

Steve Sisolak  
*Governor*



Richard Whitley  
*Director*

# State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

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COVID-19 Health Disparity Grant

Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Godwin Obi Nwando, MPH

Health Equity Manager



9/12/2022

*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



# Agenda

1. Health Equity Introduction
2. Health Disparity Grant Introduction
3. Health Disparity Grant Partners
4. Health Disparity Overview
5. Evaluations/Technical Assistance
6. Progress/Successes/Challenges
7. Questions

# Learning Objectives

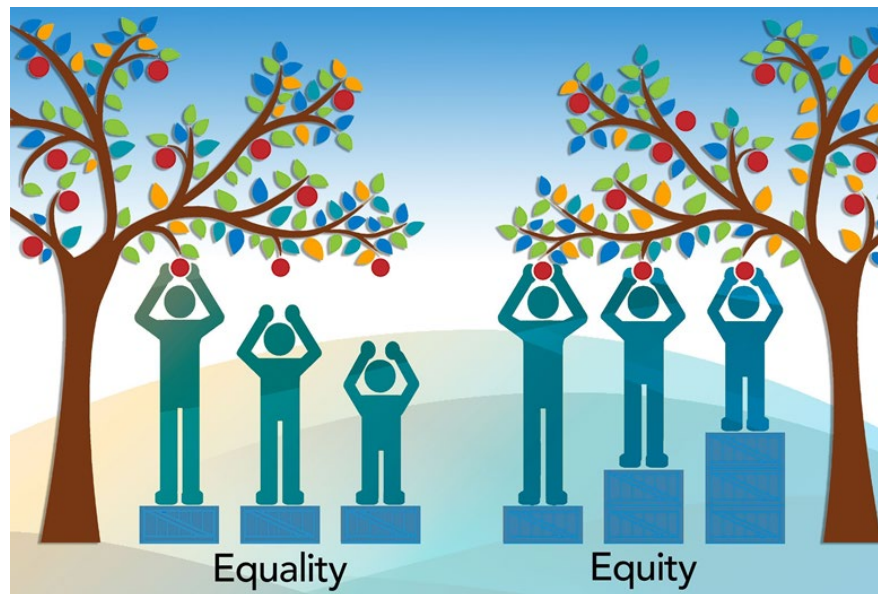
*Justice that is not rooted in equity, in social welfare, and in community is not justice at all.”*

- DeRay Mckesson



# What is Health Equity?

- Health equity is a desirable goal/standard that entails special efforts to improve the health of those who have experienced social or economic disadvantage
- Health equity is achieved when every person has the opportunity to “attain his or her full health potential” and no one is “disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of social position or other socially determined circumstances.



# COVID-19 and Chronic Diseases

- COVID-19 is a disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) that can result in respiratory distress.
- Chronic diseases, smoking and pregnancy are all conditions that increase the risk for severe illness from COVID-19



# Nevada and New Case Demographics

- Many populations, including those with low socioeconomic status and those of certain racial and ethnic groups (ie. African American, Hispanic (Latinx), and Native American) have a disproportionate burden of chronic disease, COVID-19 infection, diagnosis, hospitalization, and mortality.
- These populations are at higher risk because of exposure to suboptimal social determinants of health (SDoH).





# Health Disparity Grant Overview

- National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and Underserved, Including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities
- Eligible Applicants
  - All 50 States
  - Counties – Serving a county population of 2,000,000 or more (US Census 2019 estimates)
  - Cities – Serving population of 400,000 or more (US Census 2019 estimates)
  - US Territories and Freely Associated States
- Funding and period of performance: \$2.25 billion – 2 years
  - Nevada \$32 million
- Award date: June 1, 2021
  - Project start date: June 1, 2021
  - Project end date: May 31, 2023







