#### Thursday April 18, 2019

# Washoe County Health District (WCHD) Chronic Disease Prevention Program (CDPP) Report

## New Staff

WCHD welcomed two AmeriCorps VISTA members to the CDPP team. The full time assignments will continue for 12 months. Ms. Prenu Skaria is currently completing her Ph.D. in Public Health and is focusing on smoke free workplaces in collaboration with the Nevada Tobacco Prevention Coalition and Nevada Cancer Coalition. Ms. Sunhwa Lee joins the team with 2 Masters degrees and is focusing on opioid prevention and collaboration in our community. In addition, Ms. Claudia Garcia-Aguilar joined the team in March and is a Public Service Intern working primarily on tobacco prevention and control activities.

## Section News

No new section news

## Programming

The Chronic Disease Prevention Program strives to reduce chronic disease in Washoe County by focusing on physical activity, nutrition and tobacco use and exposure. Additional responsibilities include addressing opioid abuse and recreational marijuana concerns. Key approaches include efforts concentrating on policy, system and environmental change.

#### **Tobacco Prevention and Control highlights:**

- For the second year, CDPP promoted smoke-free workplaces and collected data on the topic at the ALLiance event, a collaborative effort by the Reno-Sparks Chamber, EDAWN, RSCVA, and the Reno-Tahoe International Airport Authority. Additionally, based on data collected at last year's event, and subsequent meetings with the organizer, the decision was made for the 2019 ALLiance to be held at the smoke-free Reno-Sparks Convention Center.
- CDPP staff attended a two-day tobacco partner meeting with statewide partners, and shared information about Washoe County efforts related to smoke free parks and open spaces. The tobacco prevention team was recognized for their successes with smoke free parks in Washoe County.
- CDPP staff attended and presented at the Nevada Chronic Disease Summit. Staff gained knowledge about chronic disease factors and presented on electronic cigarettes during a breakout session.
- Staff attended the Project Homeless Connect event on Jan 29th, providing information about tobacco cessation resources in our community and connecting with community service providers. Many people that visited the WCHD table had questions related to e-cigarettes.

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## **Physical Activity and Nutrition highlights:**

- The Wolf Pack Coaches Challenge program was completed, with teachers from 20 local elementary schools signing up to challenge their elementary classrooms to eat more fruits and veggies and be more active. This year, 1,528 students in 65 classrooms participated, up from last year's numbers of 1,337 students from 57 classrooms.
- Jurisdictions in the Reno/Sparks area did not renew agreements with Lime to continue bike sharing services in our community. In the meantime, Lime decided pedal-powered bikes were not profitable and moved on to host only electric scooter sharing like its competitors Bird and Spin. The CDPP team is assessing other methods for increasing cycling for transportation in low income communities.
- Community events are being planned in parks located in low income neighborhoods that will focus on engaging youth and other community members in physical activity and nutrition education.
- The CDPP provided distance signage in English and Spanish for ten City of Reno parks with messages and information encouraging park visitors to walk.

