NOMHE Advisory Board Meeting – 2/16/21

Health in All Policies Update, Baldo Bobadilla & Tamara Telles

Online Asynchronous Training

The Nevada Public Health Training Center (NVPHTC) developed and launched the online asynchronous course to continue Health in All Policies (HiAP) promotion Health in All Policies 101: Health Happens Here! Since the end of January, a total of 39 people have enrolled in the training.

Potential Upcoming Presentations

NVPHTC submitted a proposal abstract for a one-hour presentation about the HiAP project and results for the April 2021 Northern Nevada Diversity Summit hosted by University of Nevada, Reno’s Diversity & Inclusion Department. An additional abstract will be submitted to present at the American Public Health Association 2021 October Conference, Creating the Healthiest Nation: Strengthening Social Connectedness.

HiAP Pilot Project Updates

All Pilots projects except for the PCRA/ICRA Construction Safety have concluded. Final reports are being drafted, and a consolidated report including policy recommendations and possible actions will be presented to the NOMHE by May. Below are the preliminary findings for each project;

1. **LatinX Health Action Network**: This study highlights the gaps/breakdowns in communication lines between agencies and the LatinX community in Washoe County, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. Findings suggest the development of an advisory board of community stakeholders for improving lines of communication. In additions, the findings indicate the need for a professional translator for official communications, and not leave to individual agencies for translations.

2. **Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB)**: This project highlights the lack of recycling services for multi-unit housing in the Reno/Sparks area. Access to recycling was found to be the main barrier for people living in multi-unit housing, and need for better policy regarding recycling and waste services in the area is imperative to address this inequity. KTMB would like to continue working with the NVPHTC on additional HiAP projects.

3. **Rural Nevada Public Health Infrastructure**: This project assessed Nevada’s rural health services capacity, and concluded that access to services and care is one of the main drivers to rural Nevada’s lower health outcomes when compared to the urban population. The study recognized there’s an opportunity to improve public health services capacity and infrastructure by provisioning current NRS 439 legislation in order to make the formation of health districts and multi-county collaboration more efficient.

4. **Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) Pedestrian Experience Index (PEI)**: The project entails the collection PEI attributes in downtown Reno’s business district, Midtown and UNR areas. This valuable data will assist the RTC in prioritizing pedestrian infrastructure investment at locations...
where it is needed most. RTC would like to expand this project to all of Washoe County roads and potentially the entire State.

5. **Construction Safety, Infectious Disease Prevention:** Project has been extended to February to get more participants.

6. **Nevada Housing Division Affordable Housing Unit Preservation Classification:** This project entails the development of indicators and a ranking system to determine the properties that are at risk of being lost to private development and should be considered/prioritized for preservation as affordable housing units. Data and files have been provided to the Housing Division to add to their resources, the housing division indicated they would like to include mapping features to this resource.

7. **Regional Transportation Commission of S. NV:** This project sought to understand and illustrate the implications of factors that may make a person more susceptible to heat-related health outcomes during extreme heat events in Clark County. The specific topic area identified was accessibility to air conditioning, specifically related to tenant-landlord law, affordability of air conditioning use, and comparison of socioeconomic demographics in identified low-use areas. Initial finding highlights high unemployment rates, lower SES in neighborhoods with lower electricity usage, however more data the needs to be collected to make more accurate connections to health outcomes.

**HiAP Pilot Project Evaluation Progress**

The Health in All Policies (HiAP) Pilot Project evaluation process is near complete. Using a quantitative approach, each agency from the individual HiAP Pilot Projects are participating in an interview-style post-project evaluation over Zoom. The information being collected is for an overall understanding of utilization of the HiAP approach, if and/or how the project outcomes have affected their organization, collaboration working with the NVPHTC (a public health agency), and recommendations and overall satisfaction. Current trends are: Lack of data; Non-traditional collaboration between public health and other sectors brings value and an important perspective; Every partnership’s project had success with outcomes that can be used currently and for future; Community benefits, policy (legislative or administrative) identified and should be considered; Expansion of pilot projects are of large interest along with exploration of additional collaborative work/projects; Challenges and barriers occurred were mainly due to COVID-19 or geographical; Areas to improve had been identified – tools, cross-collaboration with university student interns from different fields of study to support technical assistance; Additional funding needed to continue and make a lasting impact.