# Health Equity Team

## Meet the *Health Equity* Team



Godwin Nwando, MPH  
Health Equity and Disparity  
Manager



Esmeralda Chavez  
LGBTQ and Diversity  
Coordinator



Oscar Fernandez  
Health Equity Analyst



Journee Baham, MPH  
Diversity Coordinator



Brittney Rosiles, MPH  
Health Equity Project  
Manager



# Health Equity Direct Partners

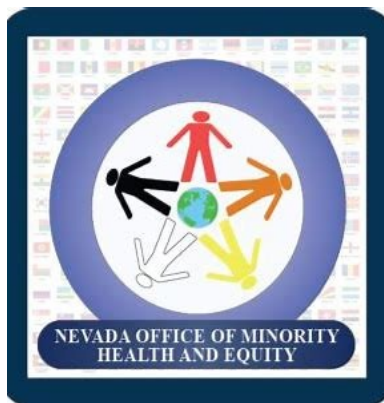


# Health Equity Direct Partners



**DIVISION OF  
PUBLIC AND  
BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH**

Helping People  
It's who we are  
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# Health Equity Indirect Partners



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF SOUTHERN NEVADA



**FAMILY  
RESOURCE  
CENTER**

CATALYST FOR GROWTH



**OLIVE CREST**

Strong Families, Safe Kids



**East Valley  
Family Service**

WHITE PINE COUNTY



**FAMILY  
SUPPORT  
COUNCIL**  
OF DOUGLAS COUNTY



**three  
square**

together, we can feed everyone



**LincolnCountyNevada.com**  
get primitive





# Health Equity Indirect Partners



Nevada Governor's Office of  
Economic Development  
— Empowering Success —



# CASAT

Center for the Application of  
Substance Abuse Technologies  
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO



Catholic Charities  
OF SOUTHERN NEVADA



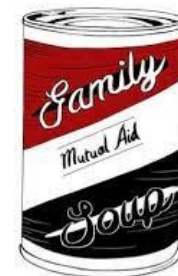
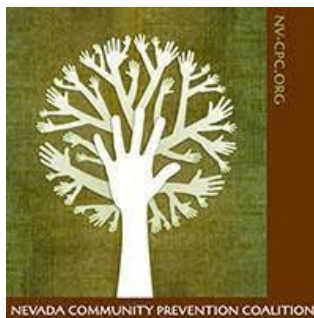
CRISIS  
SUPPORT  
SERVICES  
OF NEVADA



KPS3  
Catholic Charities  
of Northern Nevada

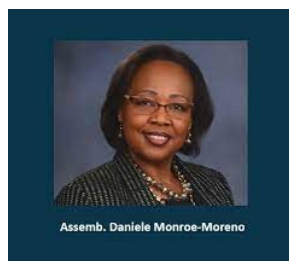
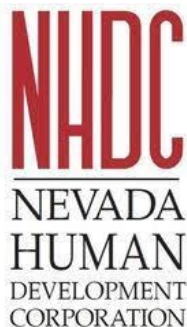


# Health Equity Indirect Partners





# Health Equity Indirect Partners



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR NEW AMERICANS

[ona.nv.gov](http://ona.nv.gov)

