

**Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH)**

**Quarterly Report to the Nevada State Board of Health**

**Date:** May 27, 2025

Dear Members of the Nevada State Board of Health,

I am pleased to present the quarterly report from Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH). I am proud to report that NNPH continues to deliver all mandated services, as well as essential Foundational Public Health Services, to the communities of Washoe County. Our divisions have been working diligently to ensure the health and well-being of our residents.

NNPH is currently in good standing; however, we are facing leaner operations due to recent federal budgetary cuts. Despite these challenges, our commitment to providing high-quality public health services remains unwavering.

Please note that any data or additional information you may require is available upon request. We appreciate your continued service and support.

Sincerely,



Dr. Chad Kingsley, MD MBA  
District Health Officer  
Northern Nevada Public Health

## **NNPH HIGHLIGHTS:**

- **Federal cutback of \$2.2 million loss to NNPH:**
  - Significant impacts on public health capacity to respond appropriately
  - 2 contracted epidemiologists:
    - Foundational PH epidemiological coverage of 1.8 epi /100k population
      - NNPH: <1 epi / 100k
  - Decreased capacity of Immunizations
- **Local Budget:**
  - NNPH is collaborating with its ILA partners to address its local transfer, seeking an increase in the annual transfer.
- **Postponement of large area mosquito abatement:**
  - Using a data-informed process, helicopter abatement of mosquito-infested bodies of water will be postponed, while surveillance and hand- or drone-based treatment will continue.
    - 2020-2024: 1 WNV case
- **Retirement of Community & Clinical Health Services Director:**
  - 30 years of Service: Lisa Lottritz, RN, MPH
  - New Director: Christina Shepard, APRN
- **Flu season:**
  - Highest recorded number of outbreaks in February over the prior (5) years
- **NNPH District Board of Health:**
  - Newly elected and appointed board members
    - Chair: Devon Reese, Reno Councilperson
    - Vice-Chair: Clara Andriola, County Commissioner
    - Sparks Elected Representative: Paul Anderson
    - Washoe County Appointed; Dr. Ituarte
    - Sparks County Appointed: Steve Driscoll
- **Nevada Association of Local Health Officials (NALHO)- NV SACCHO as part of NACCHO**
  - New Director: Dr. Chad Kingsley, replacing Nicki Aaker, CCHHS Director
  - Dr. Kingsley and Ms. Aaker attended Hill Day in Washington, D.C., in February as part of NACCHO/SACCHO, to promote support for Public Health to NV's elected representatives.

## Air Quality Management (AQM) Division

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**Division Director:** Francisco Vega, P.E.

- **State of the Global Climate 2024:** The World Meteorological Organization reported record-high temperatures, rising sea levels, and melting glaciers. The global mean near-surface temperature in 2024 was 1.55°C above the 1850–1900 average, making it the warmest year on record.
- **EPA Small Business Newsletters:** Highlighted environmental regulations, compliance assistance, and resources for small businesses.
- **Ambient Air Monitoring:** Data showed no exceedances of ozone, PM10, or PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) in March 2025.
- **Permitting and Compliance:** Reviewed 61 sets of plans in March, all completed within jurisdictional timeframes. Conducted 38 routine and 4 initial compliance inspections.

## Community and Clinical Health Services (CCHS) Division

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**Division Director:** Lisa Lottritz, RN, MPH / Christina Shepard, APRN

- **STI Awareness Week:** Focused on raising awareness about sexually transmitted infections and reducing related stigma.
- **Nevada HIV & STI Rankings:** Nevada ranks high in rates of chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, and HIV.
- **Immunizations:** Provided vaccines to uninsured or underinsured individuals, with 257 clients vaccinated in March.
- **Tuberculosis Prevention:** Managing two active TB cases and evaluating 30 clients for Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI).
- **Reproductive and Sexual Health Services:** Experienced staff changes and funding uncertainties but continued to meet grant deliverables.
- **Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention:** Participated in outreach and education events, including suicide prevention and youth vaping awareness.
- **Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health:** Managing 34 lead cases and providing resources through programs like Cribs for Kids.
- **Women, Infants, and Children (WIC):** Continued to provide critical nutrition support, with full funding secured through September 2025.

## Environmental Health Services (EHS) Division

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**Division Director:** Robert Fyda

- **Food Safety:** Attended the Conference for Food Protection and approved new commercial kitchens.
- **Foodborne Disease Program:** Investigated foodborne disease complaints and conducted routine inspections.
- **Vector-Borne Disease Program:** Preparing for Mosquito Surveillance for the 2025 Season.
- **Environmental Protection:** Conducted inspections and reviews for residential septic and well plans.
- **Safe Drinking Water:** Completed sanitary surveys and assessments for public water systems.
- **Waste Management:** Inspected fuel sites and waste facilities to address compliance issues.

## Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness (EPHP) Division

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**Division Director:** Nancy Diao, ScD

- **Respiratory Virus Surveillance:** Monitored influenza-like illness, RSV, and COVID-19 cases.
- **Outbreaks:** Declared seven new outbreaks in March 2025, including gastrointestinal and hand, foot, and mouth disease.
- **Public Health Preparedness:** Coordinated emergency planning with schools and participated in state-wide strategic planning.
- **Healthcare Preparedness:** Advanced initiatives for managing high-consequence infectious disease patients and conducting communication drills.
- **Emergency Medical Services (EMS):** Focused on responder safety, data standardization, and compliance.

## Office of the District Health Officer (ODHO)

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**District Health Officer:** Dr. Chad Kingsley

- **Communications and Public Information:** Garnered significant media attention on measles prevention and other public health issues.
  - **Accreditation:** Scheduled a site visit with the Public Health Accreditation Board for July 2025.
  - **Workforce Development:** Created an "Introduction to NNPH" video for new employees onboarding.
  - **Quality Improvement:** Implemented strategies to enhance data-driven decision-making and improve program outcomes.
  - **Community Health Improvement Plan:** Announced Family Health Festival dates and initiated new projects like Fresh Connect.
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This report provides a comprehensive overview of the activities and updates from each division of NNPH for the first quarter of 2025. Any data, information, statistics, and reports are available upon request.

**COMPILED: May 2025**