

Quarterly Report to the Nevada State Board of Health

Reporting Period: Q4 October to December 2025

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Executive Summary

This quarterly report summarizes the key activities, accomplishments, performance metrics, challenges, and significant events of Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) for the period from October to December 2025. The report is organized by division and highlights cross-divisional collaboration, interagency coordination, and major public health impacts. The information herein is based on District Board of Health meetings and associated staff reports for the reporting period.

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Administration & Strategic Planning

Key Activities & Accomplishments

- Respiratory Season Readiness: Coordinated efforts among PHD, CCHS, and ODHO ensured timely surveillance updates, vaccination messaging, and community guidance as the 2025–2026 respiratory season commenced.
- Regulatory & Environmental Health Synergy: EHS operational improvements (digital inspection checklist) and AQMD field compliance activities collectively advanced environmental protections, while ODHO centralized communications integrated these updates for public transparency.
- Equity & Strategic Alignment: ODHO facilitated BARHII assessment synthesis and CHA data analysis to embed equity in agency planning, informing divisional priorities.
- Vector Preparedness & Funding Strategy: Cross-team coordination supported development of the mosquito abatement funding proposal, an interagency initiative with the BCC to mitigate vector-borne disease risk.
- Maintained high-volume regulatory performance across EHS with demonstrable inspection outputs and complaint responsiveness—supporting food safety, water quality, and environmental health protections.
- Advanced AQMD compliance and permitting throughput with sustained monitoring of demolition and dust control activities and proactive complaint resolution.
- Delivered timely respiratory surveillance and public dashboards, strengthening situational awareness for residents, providers, and partners.
- Progressed equity-centered strategic planning and workforce development, aligning organizational capacity with community needs.
- Launched process improvements (digital inspections) and prepared interagency funding proposals to address vector risk.

Key Lessons Learned

- Integrated, cross-divisional communications are essential to sustain public trust and responsiveness during seasonal surges and environmental events. (Synthesis of ODHO communications reports and divisional updates.)
- Data-driven equity assessments (BARHII, CHA focus groups) are critical for prioritizing interventions and guiding resource allocation.
- Operational resilience, including recruitment pipelines and supply chain alternatives (e.g., sand filters), must be actively managed to prevent service delays in regulatory functions.

Significant Events & Interagency Coordination

- Mosquito Abatement Funding: Prepared a staff report and request to seek DBOH approval to present data and future funding options to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC), in response to population growth and warming weather increasing nuisance and West Nile virus risk.
- Continued public communications support for divisional updates and seasonal risks, ensuring consistent messaging across NNPH programs.

Priorities for Next Quarter (Q1 2026)

- Finalize and present the equity-focused action plan at the NNPH strategic retreat; embed measurable objectives across divisions.
- Strengthen respiratory season interventions with targeted outreach, vaccination support, and enhanced EMS coordination.
- Advance EHS digital inspection implementation and address onsite wastewater project backlogs through supply chain and regional permitting solutions.
- Pursue interagency approval and funding pathways for mosquito abatement with the BCC to mitigate nuisance and West Nile virus risk ahead of peak season.
- Monitor federal policy developments (e.g., WEPA) and prepare compliance guidance for AQMD stakeholders.

Conclusion

Quarter Four demonstrated NNPH's capacity to sustain core regulatory functions, deliver timely surveillance, and advance equity-centered planning while coordinating across divisions and with regional partners. I appreciate the Nevada State Board of Health's continued support and look forward to reporting on our

progress in Quarter One, as we translate strategic planning into measurable public health outcomes for Northern Nevada.

Environmental Health Division

Key Activities & Accomplishments

- Core regulatory functions: food safety, childcare, schools, public accommodations, pools/spas, tattoo/IBD, solid waste, vector control, land development (septic/well), underground storage tanks, and safe drinking water.
- Process improvement: Development of a new test trench inspection checklist to advance digital inspections and improve efficiency and consistency; rollout and team demonstrations in November.
- Vector Control: Initiated mosquito abatement efforts and hired a seasonal vector control technician.

Notable Trends & Performance Metrics

- Inspection volumes (selected 2025 indicators from monthly reports):
 - Food/Exempt Food: 466 inspections in October and 337 in November; YTD 4,073.
 - Aquatic Facilities: 41 inspections in October and 28 in November; YTD 834.
 - Temporary Foods/Special Events: 139 in October; YTD 1,407.
 - Complaints: 106 in October and 50 in November; YTD 825.
- Land Development (November): 59 residential/septic plans received; 67 residential septic/well inspections; Well permits: 12.
- Safe Drinking Water (November): 2 sanitary surveys and 1 water hauler inspection completed.

