

**WASHOE COUNTY
HEALTH DISTRICT**
ENHANCING QUALITY OF LIFE

Date: November 22, 2021
To: State Board of Health Members
From: Kevin Dick
Washoe County District Health Officer
Subject: December 2021 Washoe County District Health Officer Report

COVID-19 Response - The Health District's response to COVID-19 is predicated on our statutory obligations under NRS 441A and NAC 441A to "carry out measures for the investigation, prevention, suppression and control of communicable disease." These activities include informing the public of levels of COVID-19 transmission occurring in the community and educating them on risk mitigation practices, required measures such as mask wearing in public indoor places under the Governor's Directive 047, investigating confirmed cases of COVID-19 to have cases isolate and close contacts quarantine, providing testing to confirm cases of COVID-19, and dispensing vaccinations to prevent or suppress COVID-19 transmission and reduce morbidity and mortality from the disease.

After experiencing a fall peak of 303 new cases for the 7-day moving average on September 13, COVID-19 cases in Washoe County have experienced a plateau and slight increase since the week of October 10. After declining to about 103 new cases for the 7-day average on October 13, 7-day average cases increased to 156 on November 7 and have since declined to about 106 new cases for the 7-day average as of November 22. The Test positivity rate has persisted at roughly 10% on the county Tracker system over the past month. The CDC designates the County as a region of high transmission due to the number of new cases per 100,000 over a 7-day period exceeding 100, at 154.61 and the 7-day average test positivity through November 22 exceeding 10%. On October 18, the Nevada Hospital Association reported 77 people hospitalized in Washoe County with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, this is a decrease from 148 people hospitalized that was reported on November 6, 2021.

Health District staff continue to conduct disease investigations of cases occurring to isolate them and notify close contacts. Although our rate of new daily cases has decreased, the complexity of disease investigations for those attending schools accompanied with still high numbers of new cases and community transmission means that we are only able to provide timely investigation of 65% of cases. This is an improvement from the 25-30% of cases reported in the September report. As of October 15, we have had 1574 people attend school while infectious since schools reopened on August 9. The Health District is conducting COVID-19 testing 3 days per week at the Reno Sparks Livestock Events Center (RSLEC) for those who are symptomatic or close contacts of cases. Specimens are analyzed by the Nevada State Public Health Laboratory (NSPHL).

The Health District continues to operate the vaccine point of dispensing (POD) at the RSLEC event center and is continues to conduct numerous community-based vaccination clinics. The Health District will discontinue drive through vaccinations at the RSLEC on December 17 and will begin administering COVID-19 vaccinations indoors as part of normal clinical operations on December 20. Outdoor testing at RSLEC will continue. Community vaccination clinics will continue while demand warrants them. Vaccination clinics have been held and are scheduled at churches, schools, parks/events, brewpubs,

shelters, and community centers. We have seen an increase in vaccinations administered as booster shots are occurring and vaccinations are now approved for 5–11-year-old children. Over the past four weeks the Health District has averaged 1,378 vaccinations administered per week. Over the past four weeks Washoe County has averaged 12,007 vaccinations administered per week county-wide by all providers. Over half of the doses administered are either third doses or booster shots. As of November 21, 60.26% of the population five and older were fully vaccinated and 67.52% of the population twelve and older had initiated vaccinations.

Joint Information Center (JIC) - The Joint Information Center prioritized messaging around the vaccinations available for 5–11-year-old children, the COVID-19 boosters, flu shots, and precautions for holiday gatherings.

District Board of Health (DBOH) Strategic Planning Retreat

The DBOH held a strategic planning retreat meeting on November 18. The Board discussed a refresh of the strategic plan with staff and provided direction to respond to lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic to enhance organizational capabilities with a focus on workforce development. This will require addressing span of control for mid-level management and workloads for staff in order to support professional development activities. The DBOH also supported development of an FY23 budget to incorporate \$1.2 million in investments to enhance organizational capacity. The new strategic plan and budget direction also provides for the staffing and implementation of the CDC Health Diversity grant and sustaining the investment and long-term initiative to address health equity. The final strategic plan will be brought to DBOH for approval at the December 16 meeting.

Due to the strategic plan retreat, a regular meeting of the DBOH was not held in November. Since staff reports for October and November activities will not be available until the December 16, 2021 DBOH meeting, much of the program information in this report to the State Board of Health is only current through September of 2021.

