

DATE: September 4, 2020

TO: State Board of Health Chair and Board Members

FROM: Nicki Aaker, MSN, MPH, RN

**Director, Carson City Health and Human Services** 

**SUBJECT: Carson City Health and Human Services Report** 

All COVID-19 related operations are being conducted from CCHHS with the Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (MAC), along with the CCHHS Director, overseeing operations. The Joint Information Center (JIC) is virtual. Jeanne Freeman is the Incident Commander.

# **Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion**

### Adolescent Health -

- The program coordinator is reaching out to schools and other organizations she has worked with in the past to inquire about the possibility of conducting classes virtually, and
- Staff are working to learn how to conduct virtual classes.

### **Tobacco Control and Prevention –**

- A campaign titled "Heads in the Clouds" has been developed by KPS3. This campaign will be used on social media and will target the youth,
- Two Tobacco Program individuals participated in the Nevada Sustainability Action Planning Workshop on August 31st and September 2nd, and
- There is preparation by staff to deliver presentations to the youth via Zoom.

#### Diabetes -

The Adolescent Health Program Coordinator will begin to work on Diabetes in October 2020 in addition to her work with the Adolescent Health Program.

## **Clinical Services**

The clinical is open and seeing patients. Measures are in place to allow for social distancing and masks are required,

## Carson City Health & Human Services

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- Back to School Immunization clinics were conducted. In the past, walk-in clinics were offered. Now, the clinics are offered over a longer period of time and appointments are requested, and
- The clinic will be working with the University of Nevada's Orvis School of Nursing to allow nursing students to work with RN preceptors. The students will be able to provide immunizations, COVID-19 testing, patient preparation for an exam and education about family planning.

<u>Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)</u> - Subcommittees are in the process of starting to get back on track with activities that were postponed during the COVID-19 response.

Subcommittees are working to accomplish the objectives and activities decided upon in the CHIP. Subcommittees and some of the activities are highlighted below.

- o Access to Healthcare Continuing to look for a new facilitator
- Behavioral Health
  - Case Management & Discharge Planning
    - ❖ FASTT is back in the jail and continues to enter data into the CMIS database for program evaluation, this is essential to provide resources to inmates while in jail and when he/she returns to society, and
    - Community Coalition meetings take place monthly to discuss case management for individuals that are high utilizers of the emergency room, ambulance services, and the area social services agencies.
  - Criminal Justice Collaboration
    - ❖ Incorporated a CCHHS Community Health Worker into the FASTT program which is funded through Partnership Carson City's FASTT grant received from the State of Nevada.
  - Public Awareness
    - The pocket resource guide that was developed will be reviewed and updated as needed,
    - The subcommittee is discussing a way to get our partner organizations to have a link on their website directing to one resource page, and
    - Resources from this guide are posted on Partnership Carson City's website.
  - Transitional Housing
    - Carson City is working with the Specialty Courts to provide transition housing while individuals are completing required programs,
    - ❖ A house has been rented in collaboration with Spirit of Hope for the men. The environment is family focused and fosters accountability and responsibility, and
    - FISH has purchased the Whistle Stop in Carson City and is in the initial stages per Jim Peckham, Executive Director of FISH.

## Triage

- Algorithm for treatment options completed for adults; gap is algorithm for children,
- The Columbia Suicide Screening has been adopted and training was conducted for the Behavioral Health Task Force; COVID-19 has caused delay in other trainings, and
- Columbia Suicide Screening adopted at the Northern Nevada Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board.

## Workforce Housing

- Carson City's Planning Commission continues to work on an ordinance change to allow accessory units to be rented, and
- ❖ A meeting has been scheduled for the subcommittee after postponing due to COVID-19.

#### Youth

- Presented a plan last school year to address barriers for chronic absenteeism at the elementary, middle and high schools; a plan for moving forward needs to be developed,
- Plan was written into the Carson City School District's strategic plan, which was approved by the school board,
- Prior to COVID-19, the subcommittee was trying to get to unify policies within all the Carson City schools, and
- ❖ A MOU was executed between the Carson City School District and Vitality to see students at school that have a transportation barrier during the last school year.

# Food Security & Food Access

- A staff person from WIC and Human Services have created a list of grocery stores, convenience stores, etc. that have fresh fruits and vegetables for purchase,
- The list was shared with Carson City's GIS Coordinator and a map was developed showing the areas individuals have access to fresh fruits and vegetables (the definition of urban access has been adopted),
- It was determined that Carson City did not have food deserts,
- Next steps will be to determine if Carson City residents have access to fresh fruits and vegetables and if not, what are the barriers, and
- The University of Nevada, Orvis School of Nursing students may assist with this project.
- Workforce Development need to re-define

# **Environmental Health**

- Environmental Health Specialists are performing their regular inspections, following up on COVID-19 complaints, and providing education to food establishments,
- Staff are working on an online inspection report project that will be on CCHHS website, and
- Staff is working on a quality improvement project which is in response to recently changing Carson City's Municipal Code and the inspection form.

# **Epidemiology**

- A disease investigator is following up on reportable disease reports,
- COVID-19 for the response, CCHHS' staff have increased 43% in order to provide the service needed for Carson City, Douglas, Lyon, and Storey Counties, and
- Staff continues to oversee testing, investigations, contact tracing, and providing the public information about COVID-19 within their community.

# **Quad-County Public Health Preparedness (Carson City; Douglas, Lyon and Storey Counties)**

• All team members continue to work on the COVID-19 response

## **Human Services**

- Case managers and the Community Health Worker are assisting the Disease Investigators, Contact Tracers, the Contract Contact Tracers, and the Monitors with wraparound services for individuals that are in isolation/quarantine, and
- The team continues to work with clients as needed for their housing needs.

Respectively submitted,

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