

**Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Section Report
Advisory Council on the State Program for Wellness and the Prevention of Chronic Disease**

August 17, 2017

Staffing Updates

- Eric Fortenbury has been promoted to our Management Analyst 2 position, serving as our Fiscal Manager for the Section. He has seamlessly assumed this position in June and efficiently keeps our Section in business.
- While the Community Health Worker stakeholders are likely sad, I am happy to report Amanda Santos accepted the state FTE position of Business Process Analyst for our Colorectal Cancer Program. Ms. Santos will be conducting site visits with our sub grantees and assisting with any process issues.
- Dr. Kristi Robusto promoted into our Quality Improvement Manger position. She has served as our Obesity Coordinator and Colorectal Cancer Evaluator in the past. Dr. Robusto brings her research expertise to all our programs. In this role, she will oversee the Preventive Health and Health Services Block grant and will take the lead on our Chronic Disease State Plan.
- Helen See is the new Biostatistician at the Office of Public Health Informatics and Epidemiology funded by the CDPHP. She will be working on data projects related to tobacco and our 1305 Cooperative Agreement efforts.
- We are sad to announce the departure of Rani Reed, our Cancer Manager. Ms. Reed has accepted a position next door from us in the Cancer Registry. We are happy to say we will continue to work with her on cancer data projects.
- Margie Franzen-Weiss, our Diabetes Coordinator, has announced her retirement from state service in mid-September. Ms. Franzen-Weiss has been a valued member of the Chronic Disease staff for many years. While she will be missed by staff and partners, we are happy to see her reaching this milestone and wish her all the best. That position will be recruited shortly after her departure.
- We are continuing to recruit for our remaining vacancies: our Grants Project Analyst 2 (underfill), our Obesity Coordinator, our Tobacco Coordinator, our Cancer Manager, our contracted Tobacco Youth Prevention Coordinator (funded through a SAPTA grant), our Community Health Worker contractor, and our Connecting Kids to Coverage contractor.

Programming

Women's Health Connection

- AB 388 passed during the legislative session, awarding \$500,000 per year for the next two years to the Women's Health Connection which will enable many more women to receive medically necessary breast and cervical cancer screenings in our state.

Nevada Colorectal Cancer Control Programs

- The new CRCCP Business Process Analyst 1 (BPA1) Amanda Santos, began her position in July. This position is responsible for providing one-on-one technical assistance and work with each partnering Federally Qualified Health Center clinic, conduct data collection and

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validation, perform chart/electronic health record (EHR) system review and data validation, and activity monitoring to ensure all sub-grant requirements are met.

- CRCCP received their Notice of Grant Award for year 3 of the 5-year CDC grant, *NU58DP006090-01-00 Organized Approaches to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening* in mid-June. The focus of the grant is to 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 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.

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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 (CHW)

- The CHW Program finalized its Return on Investment study in collaboration with Health Plan of Nevada and the University of Nevada-Reno (UNR). This study evaluated the costs associated with and saved using CHWs to provide care coordination to this Managed Care Organization's highest utilizers of health care. Dr. Elizabeth Christiansen of UNR is presenting her findings at multiple meetings, including this year's Nevada Public Health Association's annual conference on Friday, September 29th. This report demonstrates the potential cost savings that results from CHW interventions and make a case for continued CHW support and service reimbursement in our state.
- Nevada is now offering a Train the Trainer course modeled after Washington State. This offers more volunteers to help teach the expanding Hybrid CHW Training. Along with expanding the course, the Hybrid Training is launching the first Health Specific Module on Cardiovascular Health and Screening in early September. This will give additional continuing education training and provide more opportunities for CHWs to broaden their

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scope of work and skillset. To date there are 343 CHWs trained through all three of the CHW trainings offered in our state. The association continues to offer the Hybrid CHW Training quarterly.

Connecting Kids to Coverage

- The Connecting Kids to Coverage Program, a grant project through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, continues to fund six Community Health Workers to conduct outreach and promote enrollment into Medicaid, Nevada Check-Up and the Silver State Health Exchange for eligible children and their families. The recently submitted semi-annual report indicated 247 Nevada children had submitted new and renewal applications through this program with 216 successfully enrolling or reenrolling. Additionally, 192 parents submitted new and renewal applications since the inception of the program with 113 successful new and renewed enrollments. This program runs through the end of June, 2018.