Sexual Health (Outreach and Disease Investigation) – Staff from the Sexual Health Program (SHP) are participating in the newly formed Nevada Congenital Syphilis Review Board (CSR) Core Team. This team guides congenital syphilis Case Review Team activities, which will serve much like the FIMR case review team. Outcomes and information extracted from case review will lead to recommendations and direction to a Community Action Team on how to make policy and structural changes with the goal of preventing congenital syphilis cases in Nevada.

Nevada ranks fourth in the nation for congenital syphilis cases, where a pregnant person with syphilis transmits the infection to their baby in utero. These cases are increasing as Nevada continues to rank first in the nation for the most infectious syphilis cases, primary and secondary stages of infection. Congenital syphilis can cause miscarriage, stillbirth, and prematurity. Babies born with congenital syphilis may have deformed bones, anemia, enlarged liver and spleen, jaundice, brain and nervous system problem, meningitis, and skin rashes. Congenital syphilis is completely preventable. As such an impactful public health issue, the CDC considers any congenital syphilis case to be a sentinel event, a failure of the healthcare system.

Washoe County syphilis numbers continue to increase, including reported congenital syphilis cases. Year-to-date (through September 30, 2021) case counts indicate that Washoe County has already exceeded the number of congenital syphilis cases reported, seven (7) over 2020 case count of six (6). The following graph and table demonstrate syphilis case counts over the past five years and through September 2021.

Immunizations – The Immunization Program started offering flu vaccine on September 27, 2021, at our onsite clinic and homebound program. Additionally, staff vaccinated 349 clients and provided 906 doses of vaccine during the month of September at our onsite clinic.

The Immunization Program vaccinated WCHD staff on October 1st and October 6th during the Employee Flu clinic. Several other flu clinics are planned for October including a flu and COVID-19 POD at the Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center location on October 2nd and October 9th. A flu and COVID-19 vaccination event with REACH Binational Health Week on October 16th, a flu event at the Senior Center on Ninth St. on October 19th and Discovery Museum flu event on October 20th in collaboration with Immunize Nevada and Walmart Pharmacy. The Family Health Festival event was moved to November 3rd, we provided flu and COVID-19 vaccinations. Additional flu events in November included 4 events with Liberty Dental and Immunize Nevada at Wooster HS and Boys and Girls Club.

Immunization staff continue to work on Vaccines for Children (VFC) and COVID-19 grant deliverables. Staff completed 2 VFC Provider trainings, 2 VFC Provider compliance visits, and 2 COVID-19 Provider compliance visits in September. Staff continue to provide vaccine storage and handling support and vaccine redistribution to providers. Staff redistributed 3,366 Pfizer, 140 Moderna and 305 Janssen doses in the month of September to support 13 community providers and increase availability of COVID-19 vaccine in our community.

The Immunization Program had a VFC compliance visit from the Nevada State Immunization Program (NSIP) on October 6th as well as a virtual site visit on November 9th for all immunization grant funding. Immunization staff completed a training with NSIP on September 23rd on VFC compliance and IQIP visits.

Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program – The WCHD TB program is currently managing 3 active pulmonary cases of TB. The kidney and ocular cases completed their treatment regimen. Staff had to potentially wrap up the contact investigations for two pulmonary cases in the beginning of October.

Staff are seeing an increase in community LTBI "equivocal" results due to the rising number of COVID cases in the hospital. This means staff are spending more time filtering through these results to see if these patients have TB or COVID or potentially both. Staff have received 3 new immigration cases (B1) in the last two weeks, these seems to be picking up as well.

Staff held a TB Cohort Review on October 28th.

Chronic Disease Prevention Program (CDPP) – Staff worked with community partners to implement the International Overdose Awareness Day event celebrated on September 2nd at Wingfield Park in Reno. The event consisted of a memorial walk from Reno City Plaza to Wingfield Parks, speeches, activities to honor those who have passed away from overdose, educational booths, and distribution of Naloxone and fentanyl testing strips.

Two CDIP program members attended the Nevada Public Health Association virtual conference to keep abreast of the public health activities and efforts occurring in our state and learn of best practices that could be applied in our community. Another team member attended the virtual Marijuana and Public Health Summit to learn best practices to mitigate public health impacts caused by marijuana.

In collaboration with the Nevada Cancer Coalition and Nevada Tobacco Prevention Coalition, staff presented at the September 13th Sparks City Council meeting on Smoke-Free Truckee Meadows Efforts.