@Nevada\_ONA





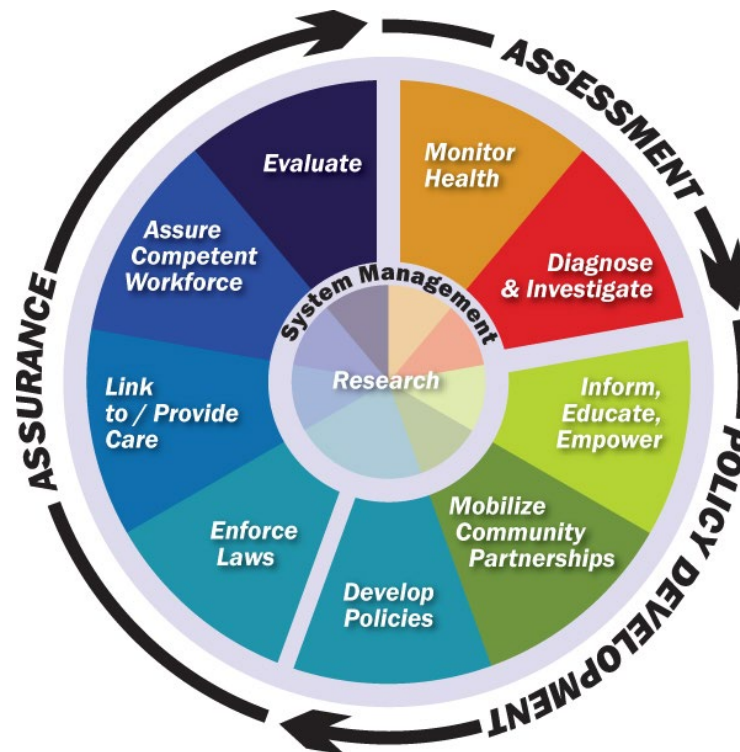
# Health Equity Strategies

- Program Strategies
  - Resources and services
  - Data collection and reporting
  - Infrastructure
  - Mobilize partners



# Strategy 1 - Resources and Services

- Expand existing and/or develop new mitigation and prevention resources and services to reduce COVID-19-related disparities among population at higher risk and that are underserved





# Strategy 1: Resources and Services

## - Activities

- 1.1 Fund MTX System
- 1.2 Distribution of funding to 22 non-profit Family Resource Centers across Nevada.
- 1.3 Establish peer navigators, resilience ambassadors (non-medical counselors), and suicide training in community-based organizations
- 1.4 Identify and establish collaborations with critical partners affiliated with populations at high risk of food insecurity and provide connectivity to food services
- 1.5 establishing culturally and linguistically tailored programs to align public health, healthcare, and non-healthcare interventions that will decrease COVID-19 impact in the Hispanic (Latinx), Hispanic Migrant Farm Workers and elderly populations
- 1.6 coordinate and facilitate the development of a comprehensive Nevada Chronic Disease Strategic Plan



