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**Minutes (FINAL)  
of the meeting of the  
Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity (NOMHE) Advisory Committee  
Tuesday, February 16, 2021**

The Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity (NOMHE) Advisory Committee held a public meeting on February 16, 2021, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the following locations:

**This Meeting was held via Conference call only:**

In accordance with Governor Sisolak's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006: Subsections 1: the requirement contained in NRS 241.023 (1)(b) that there be a physical location designates for meetings of public bodies were a member of the public are permitted to attend and participate is suspended.

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Erik Jimenez, Chair. Present were NOMHE Advisory Committee members Chair Erik Jimenez, Vice Chair Andrea Gregg, Andre Wade, Dr. Crystal Lee, Dr. Jennifer Kawi, Reverend Dr. Karen Anderson, and Cassandra Cotton.

No Advisory Committee members were absent.

QUORUM achieved.

Legislative Advisor (a non-voting member of the Committee) Senator Patricia Spearman was present.

Chair Erik Jimenez took a moment to congratulate the Vice Chair Andrea Gregg on her second reappointment, for the next two years.

Also present were Tina Dortch, Program Manager, NOMHE; Beth Handler, Deputy Director, Director's Office, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); Alexandra Neal, NOMHE; Jennifer Hughes, Grants Management Unit, DHHS; Dominique Seck, COVID-19 Program Coordinator, NOMHE; Baldo Bobadilla and Tamara Telles, Health in All Polices, University of Nevada Reno (UNR) Public Health Training Center; Catherine Nielsen, Projects Manager, Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities; Janet Serial, NAACP Sparks/Reno; Alisa Howard; Maggie Salas Crespo, Senior Advisor,

Nevada Governor's Office for New Americans; and Madison Lopey, Biostatistician I, Office of Analytics, DHHS.

Chair Jimenez asked that public comment be held until the end.

## **2. Review/Approval of Minutes from November 17, 2020, NOMHE Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Action Item** - Chair Jimenez invited a motion to approve the November 17, 2020, NOMHE Advisory Committee meeting minutes. Andrea Gregg motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Second from Dr. Crystal Lee. Motion carried unanimously; minutes approved with no changes.

## **3. NOMHE Advisory Committee Membership Opportunity**

Chair Jimenez shared that since Dr. Gillian Barclay is leaving the State of Nevada, there are two open seats. Committee members are defined in statute as follows: Three members must have interest in minority health and are approved by the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Six members are approved by the State Board of Health. One must be from Northern, Southern and Rural Nevada each, a non-profit representative, a health care provider, and one from the general public. Members must reflect the diversity of the State. With the two open seats, one will be Director appointed and the other will be appointed by the State Board of Health. The open seats will need to be a member of the public and either a non-profit representative or health care provider.

Tina Dortch went on to ask the NOMHE Advisory Committee members to help advocate and fill the vacancies. Members of the Committee are encouraged to promote and share with individuals who might be interested. Ms. Dortch shared the NOMHE Advisory Committee Recruitment Notice and The NOMHE Advisory Committee Member Overview. The application, a letter of interest, and resume can be submitted to Ms. Dortch.

Chair Jimenez commented anyone from the LatinX Health Action Network, tribal communities or the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) who would be interested in serving on the NOMHE Advisory Committee should speak with Ms. Dortch.

## **4. NOMHE Sustainability Update.**

Chair Jimenez stated the State is in tough economic times, but the Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity has persevered through the ability to get Federal Grants. They're appreciative, however NOMHE does need a balanced budget.

Ms. Dortch shared the Handout titled "OMHE Budget FY21". What's important is the projected balance at the end of the fiscal year. As of right now the projected balance is \$2,711.24. The budget showed there was very little action within the operating activity. This is due in part to not being able to travel North. Funds have been dedicated to chargebacks and salary.

## 5. NOMHE Activities and Impact Reporting

### *Program Manager Capacity & Impact Overview*

Ms. Dortch presented the NOMHE Program Manager Report. The report contained COVID-19 Responsiveness, DHHS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Steering Committee, and the NOMHE capacity. Advocacy has been elevated in many ways and the NOMHE has been at several tables during the COVID-19 responsiveness period. One that is notable is the State's third version of the Vaccination Playbook. The NOMHE has been able to collaborate with a variety of State commissions and agencies who are commissioned to act on behalf of the vulnerable communities. Together they have presented equity focused recommendations. Efforts from the State are being mirrored at the National level and the new Administration has announced the need for equity.

