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### New Staff

- We are excited to announce the recent promotion of Mr. David Olsen to our Policy & Systems Manager position. David has worked as an evaluator and coordinator for our Tobacco Program in the past. He will now supervise our Tobacco program, our Tobacco Cessation program and our Comprehensive Cancer program.
- Mr. Tom Weber, who previously worked as our Connecting Kids to Coverage Grant Coordinator, has transitioned to our Women's Health Connection Evaluator position and is now an official state employee.
- Jennifer Krupp joined the team as our Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Coordinator. She has worked in numerous health-related areas in the past, including Nevada Medicaid.
- We are continuing to recruit for our remaining vacancies: our Health Resource Analyst 3, our Management Analyst 2, our Business Process Analyst 1, our Tobacco Coordinator and our contracted Tobacco Youth Prevention Coordinator.

### Programming

### Women's Health Connection

- Women's Health Connection (WHC) completed and submitted the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Cancer Prevention and Control Programs for State, Territorial and Tribal Organizations CDC-RFA-DP17-1701 grant to begin June 30, 2017.
- The WHC program is celebrating its 20th anniversary. The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health received funding from NBCCEDP to conduct the Women's Health Connection (WHC) Program in 1997. Since its implementation, WHC has been federally-funded through NBCCEDP and has provided breast and cervical cancer screening services to over 57,536 women in Nevada.
- WHC has performed over 2,700 breast and cervical cancer screening to women since June 30, 2016 and anticipates screening 5,587 women in FY17. WHC is working energetically to close out the current five-year grant which ends June 29, 2017.
- WHC has added two Community Health Workers (CHW), for a total of four, within Nevada Health Centers clinics. Two CHWs are located in Las Vegas; one in Carson City; and one in Elko.

# Nevada Colorectal Cancer Control Programs

- As mentioned above, the Colorectal Cancer Control Program (CRCCP) will be conducting further interviews for the Business Process Analyst 1 position. This position will be responsible for providing one-on-one technical assistance and work with each partnering Federally Qualified Health Center clinic, conduct data collection and validation, perform chart/electronic health record (EHR) system review and data validation, and activity monitoring to ensure all sub-grant requirements are met.
- CRCCP submitted the continuation grant application for year three of the five-year CDC grant, NU58DP006090-01-00 Organized Approaches to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening. This grant

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mandates work with individual clinics or payers to implement the four recommended colorectal cancer screening evidenced-based interventions, (EBI) which include provider reminders, client reminders, reduction of structural barriers and provider assessments and feedback. CRCCP is currently funding six Community Health Workers (CHWs); four at Nevada Health Centers, one at Volunteers in Medicine, and one at Northern Nevada HOPES. All CHWs assist clients with health system navigation following an abnormal result or cancer diagnosis, screening and prevention education, and assistance with barriers.

### Comprehensive Cancer Control Program

- The Nevada Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (NCCCP) submitted its application to CDC FOA 17-1701 at the end of February. This award will fund the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and associated activities for a five-year period and is expected to be released June 2017.
- NCCCP recently finished a partnership survey in collaboration with the Nevada Cancer Coalition (NCC). This survey assesses the strength of partnership within the Nevada Cancer Coalition and partner use of the 2016-2020 Nevada Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan. It fulfills the grant requirement to evaluate Cancer Control Partnerships. The associated report on findings will be released in April.
- During March, NCCCP and NCC finished a series of Cancer Survivorship Focus Groups conducted in Reno, Las Vegas, Carson City, and Elko. Analysis of collected data is being conducted currently with a report on findings expected in June.

### Community Health Worker Program

- The CHW Program was awarded an Association of State and Territorial Health Officer (ASTHO) technical assistance grant to host a series of tailored webinars and conference calls from national leading experts to address goals of certification, reimbursement mechanisms, and sustainability of the CHW Association and CHW workforce in Nevada. This grant will allow CHW partners and stakeholders to come together to discuss CHW initiatives and progress with future activities. Of the five states, Nevada was selected for an onsite visit by the ASTHO experts. More information regarding this opportunity will be presented in a future meeting.
- The CHW Program trained an additional 45 students through the state hybrid training last month. The next training has been filled to maximum capacity. A pilot course "Navigating Health Insurance" was offered with much success, and CHWs are anticipating continuing supplemental trainings to enhance their skills. The CHW Program is looking to expand their trainings and will begin piloting course modules in Spanish starting mid-April.

### Connecting Kids to Coverage

• The Connecting Kids to Coverage Program hired six CHWs to conduct outreach and enrollment strategies aimed at eligible children and their families into Nevada's Medicaid and Nevada Check Up programs. These six CHWs completed formalized training in the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health's (DPBH) online, hybrid CHW training course in January 2017. In addition, these CHWs have completed Certified Application Counselor training to be able to enroll eligible individuals into Nevada's Silver State Health Insurance Exchange. The DPBH has worked with three organizations to locate the six CHWs, and they include Children's Cabinet, Lutheran Social Services

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of Nevada, and Northern Nevada Hopes. Based on the latest Quarterly Reports submitted by the sub-grantees, total of 37 children applied to Nevada Check Up; of those, 31 were newly enrolled and six were re-enrolled. As for parents, 36 adults applied to Nevada Medicaid; of those, 32 newly-enrolled and four re-enrolled.