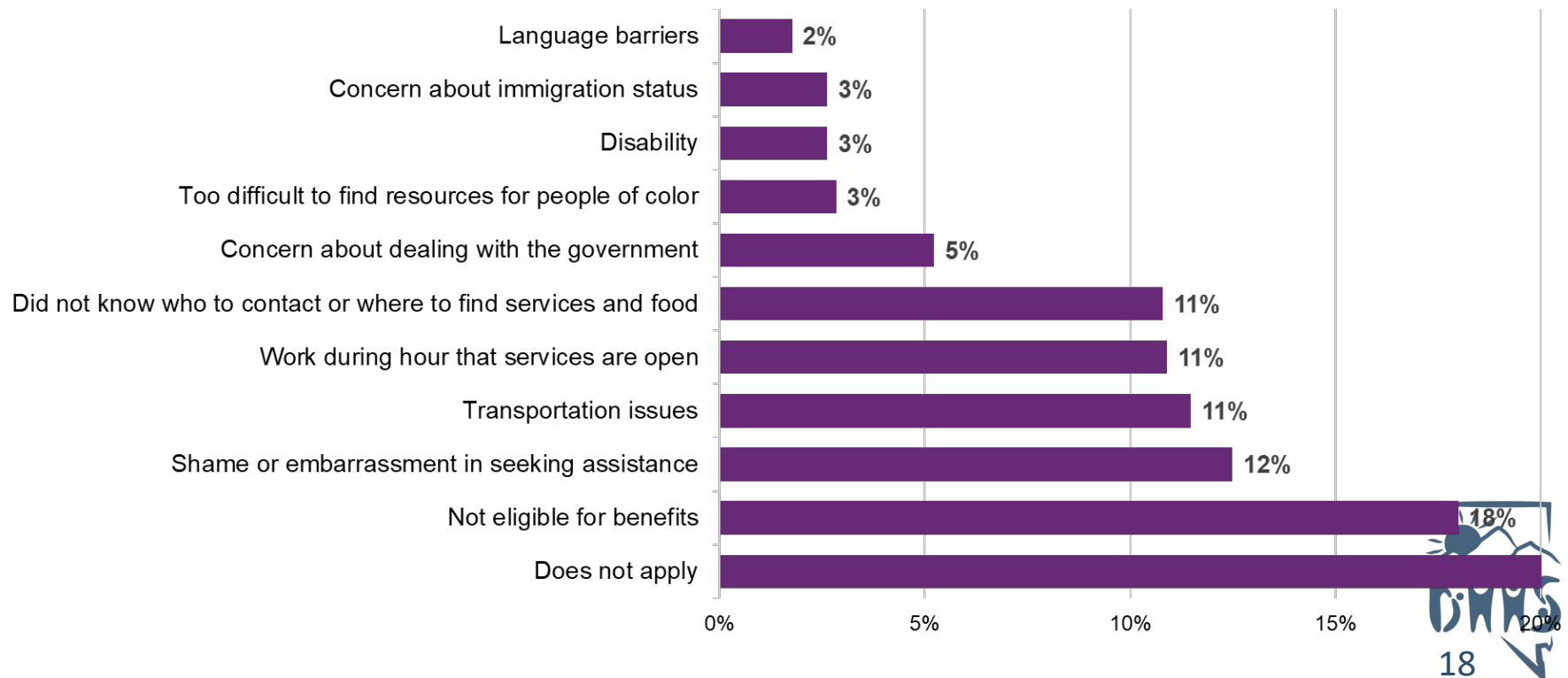


## Activity of Focus

# 1.4 Identify and Establish Critical Partners for Food Deserts and Food Disparities for at risk populations

## Community Survey Results Participation Results

*If you needed food in the last year but could not get it, what are some of the problems you faced in getting food?*





# Strategy 2 - Data Improvement

- Increase/improve data collection and reporting for populations experiencing a disproportionate burden of COVID-19 infection, severe illness, and death to guide the response to the COVID-19 pandemic

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## 3 Steps to Addressing Health Inequities



Source: "Using Data to Reduce Health Disparities and Improve Health Equity," AHA report, 2021

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## Strategy 2: Data Improvement - Activities

- 2.1 IT Vendor to enhance Nevada's Data Collection fields to better address those populations that are medically underserved and/ or minority populations, though NV Call Center
- 2.2 Case management system at Department of Child and Family Services to improve health information data collection
- 2.3 University of Nevada, Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies, to allow self- directed access to the multi-cultural training for the health workforce
- 2.4 Nevada Rural Hospital Partners, FQHC's and RHC's will provide linkages to the Nevada State Health Lab for "Technical Assistance and Reporting."
- 2.5 Nevada State Office of Rural Health will work with both the UNLV and UNR Schools of Medicine and Nevada Project Echo
- 2.7 Provide process evaluation to ensure a minority health and underserved focus to gauge impact.