Ms. Dortch went on to discuss the Governor's recently announced Equity and Fairness Initiative. The Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity works closely with the Equity and Fairness representative, Candice McDaniel. Ms. McDaniel and her team have been the architects of the Vaccination Playbook. As a result of the Equity and Fairness Initiative, Ms. Dortch has held conversations to provide clarification when it comes to point of distribution processes and how the decisions are made. On February 11, 2021 Ms. Dortch was able to attend her first convening of a meeting under that initiative. They were able to discuss and capture real-time data when it comes to the points of distribution to help achieve the equity goals.

Ms. Dortch continued with collaborations and new activities. The work of the Office of New Americans (ONA) has been notable. Ms. Dortch was happy to announce the NOMHE is now working to demonstrably ensure that the population they serve, immigrants and undocumented, are also recognized as vulnerable populations. Just as the NOMHE is supporting the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) legislative bill, NOMHE is working with the ONA to make sure they are elevated to receive the resources they need. DHHS has partnered with Immunize Nevada and the UNR School of Medicine for a COVID responsiveness survey. The NOMHE has connected ONA with the UNR School of Medicine, to be sure the tribal community is taking the survey and sharing their perceptions. The UNR School of Medicine is open to suggestions on how to improve the survey. Ms. Dortch thanked her new friends at ONA for her invitation for partnership.

Ms. Dortch commented the relationship with the faith community has been restored and is being utilized in real and notable ways. Specifically, the NOMHE is working with the Nevada Faith and Health Coalition. Health and Human Services employee Fred Kingman began the outreach working within the faith community. The Nevada Faith and Health Coalition has taken the mantle and they have combined those two proponents in his name sake, Faith and Health. They are moving the needle on how to use those communities to educate and move health equity in a large population. The NOMHE looks for stakeholders and community partners and the faith community is no exception. Ms. Dortch is delighted to have them at her ready; this partnership is a mutually beneficial relationship.

Ms. Dortch addressed the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Advisory Committee. The Initiative is called Lead Up. It is championed by the Student National Medical Association. The NOMHE has been asked to sit on the DEI Advisory Committee. The goal is to improve patient education and provide anti-racism training to medical trainees. Mentorship and exposure are the pillars of this initiative. Lead up has received funding through Anthem; they will be conducting Saturday free clinics. The Southern Nevada Health District will be offering them space. Lead Up is looking for opportunities to provide patient education, anti-racism training, and mentorship. The daylong event is for the community to meet and to get help at leadership levels, health literacy, and clinical care.

Ms. Dortch stated the NOMHE has been meeting with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (U.S. GAO) who were in town in January 2021. The U.S. GAO seeks to collect data from states based on incidences of COVID per 100,000 people. Additionally, last year the NOMHE was involved in dialogue with a former FDA commissioner equally interested in how the NOMHE was doing outreach and had a specific focus on Nevada's tribal communities.

The DEI Steering Committee provides support to action the proclamation from the Governor. The NOMHE has been elected to focus on DHHS workforce inclusiveness and improve diversity. Service providers will translate care in a culturally sensitive way, and this will have an impact on health disparities. The formation of this group reflects multiple agencies at DHHS, including the Director's Office and the Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) support group. BIPOC was involved in data collection points. The NOMHE also has support from Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SEI). The goal is to diversify the workforce and to provide opportunity and promotion in an equitable fashion.

Ms. Dortch announced the NOMHE, through legislative actions and the State Capital, will formally and officially align with the DHHS Director's office. The Director of DHHS continues to see the value of the Office of Minority Health and Equity staying with the DHHS Director's suite. Ms. Dortch announced that Alexandra Neal and Dominique Seck will be continuing their rolls to support the agency through the end of December 2021. Ms. Dortch asked if anyone had questions.

Chair Jimenez thanked the Office of New Americans (ONA) for their partnership as they do much with the little resources they have; they privately fundraise and serve a large population. He acknowledged it is important to have ONA plugged into the vaccine equity conversations. It's important for our immigrant citizens to have a seat at the table.