Staff presented e-cigarette/vaping education to Health District Family Planning Clinic staff and supplied prevention and cessation materials.

Reproductive and Sexual Health Services – Family Planning staff continues to provide outreach services to the Washoe County Sheriff's Office and the Eddy House. Family Planning staff also participated in several community events, including Fiesta on Wells and the Chamber of Commerce Health Fair, to increase awareness in the community about the services provided by the Family Planning Sexual Health Program.

Family Planning staff are working with health educators from Chronic Disease to add more educational materials and resources to address the vaping epidemic among adolescents.

Staff submitted the response plan for the program review conducted by the Office of Population Affairs. A Notice of Award was received from Title X in the amount of \$61,637 to be used to expand services, facilitate telehealth and FPAR 2.0 reporting. Staff is currently working on a workplan and budget. Staff is working with Epidemiology to conduct a needs assessment. To facilitate the needs assessment, program staff actively recruited for focus groups, identified community partners, and participated in developing a client survey for the Family Planning Sexual Health Program that was distributed to clients in October. All staff attended Annual CCHS training day held September 29th.

Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) – Staff continues to investigate lead and Newborn Screening cases at the request of the Nevada State Lab.

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) – The WIC program participated in concentrated outreach during the month of September. Outreach included participation in a health and wellness fair sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, online digital advertisements, Spanish language media buys, and interviews on Spanish language radio.

Congress extended WIC Cash Value Benefit through December 2021, which will provide renewed opportunities to enhance access to vegetables and fruits for area WIC participants. New benefit levels align with expert recommendations of \$24/month for children, \$43/month for pregnant and postpartum participants, and \$47/month for breastfeeding participants.

WIC staff attended the CCHS training day, and certain WIC staff attended breastfeeding training as required to keep updated with new information.

Food/Food Safety - The Food Safety Team finished its 2021 Self-Assessment of the FDA Retail Program Standards. A Self-Assessment of all nine (9) Standards is required every five (5) years to determine continued conformity with the Standards and assess overall compliance with the Standards. The Self-Assessment is required to maintain eligibility for enrollment in the FDA Program Standards and is a prerequisite for federal grant funding. The Food Safety Team will now develop its comprehensive strategic plan for working on Standards to enhance the program and continue to strive to meet the Program Standards.

| MET | NO. | STANDARD TITLE | PROGRESS | STANDARD ELEMENTS* |
|-----|-----|--|-----------------|--|
| YES | 1 | REGULATORY FOUNDATION | SA Met 09/29/21 | 1a 1b 1c 2a 2b 3a 4a |
| NO | 2 | TRAINED REGULATORY STAFF | 77.8% met | 1a 1b 2a 2b 3a 3b 4a 4b 5a |
| YES | 3 | INSPECTION PROGRAM BASED ON HACCP PRINCIPLES | SA Met 09/16/21 | 1a 1b 1c 2a 3a 4a 4b 4c 5a 6a |
| NO | 4 | UNIFORM INSPECTION PROGRAM | 88.5% met | 1a 1b 1c 2 2i 2ii 2iii 2iv 2v 2vi 2vii 2viii 2ix 2x 2xi 2xii 2xiii 2xiv 2xv 2xvi 2xvii 2xviii 2xix 2xx 3a 3b |
| YES | 5 | FOODBORNE ILLNESS AND FOOD DEFENSE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE | SA Met 09/28/21 | 1a 1b 1c 1d 1e 1f 1g 1h 1i 2a 2b 3a 3b 4a 5a 5b 5c 6a 7a 7b1 7b2 7b3 7b4 7b5 7b6 7b7 7b8 7b9 7c |
| NO | 6 | COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT | 75.0% met | 1a 1b 2a 2b |
| YES | 7 | INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS | SA Met 09/30/21 | 1a 1b |
| NO | 8 | PROGRAM SUPPORT AND RESOURCES | 76.9% met | 1a 2a 2b 3a 3b 4a 4b 4c 4d 4e 4f 4g 4h |
| NO | 9 | PROGRAM ASSESSMENT | 85.7% met | 1a 1b 1c 2a 2b 3a 3b |

The Food Safety Program participated in the FDA Retail Food Protection Seminar. Staff from the Food Program presented on developing a strategic plan for working on the Program Standards and how to sustain the momentum working on the Standards. Staff was also asked to highlight the Crumline Award and encourage others around the nation to apply. During the seminar, staff learned about what other jurisdictions around the country are doing to achieve the Standards and new techniques to bring back to our team. This year’s seminar was held virtually.