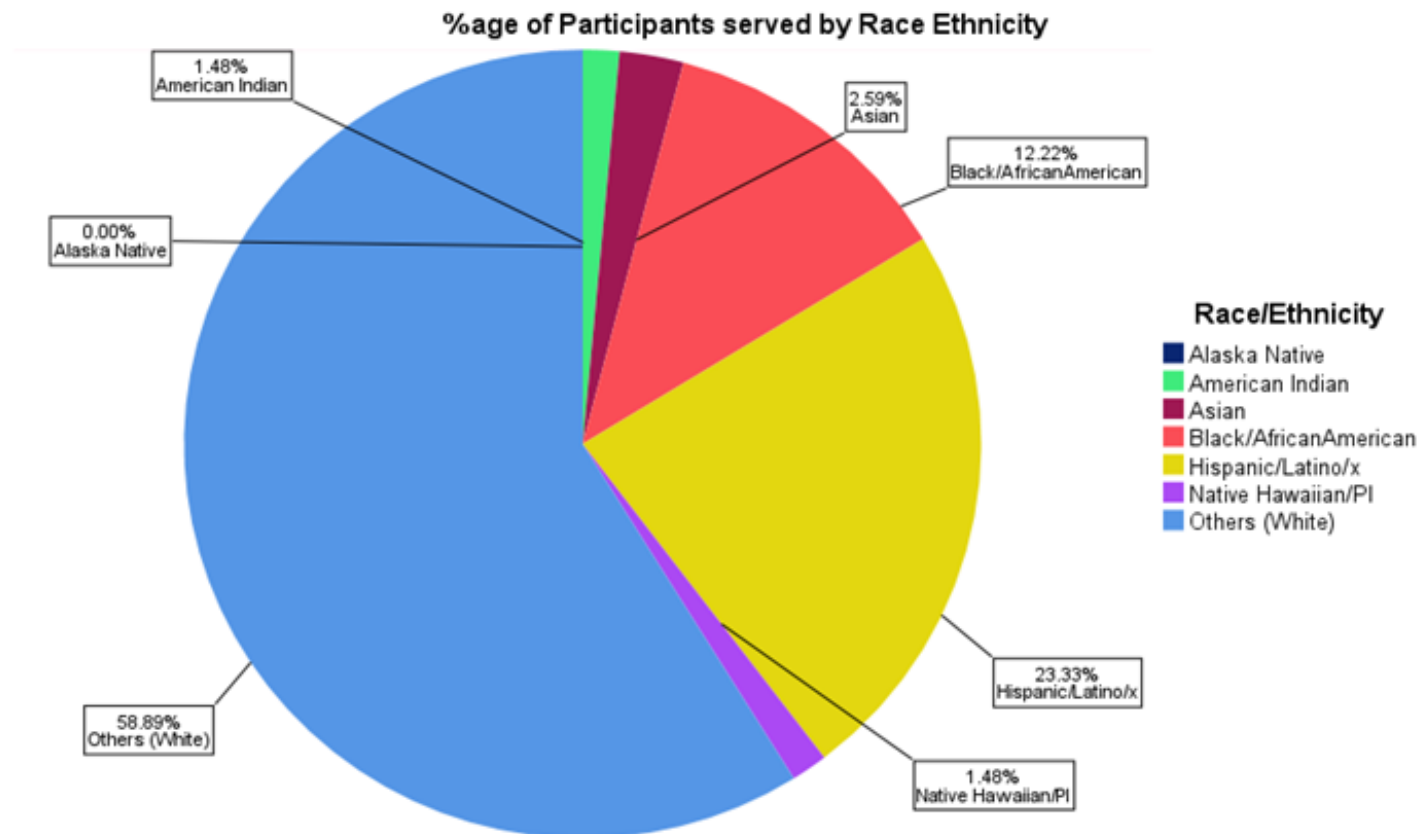




# Activity of Focus-

## 2.7 Process Evaluation for Health Disparity Engagements

### UNLV Process Evaluation Report



# Strategy 3 - Infrastructure

- Build, leverage, and expand infrastructure support for COVID-19 prevention and control among populations that are at higher risk and underserved