***Clinical Trial Diversification- Vaccine Awareness Efforts, Alexandra Neal, COVID-19 Minority Health Equity Specialist, NOMHE***

Alexandra Neal invited the NOMHE Advisory Committee to review the attachment "Update on Clinical Trial & Vaccine Efforts". The Demystifying the Science web series presented two livestream informational sessions via YouTube. Flu Vaccine session, November 20, 2020 and COVID-19 Vaccine session, January 21, 2021. NOMHE was fortunate to have Pastor Karen Anderson share the COVID-19 Vaccine session live stream through the First AME Church Facebook page. Doing so helped with community outreach. Each webinar was very extensive. The science and protocols for vaccinations was explained. The COVID-19 Webinar included a speaker from the Morehouse school of medicine, Dr.

Dominic Mack, who is the Director of the National COVID-19 Resiliency Network. This was created through the Federal Office of Minority Health and Equity grant funding for community awareness and vaccine efforts. Also present from the Faith and Health Collation was Bishop Ron Thomas. The webinars have given NOMHE the opportunity to grow relationships both nationally and locally.

Ms. Neal stated the first organization they were able to work with was the Morehouse School of Medicine. The NOMHE has also worked with Touro University Student National Medical Association Chapter, UNLV Student National Medical Association Chapter, and the Southern Nevada Chapter of the Society of Clinical Research Associates.

Ms. Neal stated NOMHE is working on awareness and health literacy through State, National, and International levels. Ms. Neal believes when looking at health it's like the circle of life, all of us are interrelated. There is much concern locally within Nevada as well as Nationally and Internationally. NOMHE goal is to make individuals aware and to have proper education. This way individuals can make decisions knowing that they are properly prepared.

Ms. Neal stated NOMHE is working with the All of Us Volunteer Ambassador Program (VAP) to raise awareness and facilitate participation. NOMHE has brought this initiative to the NOMHE network. Nevada's Faith and Health Collation had a few faith organizations enroll in the All of Us Volunteer Ambassador Program. They have scheduled dates and will receive incentives. Ms. Neal asked if anyone had questions.

***“Amplify Equity” COVID Response Strategy- Toolkit, Dominique Seck, COVID-19 Program Coordinator, NOMHE***

Dominique Seck invited the Committee to review the attachment “Update on Amplify Equity COVID-19 Toolkit”. The Toolkit is a repository of resources to develop COVID-19 responses with the goal to educating, equipping, and maximizing advocates and organizations committed to culturally competent health related services and delivery across vulnerable communities. Ms. Seck presented the weblink to the toolkit. The toolkit is comprised of four categories. The four categories are: Cultural Literacy Strategies, Outreach and Public Awareness Strategies, Contact Tracing and Emergency Response Strategies, and Action Planning and Reporting Strategies.

Ms. Seck stated the Toolkit has four phases. Phase 1 was Development of the Toolkit. Phase 2, Toolkit Promotion and Collaboration. Currently NOMHE is in phase 3 and 4. Phase 3, Implementation Assistance aims see how effective the toolkit is. Ms. Seck created a pilot group comprised from the One Community Initiative. These participants represent community organizations that attend to a variety of social services such as workforce development and sickle cell and rare disease advocacy. Organization's COVID response strategy, mission statement, and goals were assessed. Based on the assessments, Ms. Seck made over twenty-five recommendations. Notable is Vaccine Hesitancy Resources from Immunize Nevada, Unidos U.S. Community Resources, and Stocking a Healthy Pantry.

Ms. Seck followed up with some of the feedback she received. Although one category, contact tracing and emergency responses, is not featured, Ms. Seck believes the feedback shows people are thinking

about health equity beyond the pandemic. Participants were asked if the toolkit would be relevant beyond the emergency health crisis; all participants said yes. Participants also offered suggestions on how to improve the toolkit such as resources for the rare disease community and virtual education health classes. Ms. Seck invited the NOMHE Advisory Committee to look at the toolkit and is open to suggestions on how to improve it. Additionally, Ms. Seck added if there is an organization who could use the assessment to refer them to her.

Ms. Dortch thanked Ms. Seck for her time. Ms. Dortch expressed that the Toolkit is not a static resource that resides on a weblink. Organizations are challenged with the ability and time to action plan and to seek resources to help them with their COVID response. Ms. Dortch acknowledged she sees value in the Toolkit, not only short term, but long term as well. The NOMHE will track how relevant the Toolkit continues to be. It plays an important role in health equity as it addresses disparities in health service deliveries.