September was National Food Safety Education Month (FSEM). September a great time to freshen up on food safety and educate others about preventing foodborne illnesses. Kat Olson from the Food Safety Team developed a social media campaign to highlight the importance of Food Safety in Washoe County that aired throughout the month.

The District Board of Health adopted updates to the food safety regulations at the October 28th meeting.

Epidemiology (EPI) – Staff assisted the EPHP Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program on a gastrointestinal (GI) outbreak at an elementary school in September. EHS staff attempted to contact parents of ill students to deliver stool specimen collection kits. However, parents did not return calls, no collection kits were delivered, and the etiology was not confirmed.

| Epidemiology | JAN 2021 | FEB 2021 | MAR 2021 | APR 2021 | MAY 2021 | JUN 2021 | JUL 2021 | AUG 2021 | SEP 2021 | 2021 YTD | 2020 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Foodborne Disease Complaints | 8 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 16 | 12 | 9 | 83 | 130 |
| Foodborne Disease Interviews | 4 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 40 | 66 |
| Foodborne Disease Investigations | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 7 |
| CD Referrals Reviewed | 13 | 13 | 13 | 18 | 20 | 12 | 19 | 22 | 8 | 138 | 82 |
| Product Recalls Reviewed | 13 | 19 | 26 | 27 | 26 | 20 | 14 | 18 | 23 | 186 | 61 |
| Child Care/School Outbreaks Monitored | 1 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 19 | 59 | 64 |

Temp Foods/Special Events – September concluded one of the busiest months for special events in the region. Staff conduct temporary food inspections at the Nugget Best in the West Rib Cook-off, The Great Reno Balloon Races, Fiesta on Wells, The National Championship Air Races, and Street Vibrations Fall Rally.

Commercial Plans - Commercial Plans has observed the sixth consecutive month of increased building permits from the previous year. Program staff are assisting in the development of draft regulations for the Pool/Spa Program. Program staff are currently working with the City of Sparks to develop and implement an electronic plan review program.

| Community Development | JAN 2021 | FEB 2021 | MAR 2021 | APR 2021 | MAY 2021 | JUN 2021 | JUL 2021 | AUG 2021 | SEP 2021 | 2021 YTD | 2020 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Development Reviews | 41 | 28 | 50 | 34 | 32 | 39 | 30 | 13 | 33 | 302 | 357 |
| Commercial Plans Received | 83 | 73 | 113 | 100 | 102 | 107 | 123 | 114 | 98 | 913 | 1,059 |
| Commercial Plan Inspections | 22 | 33 | 36 | 41 | 37 | 40 | 42 | 51 | 31 | 334 | 396 |
| Water Projects Received | 1 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 5 | 10 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 37 | 64 |
| Lots/Units Approved for Construction | 251 | 233 | 197 | 192 | 228 | 95 | 53 | 243 | 296 | 1788 | 1,685 |

Permitted Facilities – Child Care – EHS staff has kept pace with a high demand for licensing inspections and childcare facility openings through September and into October. A new large childcare facility, licensed for more than 200 children, was scheduled to open October 11, with another facility, licensed for more than 200 children opening near the end of the month. Both facilities are in South Reno. Staffing shortages at many other Washoe County childcare locations, however, continue to be an issue into October and have played a role in non-compliance with Health regulations as well as the ability of some childcares to maintain their business.

Public Bathing – Permitted Facilities and Community Development staff from EHS continue to work on the first Regulations of the Washoe County District Board of Health Governing Aquatic Facilities. The draft is approximately 30% completed, incorporating the Model Aquatic Health Code and Nevada Administrative Code, while also using Sothern Nevada Health District Regulations for reference. Southern Nevada Health District developed their first regulations incorporating parts of the Model Aquatic Health Code in 2018.

Schools – EHS staff will have completed over 50% of the 142 fall semester school inspections by Fall Break for the Washoe County School District. The Washoe County School District has continued repairs to older facilities that need to be completed as per violations noted on Health District inspections. Some of this work, including capital improvements for playground surfaces and buildings that was delayed in 2020, has picked back up in 2021.