Diabetes Prevention and Control Program

- The Diabetes Prevention and Control Program (DPCP) had second very successful partner meeting on June 16th in Reno as part of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officer, ASTHO, demonstration project: *Strengthening State Systems to Improve Diabetes Management and Outcomes*. The *Three-Year Diabetes Action Plan* draft received input from stakeholders during this meeting and the final plan was completed, and has gone to print. It will be distributed to partners to share with their leadership and policymakers.
- During the upcoming Nevada Public Health Association Meeting, both the work of the Quality and Technical Assistance Center and the Telehealth DSME Pilot project with NyE Communities Coalition will be presented during breakout sessions.
- In July, both the new proposed Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program Model Expansion guidelines were released, with public comment being excepted until September 11, 2017 and the Proposed 2018 Diabetes Prevention Recognition Program (DPRP) Standards in which written comments must be received on or before September 12, 2017
- September 13 will be Marjorie Franzen-Weiss' last day as the DPCP as she begins retirement.

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, 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.

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- 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 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. The results and recommendations will be presented at the November 15, 2017 Governor's Council on Food Security (GCFS) meeting.
- The GCFS motioned the creation of two subcommittees to review and update *Food Security in Nevada: Nevada's Plan for Action*. Both subcommittees have met once, and motioned to meet a second time.

Obesity Prevention Program

- The Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Workgroup, led by Children's Advocacy Alliance, has finalized a five-year early childhood obesity prevention state plan, and is working to finalize an implementation and communication plan.
- SB 165, defining obesity as a chronic disease and reinstating height and weight measures in schools, was approved by the Governor on June 1st. The bill requires certain school districts to conduct examinations of height and weight of certain pupils in 4th, 7th, and 12th grades. The Division of Public and Behavioral Health is required to compile the data and publish and disseminate an annual report on Nevada obesity statistics and the effort to reduce obesity. The Obesity Prevention and Control Coordinator will lead this effort, in collaboration with the School Health Program Coordinator acting as the school liaison.

School Health Program

- All 17 Nevada school districts were offered training on a Comprehensive School Physical Activity Program (CSPAP) to implement 60 minutes of physical activity daily for students. Thirteen school districts accepted and received CSPAP training between November 2016 to June 2017. Tracking of schools implementing CSPAP is being conducted. Four school districts: Clark, Elko, Washoe and Humboldt counties within Nevada received School Wellness Policy (SWP) Training in the spring of 2017. This targeted school administration and staff to help with implementing best practices for nutrition and physical activity. Three trainings were conducted in collaboration with the NDA and two trainings were conducted in collaboration with the Alliance for a Healthier Generation (AFHG). The School Health Coordinator and the Washoe County School District (WCSD) Wellness Coordinator went through a SWP Training of Trainers course with AFHG and conducted SWP training in Humboldt County School District and WCSD.
- Nutrition Education targeting parents, Parent Teacher Association members and afterschool providers was conducted to increase engagement of these stakeholders to support an improved school nutrition environment. Eight trainings were provided in Washoe, Clark,

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Elko and Carson City from October 2016 to June 2017 on Nevada School Wellness Policy, Smart Snack Standards and practices that support healthy fundraising, celebrations and sodium intake reduction. Two of those trainings were conducted at large conferences: Nevada PTA conference and the Nevada Nutrition Association Conference.

- A Nutrition Campaign was conducted in June of 2017 through the Nevada Wellness website, on social media and in movie theaters, targeted parents and school staff. The campaign had an emphasis on recommended sodium intake in the diet, healthy fundraising, Tip for Teachers: non-food rewards, parent engagement and Smart Snack Standards. The campaign reached 76,505 people in Nevada and 25,842 have engaged with the posts on social media.

Tobacco Prevention and Control Program

- In early June and again in July, the Nevada Tobacco Quitline reached spending limits on Nicotine Replacement Therapy products. The state's Oral Health Program was helpful in providing funding to bridge the service into the next fiscal year. Availability is currently restricted to the uninsured and priority populations of pregnant/post-partum and American Indians.
- A two-day collaborative meeting with all partners that receive grant funding is scheduled for March 13th and 14th, 2018. Dates are subject to change.
- A new project to address youth prevention and develop tobacco merchant training is set to start October 1st. The project was delayed from starting earlier. Funding will come from the Substance Abuse Block Grant.
- In August, the neighboring state of Oregon became the fifth state to enact Tobacco 21. Several rural coalitions have reported youth advocates in their regions are interested in this policy and presenting information to local governments and Chambers of Commerce. However, Nevada is a state that preempts local government from enacting such a policy at the local level.
- The Tobacco Prevention and Control Program Coordinator position remains vacant and a new set of interviews have been scheduled. A candidate has been identified for the new contract position of Youth Prevention Coordinator associated with the Substance Abuse Block Grant which should be able to start in September under the Tobacco Core Grant.