

#### **JULY HEALTH EQUITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT**

EACH MONTH, THE CHRONIC DISEASE
PREVENTION & HEALTH PROMOTION HEALTH
EQUITY UNIT WILL SPOTLIGHT ONE OF OUR
PARTNERS TO SHOWCASE THEIR TREMENDOUS
EFFORTS IN HEALTH EQUITY. OUR TEAM THANKS
EACH AND EVERY PARTNER AND COMMUNITY
BASED-ORGANIZATION FOR ALL OF THEIR
EXTRAORDINARY EFFORTS IN ASSISTING
NEVADANS AND MAKING AN IMPACT IN PUBLIC
HEALTH. THIS MONTH'S FEATURED PARTNER IS
THE





#### NEVADA OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH AND EQUITY



# What is the most exciting project you are currently working on?

All of Us Research Partnership – Diversifying Clinical Trial Participation

The All of Us Research Program aims to speed up health research and medical breakthroughs. To do so, All of Us is asking 1 million volunteers to share different types of health and lifestyle information—information like where they live, what they do, and their family health history.

The program is open to people both healthy and sick, from *all* communities. Unlike a single research study focused on a specific disease or community, the All of Us Research Program is building a diverse database that can inform thousands of studies, covering a wide range of health conditions. This information could help researchers learn more about different diseases and treatments and improve health for generations to come.

NOMHE has been collaborating closely with the All of Us Research Program to foster community involvement, provide educational resources, and organize impactful events to raise awareness and drive participation among underrepresented groups.

To learn more about the All of Us Research Program, please visit <u>JoinAllofUs.org/onthego</u>.

For more information about upcoming All of Us events in Nevada, contact Carlos Ramirez Gomez <a href="mailto:crgomez@dhhs.nv.gov">crgomez@dhhs.nv.gov</a> or Alexandra Neal <a href="mailto:a.neal@dhhs.nv.gov">a.neal@dhhs.nv.gov</a>.



NOMHE Team with the All of Us Program.

### What has been your most memorable moment?

In 2021, NOMHE was awarded the CDC Health Disparities Grant, which has had a significant impact on the organization. This grant provided the necessary funding to expand the team by adding five additional members: a community engagement liaison, two training/policy coordinators, management analyst, and health equity planner. The community engagement liaison has significantly enhanced our relationships with community partners, with a particular emphasis on our valuable collaboration with the Nevada Minority Health & Equity Coalition (NMHEC).

Our Training/Policy coordinators have prioritized the improvement of equitable practices through the implementation of statewide and division policies as well as comprehensive training programs. The management analyst has worked in conjunction with the Nevada Office of Analytics to provide essential support in the creation of the 2023 Minority Health Report, while also conducting analyses to evaluate the impact of partnerships and grant-funded activities. Additionally, our



health equity planner has spearheaded the development of the Health Equity Action Plan and oversees the strategic planning process for NOMHE, ensuring alignment with our organization's goals and objectives.

The grant has enabled the organization to produce various essential resources, including the Health Equity Action Plan, along with products developed by NOMHE's CDC HD Grant funded vendors - the Health Equity in the Workplace toolkit, and two DHHS DEI Manuals for policy and strategy. These products are being actively promoted within our networks and the community, contributing to our mission of advancing health equity. Additionally, the grant's deliverables specifically focus on addressing disparities in health-related services that are disproportionately experienced by marginalized populations, particularly in relation to COVID-19. Through this funding, we have been able to undertake critical activities aimed at improving the capacity and service delivery of health and human service providers.



NOMHE Team (missing Karina Fox and Amanda Annan), Christmas Party 2022

# What piece of advice would you give to new partners?

Foster collaborative partnerships with multiple sectors and communities to help amplify equity work!

By working together, stakeholders from sectors such as healthcare, education, government, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and community-based groups can combine their unique perspectives, knowledge, and resources to develop solutions and implement impactful strategies to address the root causes of health disparities, ultimately leading to improved health outcomes for all members of the community.

To do this, partners can join and participate in coalitions that work to reduce health disparities and promote health equity, such as the Nevada Minority Health & Equity Coalition (NMHEC) within the UNLV School of Public Health.

NMHEC Partners serve as critical community champions to address health inequities in our state.

Partners include individuals as well as academic, civic, private, and community organizations that serve Nevada's large and uniquely diverse populations.

Individuals and organizations in Nevada are encouraged to apply to serve as Allied or Associated Partners. There is no cost to become a partner. For more information, visit this link: <a href="MMHEC">MMHEC</a>
<a href="Partnerships">Partnerships</a>



Partners can also thoroughly embrace principles of Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR), which is an equitable approach to research in which researchers, organizations, and community members collaborate on all aspects of a research project. Please refer to the resources commissioned by NOMHE, such as the CBPR Toolkit, and the Build Capacity Training Series.

# What action can others take to help tackle health disparities?

To address health disparities in their community, partners and stakeholders can take several actions. One valuable resource available to them is the Health Equity Action Plan (HEAP) developed by NOMHE. This plan aims to assist partners and stakeholders in implementing health equity strategies in their work.







Nevada Health Provider Summit, April 2022 (Both photos on left) and NOMHE's Back to School Health Fair, Hellen Cannon Middle School, August 2022 (Right)

By accessing the HEAP, stakeholders statewide gain access to a tool that enables them to pursue equitable solutions in various critical areas, including collecting data, building organizational capacity, fostering community engagement, ensuring language access, driving policy change, and enhancing emergency preparedness. You can find the HEAP resource by visiting this link: NOMHE Health Equity Action Plan.



All of Us Kickoff Event in Northern Nevada, October 2022

To learn more about NOMHE, visit their website here!

To see other Partner Spotlights or learn more about the CDPHP Health Equity unit, click <u>HERE</u>.