Training – The most recent trainee has completed the program for Permitted Facilities Training, which started in mid-August, 2 weeks early and was assigned routine inspections to finish out the month of October. This is thanks in part to the efforts of several REHS staff who stepped up to take the trainee out on extra inspections. Additionally, the Training Manual for staff is currently being updated to include more orientation into Environmental Health Programs that are not included as part of Environmental Health Generalist and Routine Inspection work. The intent of the update is to provide a better foundation for the trainee over the first year and to see field application in other areas that are part of the National REHS examination.

Land Development - Land Development plan review numbers remain steady. Inspection numbers were up slightly in the month of September. This is likely due to the annual push to get construction projects completed before winter.

Program staff continue to train a new staff member on septic and well plan reviews and inspections.

Staff are working with Technology Services to improve the Land Development related items in the Accela database. The goal of this project is to allow for more online applications to improve Customer Service.

| Land Development | JAN 2021 | FEB 2021 | MAR 2021 | APR 2021 | MAY 2021 | JUN 2021 | JUL 2021 | AUG 2021 | SEP 2021 | 2021 YTD | 2020 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Plans Received (Residential/Septic) | 79 | 75 | 83 | 90 | 80 | 81 | 84 | 78 | 82 | 732 | 705 |
| Residential Septic/Well Inspections | 109 | 99 | 136 | 114 | 107 | 115 | 118 | 91 | 117 | 1007 | 1,075 |
| Well Permits | 13 | 11 | 16 | 23 | 13 | 12 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 120 | 131 |

Safe Drinking Water (SDW) - Water team members have conducted 60% of the Sanitary Surveys that are required in 2021. Staff also accompanied NDEP-BSDW staff on the Sanitary Survey of a Found Water System. The System, Sierra Safari Zoo, must comply with NDEP-BSDW standards and once the initial compliance is complete it has to be turned over to EHS staff to monitor.

Staff addressed 20 chemical monitoring exceedances for items entered into the state water database the previous month. Chemical monitoring oversight is new for EHS so these items can take extra time and meetings to confirm the appropriate course of action with our colleagues at NDEP-BSDW. The goal is for all team members to be able to address any chemical exceedance in a manner consistent with NDEP-BSDW.

The DBOH on October 28, approved an update to the Interlocal Agreement between TMWA, NDEP, and WCHD to add the TMWA groundwater systems to the water systems delegated to TMWA for regulatory review under the Interlocal with oversight provided by WCHD and NDEP.

Vector-Borne Diseases (VBD) - Adult mosquito population monitoring has concluded for the 2021 mosquito season.

Adult mosquito collection for disease testing will continue on a reduced schedule depending on human and animal disease activity.

Program staff continue to assist NDOW and NDA with mosquito management on a 55-acre irrigated pasture in Washoe Valley.

| Vector | JAN 2021 | FEB 2021 | MAR 2021 | APR 2021 | MAY 2021 | JUN 2021 | JUL 2021 | AUG 2021 | SEP 2021 | 2021 YTD | 2020 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Total Service Requests | 1 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 58 | 135 |
| Mosquito Pools Tested | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 54 | 200 | 93 | 33 | 385 | 280 |
| Mosquito Surveys and Treatments | 0 | 2 | 1 | 126 | 60 | 371 | 171 | 86 | 4 | 821 | 72 |

Waste Management (WM)/Underground Storage Tanks (UST) - Staff have been updating inspection SOPs for the permitted facilities associated with the WM Program.

Staff provided dumpsters through Waste Management to aid the clean-up efforts of the camp referred to as the “end of the world” east of the City of Sparks close to the Truckee River.

208 postcards and 111 emails were sent notifying all operators of USTs regarding public workshops to discuss proposed UST Permits and Fees.

Three workshops were held in person and via Zoom September 21 and 22, 2021, for UST permitting and fee discussion.