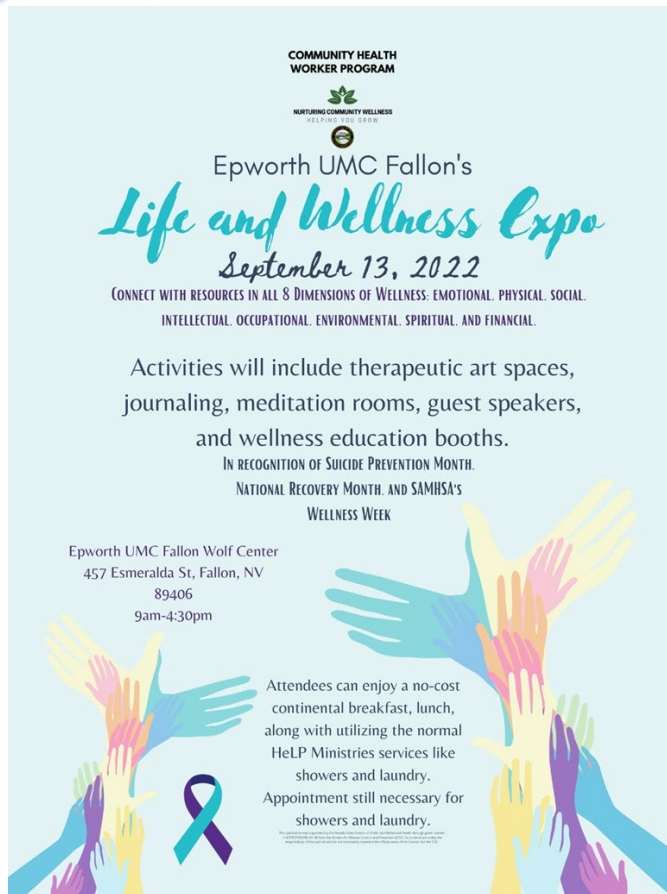


## Strategy 3: Infrastructure - Activities

- 3.1. Hire a team to manage health equity grant and to lead health equity efforts
- 3.3 Provide leadership and guidance by hiring program officers and providing both internal and external support with multi-sector coalitions and advisory groups.
- 3.4 Expand on the Community Health Worker (CHW) Program
- 3.5 Hire a team of 5 FTE staff devoted to infectious disease control within the Nevada Department of Corrections
- 3.6 conduct case investigation for maternal mortality reviews and collaborate with the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) Cribs for Kids

# Activity of Focus


## 3.4 Expansion of the Community Health Worker Model throughout Nevada



# Strategy 4 – Mobilize Partners

- Mobilize partners and collaborators to advance health equity and address social determinants of health as they relate to COVID-19 health disparities among populations at higher risk and that are underserved





# Strategy 4: Mobilizing Partners - Activities

- 4.1 focused on prevention and mitigation services in collaboration with Nevada's faith-based community
- 4.2 develop a comprehensive strategy for addressing the needs of Nevada's LGBTQI+ and diverse population
- 4.3 outreach campaign to direct Nevadans to Nevada 211 to access needed healthcare/social service programs.
- 4.4 contract a Health Coordinator to collaborate and partner with community organizations to reach homeless, temporary housing or shelter youth
- 4.5 complete linguistically and culturally diverse communications to provide connections to services for the medically underserved population
- 4.6 support screening, prevention, and connection to routine cancer screenings for populations most affected by COVID
- 4.7 increase organizational capacity within the Washoe County Health District to improve health equity outcomes and decrease health disparities



## Activity of Focus

# 4.7 Reduce known health disparities and improve systems for COVID 19 recovery in Washoe County



### Foro Comunitario sobre Permisos de Salud

El Distrito de Salud del Condado de Washoe y Latinos de Nevada invita a todos los operadores de comida como los vendedores de comida en la calle a este foro comunitario para proveerle información importante sobre cómo obtener un permiso de salud en el Condado de Washoe.

Jueves  
**3 de marzo**  
9:30 am - 10:30 am

Complejo Administrativo  
del Condado de Washoe  
edificio A,  
1001 E. 9th St. Reno



Latinos de Nevada



Visite la página de Latinos de  
Nevada para obtener el enlace

Gratis &  
abierto al  
público!