Mr. Wade commented how great the work is and he is glad that it has been put together. He then asked for the correct weblink so that he could participate if there was a need.

Ms. Dortch confirmed that there still is a need and the NOMHE would like to work with Mr. Wade's organization as the work he is doing is phenomenal.

Ms. Seck confirmed that she will email Mr. Wade so that he could participate.

***Ally-Related Activities, Jay Cafferata, Public Health Diversity Advisor, UNR Public Health Training Center***

Mr. Cafferata thanked Ms. Dortch and Chair Jimenez for the opportunity to speak today. Mr. Cafferata invited the NOMHE Advisory Committee to review the handout titled "Cultural Competency Projects". The most remarkable item Mr. Cafferata has worked on is Online Cultural Competency for Licensed Health Care Facilities trainings. The State recently enforced the law that has been in effect for the last two years, but there was a deadline of February 1, 2021 for all licensed facilities to indicate to the State their plan to accomplish this requirement. Mr. Cafferata asked if there were any questions.

Ms. Dortch asked if there were any synergies in his work, not only legislatively but also advocacy positions, that stratify data collection and how have efforts supported the legislative session focus? Mr. Cafferata remarked he and his colleagues are working with Senator Spearman with the new requirements for the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) bill. This is part of the original legislative bill from the last session and is now being refined further through some of the other projects they are working on. The number one focus has been how to roll out the best way to collect demographics. Otherwise, data is hard to ascertain and to know what is happening because we're not all asking the same questions. Questions deal with self-identification, a willingness to self-report, not questions such as ancestry or your zip code. Historically these questions have created a lot of backlash or fear of coming out. Individuals fear loss of employment from coming out, even though the Supreme Court has ruled no loss of job for being transgender or gay. The goal is to create questions individuals are not afraid to answer. This is happening across several layers, not only in health care but even down

to agencies such as the DMV. The goal is to get these questions added so individuals are familiar with them.

Senator Spearman remarked it supports a community's ethos to have validators to do the work ahead of time. Senator Spearman hopes the SOGI Bill will help people know why they need the data. The data is being collected so when the SOGI Bill is passed the population is known. Then, when policy decisions are made, and money is spent, population needs are supported by demographic information. A few years ago, the wording changed at the DMV from "Are you a Veteran?" to "Have you served in the military?". DMV received more responses. Most people did not say yes to "Are you a Veteran?" because they thought if you didn't retire with the service, you weren't a Veteran. Individuals who already serve in the community must deliver the message first.

Chair Jimenez thanked Senator Spearman for her time and offered Andre Wade's assistance to the Senator.

Senator Spearman thanked Chair Jimenez, for the offer and will be taking Mr. Wade up on his assistance as he helped put the Bill together.

Mr. Wade commented he will be supporting the efforts in getting the Bill passed. He thanked Senator Spearman, Ms. Dortch, and Mr. Cafferata,

Ms. Dortch remarked that it is about learning and becoming familiar with the process. As a part of the contact tracing efforts, the NOMHE is utilizing and expanding stratifying data collection.

***Health in All Policies (HiAP) Activities, Baldo Bobadilla & Tamara Telles, Public Health Diversity Advisors, UNR Public Health Training Center***

Tamera Telles invited the NOMHE Advisory Committee to view the handout titled "Health in All Policies Update 2/16/2021". Health in All Policies (HiAP) has been working on submitting proposal abstracts for presentations that are coming up. HiAP has also proposed a one-hour presentation for the HiAP project and the results at the April 2021 Northern Nevada Diversity Summit hosted by the UNR Diversity and Inclusion Department. An additional abstract will be presented at the American Public Health Association October 2021 Conference. The overall information being collected is for the understanding of the HiAP approach. The report's evaluation will be broken up into three different sections: policy, research, and practice. Current trends show there is a lack of data from agencies. Challenges include COVID-19 barriers and the need to secure additional funding to continue to make this a lasting impact. Additionally, HiAP has been working with Dan Cook from the UNR School of Community Health Sciences to help draft a bill request for this legislative session.