Challenges & Significant Events

- Supply chain constraint: Ongoing search for *sand filter* sources to clear a backlog of onsite wastewater projects; supportive interjurisdictional correspondence in November with Lyon County to facilitate permitting, with no response by early December.
- Recruitment: Continued coordination with HR regarding senior-level recruitment to bolster regulatory capacity.

Cross-Divisional & Interagency Coordination

- Interactions with county partners and adjacent jurisdictions on onsite wastewater materials; coordination with ODHO on public messaging and workforce processes; alignment with PHD and CCHS to address vector-borne risk communications when seasonal conditions warrant.
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Population Health Division

Key Activities & Accomplishments

- Program scope: Epidemiology, Statistics & Informatics; Public Health Preparedness; Emergency Medical Services; Vital Statistics; Sexual Health Investigations & Outreach; Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention.
- Respiratory Virus Surveillance (2025–2026 season):
 - Season began in MMWR Week 40 (late September); weekly respiratory updates distributed via NNPH’s Respiratory Virus Surveillance Dashboard, with ongoing COVID-19 indicators and influenza-like illness (ILI) tracking.
 - Public dashboards for Annual Influenza Hospitalization & Mortality (2024–2025) remained available to inform community and partner situational awareness.

Notable Trends & Performance Metrics

- ILI trends (2021–2025 seasons): PHD continued weekly reporting and visualization of sentinel provider ILI percentages for Washoe County as part of routine surveillance.
- Ongoing data integration: PHD maintained COVID-19 metrics (weekly new cases, average daily cases, cases per 100K per week, hospitalizations) while transitioning to broader respiratory season reporting.

Challenges & Significant Events

- Sustained multi-pathogen respiratory monitoring during peak season required coordinated communications and preparedness posture with EMS partners and NNPH divisions.

Cross-Divisional & Interagency Coordination

- Collaboration with ODHO on community-facing updates; alignment with CCHS clinical services for vaccination and sexual health outreach; data sharing with AQMD for community messaging on air quality and respiratory risks, especially during seasonal burn periods or inversion conditions noted in divisional reporting.

Community & Clinical Services

Key Activities & Accomplishments

- Focus areas in Q4:
 - Reproductive & Sexual Health: Emphasis on accessible, client-centered services for uninsured, underinsured, undocumented, and LGBTQ+ community members; continued service delivery and education to reduce barriers and improve outcomes.
 - Infant & Maternal Health: Observance of Infant Mortality Awareness Month (September) and Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Month (October) supported the Fetal Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) activities and community awareness.

Notable Trends & Metrics

- Sustaining access and throughput across high-demand clinical services while coordinating equity initiatives and workforce transitions highlighted by ODHO updates.

Cross-Divisional & Interagency Coordination

- Collaboration with ODHO on public communications and equity projects; alignment with PHD epidemiology for STI/sexual health investigations; coordination with HAS/HR on staffing transitions.
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Air Quality Management

Key Activities & Accomplishments

- Operational oversight of air quality programs, including monitoring and planning, permitting and compliance, and program reporting for demolition, construction dust control, asbestos, and wood stove initiatives.
- October operational outputs (reported at the November 20 DBOH meeting): staff monitored *ten* facility demolitions; processed *fifteen* new construction/dust projects covering *163 acres*; completed *forty-three construction site inspections*; and *responded to twenty-four* complaints.

Notable Trends & Performance Metrics

Permitting and Registrations (October 2025 vs. 2024):

- Reissuance of existing air permits: *61* (YTD *597*) vs. *66* (annual *1,069*).
- New stationary source permits: *5* (YTD *38*) vs. *2* (annual *42*).
- Dust control permits: *15* (*163 acres*; YTD *158, 2,509 acres*) vs. *15* (*156 acres*; annual *186, 2,411 acres*).
- Wood stove certificates: *18* (YTD *230*).
- Asbestos assessments: *69* (YTD *560*); demo/removal (NESHAP): *20* (YTD *120*).

Challenges & Significant Events

- Policy environment: Congressional discussion of the *Wildfire Emissions Prevention Act (WEPA)* to treat prescribed burns as “exceptional events,” with potential implications for air quality reporting. We tracked this closely for compliance and planning impact assessments.

Cross-Divisional & Interagency Coordination

- AQMD continued coordination with Environmental Health (EHS) and Population Health (PHD) teams on smoke/respiratory messaging during the respiratory season, aligning enforcement/monitoring updates with community communications from the Office of the District Health Officer (ODHO). (Activity context drawn from divisional staff reports and DHO communications summaries.)