#### Presentadores:



**Luis Latino**  
Moderador



**Yeraldin Deavila**  
Distrito de Salud del Condado  
de Washoe



**Amber English**

Distrito de Salud del Condado  
de Washoe



**Kristen deBraga**

Distrito de Salud del Condado  
de Washoe



**Michael Touhey**

Distrito de Salud del Condado  
de Washoe

Preguntas pueden ser dirigidas a Yeraldin Deavila:  
ydeavila@washocounty.gov, 775-560-9094



!Queremos saber de usted;

## Grupos Focales Comunitarios

Acompáñenos en una plática de 75 minutos sobre la salud y el bienestar de su vecindario para ayudarnos a hacer mejoramientos en la comunidad.

Para reservar su lugar:



Haga una  
encuesta en línea:  
<https://bit.ly/3sSaBSe>



Escanee el  
código QR  
con su  
dispositivo  
inteligente



Llame a Liliana Wilbert:  
(775) 326-6054

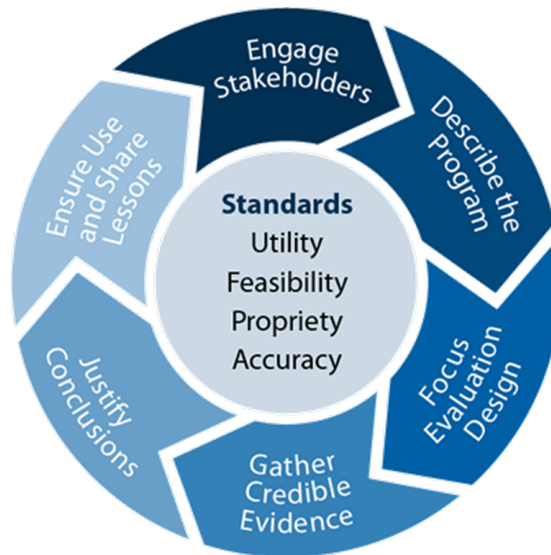


Reciba un  
certificado de  
regalo de \$20  
por su tiempo.

WASHOE COUNTY  
HEALTH DISTRICT  
ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE

# Evaluation/TA Purpose

- Evaluation is the systematic process of collecting and analyzing data to determine if and to what extent program goals have been achieved. It helps directors make decisions about program refinement and adjustment.



# Health Disparity Grant Progress

- First year of Health Disparity Grant completed
- All Health Disparity Dollars allocated
- Established (almost) all partners involved
- Finalized Nevada Work Plan





# Health Disparity Grant Success

- Increased use of CHWs in rural and disparate populations
- Improved State Involvement in Health Equity
- CDC Foundation
- Rural involvement
- Planning health equity in the future
- Increased Involvement of CBOs (NCC, ACCEPT, Xquisite)
- Involvement of Academic Institutions for data collection
- Increased Local improvement of resources
- Public Health infrastructure increase

# Health Disparity Grant Challenges

- Great Resignation
- Reporting from Partners to State
- COVID-19 (The Grant)
- COVID-19 (The Disease)
- Improving Health Equity using CBO's





# Other Health Equity Initiatives

- Language Access Plan
- Strategies to Repair Equity and Transform Community Health (STRETCH)
- STAR
- Manage Care Organizations
- Accreditation
- SOGI
- Vaccine Equity
- Public Health Collaboration Initiative





# Conclusion





# Questions?



# Contact Information

## **Health Equity Manager**

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# References

- [CDC - COVID Disparities OT21 2103 - Partnerships - STLT Gateway](#)
- [CDC-RFA-OT21-2103 - Performance Measures Guidance - Version 1.1](#)
- [Introduction to Logic Model for OT21-2103: National Initiative to Address COVID-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High Risk... \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- [HealthEquitySGR5.indd \(truthinitiative.org\)](#)
- [Defining and measuring disparities, inequities, and inequalities in the Healthy People initiative \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- [This is How Many COVID-19 Vaccines Nevada Has Received So Far \(msn.com\)](#)
- [COVID-19 and Chronic Disease: The Impact Now and in the Future \(cdc.gov\)](#)