

Elko County Health Board
Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Section Report
Advisory Council on the State Program for Wellness and the Prevention of Chronic Disease

July 8, 2020

New Staff

Ashley Gurr, agurr@elkocountynv.net, 775-748-0200

Ashley will be working with Abby to start managing and coordinating the PHS Grant.

Section News

The small county staff has developed a COVID-19 Hotline that allows residents of the 6 Northeastern Nevada Counties to call in for support and advice. The hotline is being manned by UNR, School of Medicine, medical students. We developed a screening form that has the CDC algorithm to identify the signs and symptoms of COVID19 as well as an epidemiology component. When the student finds that the person is a presumed positive, they contact the provider or facility in the area the caller will utilize. This creates a warm hand-off so the facility can prepare with the proper PPE and get charts started for the caller's arrival. The epidemiology component has allowed us to track clusters, one of which spans 3 counties. Elko County has a few state-approved partners to assist in the contact tracing for these 6 counties. The contact tracers along with establishing timelines and possible additional exposures follow up every few days with confirmed positive cases until they are recovered.

Elko County has also contracted with Marena Works to assist with laying the foundation for a Public Health Department. Marena will assist the county with establishing Environmental Health Policies, Disease Investigation Policies and provide a Feasibility Report for a local Public Health Department.