locations where it is needed most. These targeted improvements will encourage an increase in active transportation modes, provide for a safer pedestrian environment, and improve the overall health of pedestrians that utilize this infrastructure out of choice or necessity.

3. Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) – Multiunit Housing Recycling Needs Assessment

Background

Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) is a local non-profit dedicated to creating a cleaner, more beautiful region through education and active community involvement. Since our inception over 30 years ago, we have been a voice for environmental education, volunteerism, beautification and waste reduction and control. Find out more about us at ktmb.org. KTMB has established a strong relationship with the Washoe County Health District (WCHD) to help with solid waste management throughout the Truckee Meadows region. The following project will help us understand the issues that impact recycling and hazardous waste disposal for businesses and residents of Washoe County, especially those living in multifamily housing units. It will inform our adult education program moving forward and assist the WCHD in making policy decisions

Project description

This project invites a student to explore an important public health issue facing this community and to make a positive contribution to resolving the issue. Washoe County businesses and residents have expressed concern about the lack of household hazardous waste disposal options and recycling opportunities, especially for small businesses and residents of multifamily housing units. Hazardous waste such as motor oil or pesticides can end up in trash cans or dumped in the desert, and valuable recyclable materials are lost to the landfill. This happens because people do not have, or are not aware of, access to convenient disposal resources. The main purpose of this project is to document and detail the lack of resources and create suggestions for improvement in this environmental and health-related area.

This project would begin with compiling information on the number of multifamily units in Washoe County versus single-family residential units so that we have numbers to demonstrate the scope of recycling access disparity between those with access to single-stream recycling and those without. The student will design and conduct a survey with local multi-family complexes and commercial sites to gather information on the current resources available to residents and businesses and the barriers to recycling and proper waste disposal that they encounter. The final portion of this project would be to research what other communities of similar size are doing with regard to policy or programs to resolve

similar issues around recycling and waste disposal. A final report of the results of the project and recommendations for improvements to waste disposal resources in Washoe County will be required.

4. Rural COVID-19 Community Development Infrastructure Project -- Health in All Policies Intern -- Office of Statewide Initiatives and Elko County

Background

University of Nevada Reno School of Medicine -- Office of Statewide Initiatives Programs

The mission of the Office of Statewide Initiatives is to improve the health of Nevadans through statewide engagement, education, and research. The purpose of the programs of the Office of Statewide Initiatives is to promote health and prevent disease, as well as provide technical assistance that increases access to high-quality health care for all Nevadans. Within this Office are housed two programs that this Policy Intern will interact with:

- The purpose of the Nevada State Office of Rural Health (SORH) is to improve access to quality health care for rural Nevada by providing collaborative leadership and resources to health care and community organizations. The Office of Rural Health provides state and national leadership in addressing critical rural health workforce supply and retention issues, rural health infrastructure, and promotion of graduate medical education. The office looks at unique and innovative models to meet the challenges of rural Nevada.
- The purpose of the Nevada Health Workforce Research Center (NHWRC) is to improve the collection and analysis of data on health workforce supply and demand to enhance health workforce planning and development in Nevada. The vision of the center is to assist health education institutions and policymakers in Nevada understand Nevada's need for well-prepared health professionals and to better inform investments in Nevada's health care workforce and health care system. The Nevada Health Workforce Research Center aims to be the most trusted source for health care workforce data and analysis in Nevada.

Project Description

This project invites a student to explore an important public health issue facing rural Nevada and the impact of COVID-19 pandemic and both the health care delivery and impact of the public health infrastructures response to this crisis. ***The student will analyze how the current system developed to meet the needs of public health in Rural Nevada and make recommendations for policy needs, development and infrastructure needed for rural Nevada to respond to future public health needs and crisis.*** Issues such as public health infrastructure development, rural health boards, county health officers and potential county or regional health districts could be explored. Analysis of current legislation and potential legislation could be an aspect of this project. ***The main purpose of this project is to document and detail the need for resources and create suggestions for improvement in the development of rural public health.***

This project would begin with evaluating the current state of rural public health and the impact of public health through the pandemic. The student will design and conduct a survey with local, county and state officials and gather information on responses, needs and potential solutions identified by those

surveyed. The final portion of this project would be to research what other communities in rural areas did and are doing in responding to public health issues. A final report of the results of the project and recommendations will be required.

5. Construction Health Worker Infection Control Training Program Research Project

This project is a collaboration between Green Advantage, Whiting Turning and the Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity to evaluate the effectiveness of the Pre-Construction Risk Assessment / Infection Control Risk Assessment (PCRA/ICRA) certification program. Surveys and analyses will be conducted for workers who went through the certification program and those who did not to assess their confidence and knowledge while working in the Health Care Construction Industry and readiness to protect themselves and others from exposures. Recommendations for statewide policy will be made based on the results obtained.

Tasks:

- Collect baseline data on the certification programs in general from available information from throughout the country.
- Conduct pre-assessment and post-assessment surveys (on phone, via web) of the workers who attended the training and those who did not (~50+) to assess the impact of the recommended trainings.
- Conduct key informant interviews of key construction stakeholders via phone (~10) on the feasibility of adoption of training program.
- Analyze data and create a presentation and report based on results.
- Make strategies or recommendations that are stratified by importance of next steps to address the issues within the construction industry.
- Create policy recommendations for gold standard of construction training in Nevada to address health needs and infection control among this population.

6. Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada Heat Impact Study

This project looks to explore the health implications occurring in households in Clark County during high temperatures events in southern Nevada, and determines which populations are more at risk. The project has following objectives:

- Determine how many houses in Clark County are equipped with air conditioning.
- Identify in which neighborhoods have owners/renters of housing that are without air conditioning systems.
- Determine which type of health complications/ diseases are possible when having poor or no air conditioning systems in the household.
- Create a report that will differentiate which populations in southern Nevada are more susceptible to diseases caused by lack of or no air conditioning.
- Generate recommendations to be implemented as policy guidelines for RTC of S. Nevada.