Mr. Bobadilla gave an update on the pilot projects; all have neared completion. The Construction Safety, Infectious Disease Prevention will be wrapped up end of February 2021. The LatinX Health Action Network highlights the gaps in communication lines between agencies. Mr. Bobadilla continued with the Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) report. Recycling opportunities for communities was recommended. The Rural Nevada Public Health Infrastructure project assessed Nevada's rural health services capacity. The project recognized opportunities to improve infrastructure, formation of health

districts, and multi-county collaboration efficiency. Mr. Bobadilla stated the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) Pedestrian Experience Index (PEI) project is applying for a grant to expand to Washoe County roads. RTC would like to assess the streets in Washoe County for the PEI. This project should be done end of February 2021.

The Nevada Housing Division Affordable Housing Unit Preservation Classification project addresses affordable properties which need to be preserved. HiAP has given them another tool in their arsenal to be used to preserve affordable housing. The Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada project illustrates the implications of factors that may make a person more susceptible to heat-related health outcomes. Initial findings show lower socioeconomic neighborhoods use less electricity. More data needs to be collected to make accurate connections.

Ms. Dortch commented there is a movement to standardize equity goals. On the National level there is recognition about equity goal setting and using this to respond to health inequities as a strategic plan and process. Ms. Dortch is happy to report that the work of the HiAP pilot team has been recognized and has been requested to extend. This team's contract is set to end June 2021 but there is dialogue on how to extend their work given the interest of HiAP and the ally training.

Chair Jimenez asked if the construction project was complete and then stated that he has been working with the Administration and the Governor for private activity bonds with the affordable housing association. Chair Jimenez said that some of those bonds could be leveraged to help get the projects moving.

Mr. Bobadilla remarked the projects are to see what properties should be preserved; this way resources can better be allocated. They want to continue map and identify more projects while working with the communities. Mr. Bobadilla has a meeting set up to discuss the next steps.

***2021 Nevada Minority Health Report Presentation, Jennifer Thompson and Madison Lopey, Office of Analytics, DHHS***

Madison Lopey invited the NOMHE Advisory Committee to view the handout titled "2021 Minority Health Report". The purpose of the report is to collect data from multiple sources and to highlight health disparities in Nevada. The report is broken up by race/ethnicity and region. Ms. Lopey asked if anyone had questions.

Ms. Dortch recognized NOMHE Advisory Committee members who assisted Ms. Lopey, Andre Wade and Alisa Howard. Ms. Dortch hopes to show how the data is relevant. Dominique Seck will be the point person in the NOMHE office.

Cassandra Cotton thanked everyone for all the work that has been done. She asked if any of the data had been collected by zip codes.

Ms. Lopey answered data has been tracked by the Census, the rest of the report is by county.



Dr. Jennifer Kawi asked if “balance of state” refers to the rest of the population of Nevada beyond Clark and Washoe Counties?

Ms. Lopey confirmed the data excludes Clark County and Washoe County and includes all other counties.

Dr. Kawi asked what the percentage of sexual orientation and gender identity respondents was.

Ms. Lopey was not sure of the exact percentage but stated that they did get about 3,000 respondents and the table showed about 2,700 sexual orientation and gender identity respondents.

Ms. Dortch remarked to Dr. Kawi her hope is the lack of responsiveness is motivation to identify and make sure priorities are inclusive of the target populations. This report will be elevated and promoted for its positivity to make sure that NOMHE presents opportunities to improve.

## **6. NOMHE Advisory Committee Activity**

### ***NOMHE Advisory Committee Recommendation Letter to DHHS Director- Response from Richard Whitley***

Ms. Dortch invited the committee to view the “DHHS Director’s Response to NOMHE Advisory Committee Recommendations February 2021” The NOMHE Advisory Committee has made recommendations about an advisory council of “diversity focused” agency leaders. NOMHE is hearing that the Legislative, the DEI Steering Committee, and the work of HiAP are all in talks about having diversity representation.

Chair Jimenez stated himself, Ms. Dortch, and the Office of New Americans, have started to work alongside the Commissioner of the Commission on Minority Affairs on legislation to designate point persons within tribal communities. Every agency should be focused on diversity and inclusion. This is the logical extension of HiAP. As a State everybody needs to think of communities of color, minority and marginalized groups to make sure they always have a seat at the table. Chair Jimenez believes this conversation is much bigger. There is much opportunity to expand so if anyone has suggestions, Chair Jimenez is open to feedback.

Andrea Gregg appreciates the designated point people at each agency. Thinking of the HiAP continuum, Ms. Gregg would like to embark on the workforce equity piece. The NOMHE should work on centering the voices of workers and then focus on prioritizing, planning, and evaluation of workforce of equity strategies.