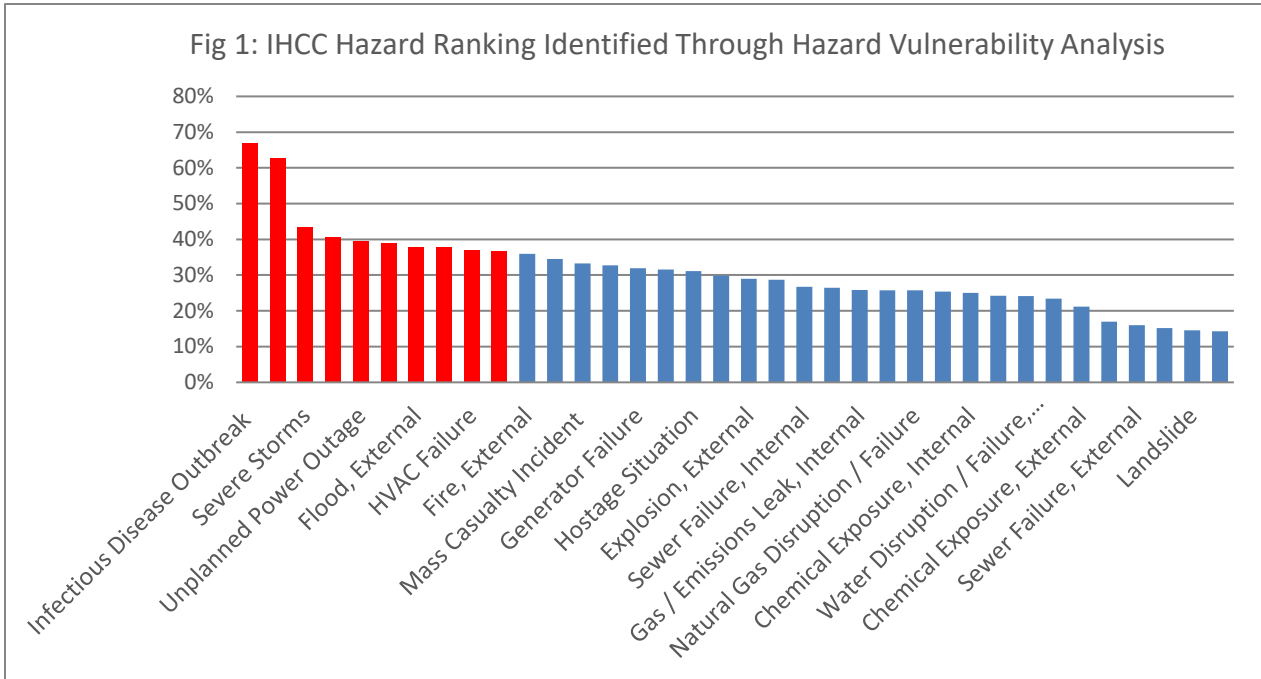
Inspections

| EHS 2020 Inspections | JAN 2021 | FEB 2021 | MAR 2021 | APR 2021 | MAY 2021 | JUN 2021 | JUL 2021 | AUG 2021 | SEP 2021 | 2021 YTD | 2020 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Child Care | 5 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 13 | 10 | 10 | 22 | 85 | 142 |
| Food/Exempt Food | 356 | 496 | 610 | 565 | 373 | 491 | 333 | 358 | 375 | 3957 | 4,264 |
| Schools/Institutions | 9 | 25 | 32 | 35 | 37 | 8 | 0 | 9 | 69 | 224 | 199 |
| Tattoo/Permanent Make-Up (IBD) | 5 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 9 | 14 | 9 | 3 | 12 | 76 | 112 |
| Temporary IBD Events | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Liquid Waste Trucks | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 16 | 19 | 16 | 10 | 76 | 110 |
| Mobile Home/RV Parks | 6 | 8 | 6 | 10 | 14 | 6 | 12 | 11 | 14 | 87 | 202 |
| Public Accommodations | 17 | 19 | 22 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 16 | 4 | 23 | 122 | 130 |
| Aquatic Facilities/Pools/Spas | 4 | 19 | 13 | 36 | 311 | 213 | 199 | 303 | 9 | 1107 | 408 |
| RV Dump Station | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 17 |
| Underground Storage Tanks | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 10 |
| Waste Management | 12 | 9 | 9 | 21 | 10 | 22 | 8 | 12 | 14 | 117 | 211 |
| Temporary Foods/Special Events | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 12 | 92 | 71 | 126 | 255 | 561 | 48 |
| Complaints | 47 | 40 | 41 | 55 | 55 | 91 | 96 | 59 | 67 | 551 | 911 |
| TOTAL | 468 | 636 | 752 | 748 | 840 | 976 | 774 | 911 | 872 | 6977 | 6,765 |
| EHS Public Record Requests | 331 | 393 | 655 | 375 | 719 | 318 | 474 | 312 | 872 | 3577 | 3,249 |

Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council - The PHEP and HPP programs are working closely with the Nevada Division of Emergency Management on a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) full-scale exercise planned for the spring of 2022. This exercise will utilize multiple regional and hospital emergency plans.

The Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA) surveys distributed to healthcare partners in August were returned and analyzed. The top 10 hazards (Figure 1) identified include: Infectious Disease Outbreak (Epidemic/Pandemic), Earthquake, Severe Storms, Fire (Internal), Unplanned Power Outage, IT System Outage, Flood (External), Active Assailant, HVAC Failure, and Communication/Telephone Failure (Internal). These was presented to IHCC on October 8th for approval by the group.

The



Resource and Gap Analysis results were also analyzed, and meetings were held with each healthcare facility type to determine the top 3 goals for each. The goals will be reviewed and approved by IHCC. The results of the HVA and the Resource and Gap Analysis identified goals will help plan for exercises, resource allocations and plan updates for the rest of this fiscal year.

**2022 Resource & Gap Analysis
 Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council**

TOP PREPAREDNESS GAPS BY PROVIDER TYPE, AS IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE COALITION'S RESOURCE AND GAP ANALYSIS:

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>EMS/FIRE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioral Health Plan Crisis Care/Crisis Standards of Care Plan Patient Distribution Plan | <p>CLINICS/AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTER</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Crisis Care/Service Prioritization Plan Staff and Resource Sharing Plan Security Plan |
| <p>HOSPITAL</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hospital Behavioral Health Plan Hospital Staff and Resource Sharing Plan (to include Blood Bank Plan) Surgical/Burn MCI Plan | <p>HOME HEALTH/HOSPICE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Information Sharing Plan/Communications Plan Exercise Plan Infectious Disease Plan |
| <p>SKILLED NURSING/MEMORY CARE/ASSISTED LIVING</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Staffing and Resource Sharing Plan Evacuation Plan Infectious Disease Plan | <p>PUBLIC HEALTH</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Shelter Support Plan (medical services) Volunteer Management Plan/Emergency Credentialing Isolation and Quarantine Bench Book and Plan |

Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Oversight Program- The Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) continues to meet bi-weekly to develop processes and protocols to accomplish the approved revisions and additions of goals in the Strategic Plan.

JAC and the Program met with hospital partners to discuss immediate solutions to reduce the burden on the Emergency Rooms and EMS partners, per request of the District Board of Health.

REMSA Exemption Requests - REMSA continues to experience high System Overload and Status 99 delays (Hospital wall times required to transfer patients to the Emergency Departments). Table 1 summarizes REMSA Exemption Requests.

| Exemption | System Overload | Status 99 | Weather | Other | Pending Review | Approved | Total |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------|---------|-------|----------------|----------|-------|
| January 2021 | 23 | 2 | 3 (BWE) | | | 28 | 28 |
| February 2021 | 5 | | | | | 5 | 5 |
| March 2021 | 13 | | | | | 13 | 13 |
| April 2021 | 52 | | | | | 52 | 52 |
| May 2021 | 34 | | | | | 34 | 34 |
| June 2021 | 135 | 47 | | | | 182 | 182 |
| July 2021 | 68 | 5 | | | | 73 | 73 |
| August 2021 | 121 | 111 | | | | 232 | 232 |
| September | 115 | 224 | | | | 339 | 339 |

REMSA Call Compliance – The franchise area is divided into response zones A through E. The response zones will have response time compliance standards for all priority 1 calls as follows, per the Amended and Restated Franchise Agreement for Ambulance Service dated May 2, 2014.

Zone A – REMSA shall insure that 90% of all presumptively defined life-threatening calls (Priority 1 Calls) have a response time of eight (8) minutes and 59 seconds or less within the combined Zone A areas.

Zones B, C, and D – REMSA shall insure that 90% of all presumptively defined life-threatening calls (Priority 1 Calls) collectively have a response time of; fifteen (15) minutes and 59 seconds or less for the combined Zone B areas, twenty (20) minutes and 59 seconds or less for the combined Zone C areas, and thirty (30) minutes and 59 seconds or less for the combined Zone D areas.

Table 2 shows REMSA’s compliance rate starting FY 2021-2022.

| Month | Zone A | Zone B, C, and D |
|-------------|--------|------------------|
| July 2021 | 84% | 77% |
| August 2021 | 81% | 80% |
| September | 88% | 75% |

REMSA Franchise Agreement Updates - The Program is preparing data for the commencement of the REMSA Franchise Map Review for Fiscal Year 2021. Program staff is compiling compliance documentation for FY 2020-21, per the revised REMSA Franchise Compliance Checklist. Documentation will be complete by the end of the calendar year.

