

Central Nevada Health District Health Officer's Report

Pharmacy Certification.

Kathleen Patterson DNP has passed her testing for receiving an in-house dispensing certificate from the State of Nevada.

Clinics sites have received renovation for safe and secure medication storage. Application paperwork for inspection by the Board of Pharmacy continues and a date for inspection will be scheduled and must be done for all four sites in the health district.

Clinical Services

Kathleen Patterson DNP started seeing patients September 2, 2023. Patients have now been seen at the Churchill, Mineral, and Pershing clinics without complication. Electronic medical records, laboratory orders, and communications have been acceptable.

The clinical team met with Susan McElheny, state epidemiologist, on October 12th, 2023 to review the logistics of transferring the monitoring and treatment of tuberculosis cases in the CNHD. The tracking mechanisms (EpiTracks) and the clinical staff have begun full tracking services October 30, 2023. In the interim, Susan McElheny and Tamara Ferguson will co-review any cases. Susan, Tamara and Dr. Krasner MD (state contracted infectious disease specialist) will be resources after transfer.

Environmental Health

Environmental Health (EH) has welcomed a new addition. Her name is Maria Menjivar and she is the Environmental Health Manager and has been working on establishing and creating systems processes and documents to help support the environmental Health program in addition to the public health preparedness program.

EH and PHP policies are being developed to ensure adequate response capabilities are created.

EH is working with a new web-based program which will allow our stakeholders to conduct most (if not all) their business online. This program will also allow stakeholders to file facility-based complaints.

Under CNHD's local codes, the District will be creating a Food Advisory Board. This Board will assist the EH team in decisions regarding food facilities and food related code changes.

Outreach CNHD

(Please refer to the list of events for the CNHD for Sept.- Nov. 2023 at the end of this report.)

Planning and activities have been centered on community health and return to school events across the health district with events in each county performed or planned. September, October, and November included vaccine events in Churchill, Eureka, Mineral, and Pershing Counties.

On October 14, 2023 the University School of Medicine hosted their quarterly Rural Outreach Clinic at the CNHD offices in Fallon. 10 individuals received vaccinations, general medical exams, and urgent care evaluations at no cost. Next event is planned for January 20, 2024.

Seasonal community education bulletins are being reviewed and discussed. The education would address historical issues that occur in the region. Subjects would range from vectors (mosquitos, rodents, game), noxious organisms (weeds, algae bloom), vaccinations, environmental toxins (lead, mercury, pesticides) and health (nutrition, altzheimer's, heart health, prenatal planning). This communication would live in an public accessible website library and would be highlighted seasonally via a public webpage, social media, and traditional news media.

Amber Lewis RN started October 2nd, 2023. She has completed her competency testing for point of care testing and is currently working with patients and rotates through the four clinics.

CNHD's base clinical staff is completed. Two full time RNs, one per-diem RN, one APRN, one medical assistant, and four community health workers (residing in each county) have been onboarded.

COVID-19 Locally

Trends reported nationally and for Nevada are reflected in the CNHD. The national trend showed a peak of hospitalizations, viral levels in wastewater, and deaths in mid-September 2023 with a current downward trend. Over the last six weeks the numbers of positive tests in Churchill, Eureka, Mineral, and Pershing Counties have declined from a peak in mid September 2023. Current hospitalization numbers are 4/100,000 in all counties represented.

Two potential COVID-19 death reports are pending.

Probable Positive Tests COVID-19 (Last 30 Days) CNHD

Churchill	297/100,000
Eureka	0/100,000
Mineral	103/100,000
Pershing	136/100,000

Follow Up Vaccine CNHD 2023: Reported as Completed

Churchill	13,682	Pop.26,793	(51.37%)
Eureka	658	Pop. 1,959	(34.85%)
Mineral	2,728	Pop. 4,894	(56.28%)
Pershing	2,703	Pop. 7,071	(36.86%)

Source: Northern Nevada Public Health <https://nvose.org/data-statistics/>

Epidemiology Reports

No reports to cover for this period.

CNHD has hired a new Epidemiologist and Victoria Sepcic will start on November 27, 2023. Also, we are in the process of hiring a disease investigator. As of January 1, 2023 CNHD will assume the Disease Investigation program from the state Division of Public and Behavioral Health.

Administration:

CNHD continues to execute numerous grants from the State and various other agencies.

CNHD Outreach/Activities September – November 2023

September

- William N. Pennington Life Center, Fallon – Covid Vaccines (2), Flu Vaccines (6)
- Schurz Flu POD – Flu vaccines (2)
- Pershing County Senior Center – Flu vaccines (17)
- Mineral County Senior Center – Flu vaccines (8)
- Fallon Clinic – Childhood Immunizations (13)
- Clinic Services Patients seen in month:
 - Churchill -16
 - Mineral – 0
 - Pershing - 0

October

- **Started Family Planning Services in Churchill, Mineral & Pershing** – APRN in each clinic 2x monthly:
 - Cervical Screening: 6
 - 2 – Churchill

- 2 – Mineral
 - 2 - Pershing
- Family Planning (birth control): 11
 - 8 – Churchill
 - 2 - Mineral
- STD Testing/Treatment for symptoms: 7
 - 4 – Churchill
 - 2 – Mineral
 - 1 - Pershing
- Clinic Services Patients seen in month:
 - Churchill – 39
 - Mineral – 9
 - Pershing - 2
- Pershing County Flu POD – (172)
- Rural Outreach Clinic in Fallon 10/14
- Mineral County Flu POD – (69)
- Churchill County Flu POD – (41)
- Churchill County Homebound visits – Flu (6), Covid (4)
- William N. Pennington Life Center – Flu vaccines (11), Covid vaccines (7)
- Homebound patient visits Churchill – Flu vaccines (7), Covid vaccines (4)
- Eureka Flu POD – Flu vaccines (17), Covid vaccines(7)
- Crescent Valley Flu POD – Flu vaccines (7), Covid vaccines(4)

November (through 11/9 only)

- New RN – Amber Lewis started at each clinic 2x monthly
- Pershing County Senior Center – Flu vaccines (2), Covid vaccines (7)
- Crescent Valley – Childhood immunizations (2)
- Mineral County Flu POD (second one advertised in local paper) – zero turnout
- Mineral County Homebound & Inmates – Flu vaccines (8), Covid (6)
- Churchill County High School – Flu/Covid/MCV4 vaccines – Flu vaccines (10), Covid vaccines (3), MCV4 (12)
- Started SAPTA Grant (New Frontier – TB testing) every Tuesday for all new residents (12 tested to date)
- Started Electronic Disease Notification (EDN) for LTBI – 1 immigrant identified
- Family Planning patient seen in month:
 - Churchill – 0
 - Mineral – 0
 - Pershing – 0
- Clinic Services Patients seen in month:
 - Churchill – 5

- Mineral – 1
- Pershing – 3
- Condoms provided to all clinics

November – future services (after 11/9/23)

11/14, 11/21, 11/28 – Quantiferon (QFT-TB draws) for New Frontier Treatment Center

11/15 – Mina Senior Center – Flu & Covid vaccines

11/16 – Flu POD at New Frontier Treatment Center

11/28 – William N. Pennington Life Center – Flu & Covid vaccines

11/30 – Mineral County Senior Center – Flu & Covid vaccines

Crescent Valley services – in planning stage (hope to provide one day each month)

Offered Flu POD to Oasis Charter School (pending response)

Offered Flu & Covid to Churchill County Sheriff's Dept inmates

Tedd McDonald MD