Chair Jimenez agreed with Ms. Gregg. The DHHS Director addressed this in his letter. It is not surprising the Minority Health and Equity Report shows every community of color got hit the hardest with job loss due to the pandemic. As the economy rebuilds, focus should be on those communities to get them back to work. Chair Jimenez added this letter shows the NOMHE Advisory Committee has a voice and can shape policy.

Ms. Dortch thought the Director was very poignant in identifying the data gaps.

Ms. Dortch discussed number five on the "DHHS Director's Response to the NOMHE Advisory Committee Recommendations February 2021" letter, work to increase the resources available to the NOMHE through federal funding to best serve Nevada's minority communities. There has been discussion that federal dollars have been rather prescriptive meaning even though they are addressing specific disparity; they are not very localized. This prevents federal dollars from coming in locally. There seems to be a swing and Ms. Dortch is working with the Bureau of Child and Family Community Wellness in response to a Center for Disease Control (CDC) funded opportunity to train community health workers. The NOMHE has been working on the relationship with tribal communities. The Indian Commission has been helpful in identifying Health Directors who might want to be a part of it.

### ***Black History Month and Minority Health Awareness Month***

Chair Jimenez mentioned because the NOMHE would like to move forward, whether it be racism as a public health emergency or breaking down systems and structures and making sure communities are served. We are moving forward with baby steps and chipping away until it get done.

Ms. Dortch expressed when there's major activity awareness months the NOMHE Advisory Committee members know they should be sharing opportunities with the NOMHE office. If there are chances to speak or present, the NOMHE is here to advocate for all vulnerable populations. During the Minority Health Awareness month, the NOMHE typically drafts a proclamation. With the new Administration, the NOMHE is in the process of framing the testaments for the April Proclamation. Ms. Dortch encouraged the NOMHE Advisory Committee members to share areas that should be prioritized.

### **7. Scheduling Matters**

Chair Jimenez said the next meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and Tuesday, August 17, 2021, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. As of this meeting is no date set for the November 2021 meeting.

Ms. Dortch proposed Tuesday, November 16, 2021, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Follow up correspondence will be sent to make sure it can be locked in.

### ***Proposed NOMHE Actions & Agenda Topics for May 2021***

Chair Jimenez said the representative from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will give a presentation in the May meeting.

Chair Jimenez stated there will be an AHEC presentation in the future. If NOMHE Advisory Committee members have any additional agenda items, please send them to Ms. Dortch.

### **8. Public Comment**

Chair Jimenez opened public comment.

Mr. Wade asked if the NOMHE could add to the agenda to review any legislation that would impact the office.

Chair Jimenez said there is legislation to identify and help LGBTQ as disadvantaged businesses.

Janet Serial, NAACP Sparks/Reno Branch, congratulated Ms. Dortch on her three-year anniversary. Ms. Dortch has been the longest serving Program Manager for the Nevada Office of Minority Health and Equity. The NAACP Sparks/Reno Branch will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Health Symposium in April 2021 during Minority Health Month. The Symposium will be centered around health equity, cultural competency, and health literacy. Ms. Serial invited Ms. Dortch to speak at the symposium.

Chair Jimenez thanked Ms. Serial for all the work she has done for the office including the creation of the Office of Minority Health with then Senator Steven Horsford and Morse Arberry.

Catherine Nielsen with the Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities mentioned March is Disabilities Awareness Month. March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021 will be Disabilities Awareness Day. The Council will have information going out on how to meet with your representatives. Additionally, they will have information on Bills that affect the disabled community.

Shelia James, Public Health Advisor, Region Nine Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, gave a status report on what is going on in her office.

Lance Ledet, Project Coordinator, UNR Nevada Assistive Technology Resource Center gave a brief update of their program. He also asked if closed captions will be provided in the next meeting.

Chair Jimenez remarked it's important to him to have that accessibility, please email Ms. Dortch so accommodations can be made.

Maggie Salas Crespo, Senior Advisor for Nevada's Governor's Office for New Americans thanked Ms. Dortch for her efforts.

Dr. Crystal Lee, College of Population Health, University of New Mexico shared information about the resources in her office.

Ms. Gregg commented she would like to touch base with Dr. Lee.

## **9. Adjournment**

**Action Item-** Chair Jimenez called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wade motioned to adjourn. Dr. Jennifer Kawi seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:51