EMS Program Planning Updates: - The Program is preparing data and compiling agency and EMS Program highlights and accomplishments for the EMS Annual Report for FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21.

Mass Gatherings/Special Events - The EMS Oversight Program conducted an inspection of the EMS services at the Reno Air Races on September 17. The Program did not receive any additional mass gathering/special events applications.

Vital Statistics - The Vital Statistics program continues to serve the public through the mail, online and in-person. Vital Statistics staff registered 606 deaths and 497 births, and corrections were made for 28 births and 1 death during September. The Vital Statistics program also compiles and submits weekly records on decedent information for HIV/AIDS surveillance, as well as a monthly update to senior services.

Table 1: Number of Processed Death and Birth Records

| September | In Person | Mail | Online | Total |
|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Death | 1957 | 52 | 552 | 2561 |
| Birth | 869 | 48 | 340 | 1257 |
| Total | 2826 | 100 | 892 | 3818 |

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) - The Family Health Festival committee held the last event of 2021 on November 3rd, from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at the Neil Road Recreation Center. This event focused on providing families with flu shots and COVID-19 vaccines. Due the pandemic, Immunize Nevada reported that the number of children who are behind on their routine shots have increased. As a result, the event offered routine vaccines for ages six months to 18 years. Other direct services will also be provided including, Mobile Harvest, utility assistance, vision, and dental screenings.

Public Health Accreditation - We have submitted Section II of the PHAB Annual Report. This section of the report provides the Health District with the opportunity to demonstrate our efforts in building a continuous quality improvement culture. The activities put forward for review touch on projects including the performance management system, the strategic planning process, customer service, workforce development, and successes related to COVID-19. In addition, section II provides action steps to consider implementing within the next year to prepare the Health District for reaccreditation that will be due in August 2024. Section II approval was received from PHAB, the next annual report will be due in June 2022.

Government Affairs Update - On October 8th, the Nevada State Treasurer's Office hosted a statewide public health listening session to gather input about how to best utilize the recovery dollars Nevada has received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Treasurer Zach Conine's office has hosted similar meetings throughout the state with various communities and industries to get feedback on how to spend the approximately \$2.7 billion dollars Nevada was awarded. Both Washoe County and the Southern Nevada Health District expressed a significant need for money to put towards infrastructure. WCHD has submitted our top requests to Nevada Recovers portal. Our requests include money for an additional building, a new TB clinic building, a portion of the repair and replace pilot project for high emitting vehicles, and an electric vehicle fleet.

Additionally, earlier this summer, WCHD submitted a list of ARPA funding requests to the Washoe County Manager's Office to consider. Washoe County was awarded approximately a \$90 million portion of the Nevada recovery dollars specifically designated to local jurisdictions. The County selected four of our priority requests: lobby and clinical services remodel, mobile vaccination clinic, TS consultation for ACCELA improvements, and PrEP HIV funding. The selected projects/requests total \$1.5 million.

Washoe Impact Awards - The Washoe County Health District was awarded the Washoe Impact Manager's Award and the Washoe Impact Communications Award. The Health District's overall COVID-19 response was selected for the Manager's award, and the Health District COVID-19 Call Center/Washoe County 311 collaboration was selected for the Communications Award. Other winners included the Sheriff Community

Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers who were selected for the Excellence in Public Service award for their efforts to assist in staffing the COVID-19 testing POST, and vaccination PODs at the Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center, and the Technology Services Department was selected for the Integrity Award for their support of the Health District's technology needs, Accela and Salesforce software platform development for testing and vaccinations, the COVID-19 data dashboard, and their efforts to support the technology needs of other departments implementing remote work arrangements.

Truckee Meadows Healthy Communities (TMHC)/Truckee Meadows Tomorrow Merger (TMT) - THMC has concluded a merger with TMT to better serve the growing needs of the community and improve quality of life for all in our region. Truckee Meadows Tomorrow will be the official name of the nonprofit moving forward. TMT will assume administration of the RWJF BUILD Health Challenge grant addressing senior isolation and reduction in the senior suicide rate. The Health District will work closely with TMT in the Community Health Needs Assessment process and to engage the community and partner organizations to provide input and assist in the development of the Community Health Improvement Plan. The Health Officer and other members of the TMHC Board have been appointed to the TMT Board of Directors to help guide the direction of the merged organizations moving forward.