### **Diabetes Prevention and Control Program**

The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP) had a very successful partner meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup> in Las Vegas as part of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officer, ASTHO, demonstration project: *Strengthening State Systems to Improve Diabetes Management and Outcomes*. There were more than 50 partners participating in the all-day meeting held at the UNR-Cooperative Extension, Las Vegas campus. The preliminary Diabetes Burden Report was presented to the partners prior to the meeting with an overview presentation provided by the DPCP coordinator. Partner presentations were provided by Renown Health, UnitedHealthcare (UHC), NV Medicaid, NV Public Employee's Benefit Program, Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) and Nevada's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The ASTHO team had participants tease out the priority goals and actions for the four buckets of prevention, screening and early identification, treatment and control, and surveillance and data. The participants input will be evaluated by the ASTHO team to assist the state staff and vender, DP Video to write the *Three Year Diabetes Action Plan* draft for final input from partners at an upcoming meeting. The final plan will be completed, printed and distributed by the end of July 2017 when this project ends.

### Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Program

- The Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program continues to work with various community
  partners to reduce the burden of cardiovascular disease in Nevada. The new coordinator, Jennifer
  Krupp, has been meeting with various community partners to foster new and strengthen existing
  relationships. The Heart Disease and Stroke Taskforce will hold their annual meeting in Las Vegas at
  the Saint Rose Hospital San Martin Campus on May 16<sup>,</sup> 2017 to update and revise the Heart Disease
  and Stroke Strategic Plan for the State of Nevada. This meeting will bring together nearly 50
  stakeholders dedicated to preventing Heart Disease and Stroke.
- The Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring Program continues to be successful and the program been expanded to FirstPerson Care Clinic in Southern Nevada.

# Food Security

• The Office of Food Security (OFS) hosted the latest Governor's Council on Food Security meeting on March 15, 2017. The OFS was awarded funds to conduct a gap-analysis of current senior programs and the overall food systems supporting senior nutrition efforts. The study will assess funding and strategies needed to ensure program sustainability.

### **Obesity Prevention Program**

• The Obesity Prevention and Control Program has been actively tracking and working on DPBH documents related to legislative bills (SB165 and AB273) that could impact the program if passed. Currently, SB165 (defining obesity and reinstituting height and weight measures in schools) has been recommended as 'do pass with amendments.'

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- In collaboration with Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Workgroup, led by Children's Advocacy Alliance, a nearly finalized five-year early childhood obesity prevention state plan has been developed and steps toward implementation of certain activities have been identified.
- The Nutrition Standards Policy for Business Enterprises of Nevada, often referred to as the DETR-BEN nutrition policy, passed in February. The policy, which was "...developed in conjunction with Southern Nevada Health District, requires that food and beverages sold in concession, micromarkets, cafeterias/cafes, snack bars, vending machines, and any other food retail location operated by or subcontracted through Business Enterprises of Nevada (BEN)..." follow nutrition standards specified in the policy. Once fully implemented, the policy will impact nearly 900 vending machines statewide.

### School Health Program

- The Comprehensive School Physical Activity Program professional development is being offered to all 17 school districts within Nevada.
   Training has taken place in six school districts and 11 more trainings are scheduled to take place between April and June 29, 2017. A half of a continuing education credit is offered to participants attending in person and completion of the school health CDC online series. Technical assistance is provided following trainings to help with implementation of the program.
- School wellness nutrition education trainings have been offered in Washoe, Elko, Carson City and Clark Counties. The training will cover a review of the Nevada or local School Wellness Policy, Smart Snack Standards, healthy fundraising and curriculum, and sodium intake reduction. Trainings were offered at schools and conferences including the Nevada Showcase, PTA Convention and Nevada School Nutrition Association conference. The main target for the training was PTA leaders, afterschool coordinators, parents and other school staff.
- A Parent Guide to Student Wellness was distribution to the Washoe County School District (WCSD). This was a collaborative effort between DPBH, Washoe County Health District and the WCSD wellness coordinator. The template was then provided to all school district wellness coordinators as a guide for communication to parents on school wellness.

# **Tobacco Prevention and Control Program**

- On January 9<sup>th</sup>, the CDC began its TIPS from Former Smokers Campaign which will run through July 30<sup>th</sup>. This campaign is media-based, focused on tips from former smokers educating current smokers on personal, life-threatening effects of smoking. The message encourages smokers to quit, promoting free evidence based tobacco cessation, including counseling and medication. The call volume increased for the Nevada Tobacco Quitline in January when Tips began.
- The program held a collaborative meeting with all partners that receive grant funding. This meeting included presentations and discussions on key topic including the 2016 Adult Tobacco Survey, the Master Settlement Agreement, and Tobacco 21.
- In February, the program was awarded a new grant through the Substance Abuse Block Grant that will focus on youth prevention and creating tobacco merchant training.

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- Also in February, the quitline made enhancements to receive electronic referrals though Nevada's Health Information Exchange.
- On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the program submitted the Quitline Capacity Grant Application to receive continued funding to support the state quitline.
- On March 7<sup>th</sup>, the program announced a Request for Applications seeking programs' or agencies' proposals for tobacco control activities to be funded out of the Fund for a Healthy Nevada. Notices of Intent were due March 16<sup>th</sup>; applications were due Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- There are currently two vacancies for which we are recruiting in this Unit: the Tobacco Prevention Control Program Coordinator and the new contract position of Youth Prevention Coordinator associated with the Substance Abuse Block Grant.