2017 Community Health Improvement Plan
Annual Report

This annual report was prepared by the Washoe County Health District (WCHD). We would like to thank the following organizations in Washoe County who made contributions to this report.

ACCEPT
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern Nevada
Boys and Girls Club of the Truckee Meadows
Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada
Children’s Cabinet
Communities in Schools
Crossroads
Community Health Alliance
Education Alliance
Food Bank of Northern Nevada
Join Together Northern Nevada (JTNN)
Nevada Department of Education Nevada
Department of Health and Human Services
Northern Nevada HOPES
Northern Nevada Literacy Council
Quest Counseling
Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA)
Regional Transportation Commission (RTC)
Reno Justice Court
Renown Child Health Institute

Renown Health
Rise Academy for Adult Achievement
Safe and Healthy Schools Commission
Sanford Center Geriatric Clinic
Social Entrepreneurs, Inc.
Think Kindness
Truckee Meadows Healthy Communities
United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra
University of Nevada, Reno (UNR)
UNR, School of Community Health Sciences
UNR, Reno School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry
Washoe County School District (WCSD)
WCSD, Children in Transition
WCSD, Family Resource Centers
WCSD, Nutrition Services Department
WCSD, School Advisory Committee
Washoe County Sherriff’s Office
Washoe County Human Services Agency
Washoe County Social Services
Executive Summary

The Washoe County Health District’s (WCHD) 2017 Annual Report for the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) provides a progress review of the activities and collaborative efforts completed in 2017 by the Washoe County Health District, CHIP workgroups, and community partners and agencies associated with the Washoe County Health District CHIP.

This document is a companion to the Community Health Needs Assessment (2016-2018) and the Community Health Improvement Plan (2016-2018).

Washoe County’s community health improvement planning process is a continuous, triennial cycle that is developed in collaboration with multiple community partners. The purpose of the CHIP process is to guide community leaders in making decisions about where to invest time and resources to make measurable differences in the health and well-being of the community. The Washoe County Health District, Truckee Meadows Healthy Communities, and community agencies convened in 2015 to provide guidance over the community-wide improvement process. As a result, the CHIP Steering Committee was formed.

After consideration of the assessment findings and community input, the CHIP Steering Committee selected four strategic priority health areas that were identified as requiring the greatest response in our community. In addition, subsequent goals, objectives, and strategies for these health areas were developed and included in the CHIP. The 2016-2018 CHIP addressed four priorities; Access to Health Care and Social Services, Behavioral Health, Education (K-12), and Food Security. Infrastructure was put in place by the CHIP Steering committee to support the implementation of CHIP initiatives through workgroups. The workgroups were formed around each priority area with additional subcommittees that were tasked with specific action items. The workgroups met each month to plan, discuss progress and identify additional areas of alignment as well as opportunities for collaboration and collective action in the community. While the CHIP is a community driven and collectively owned health improvement plan, WCHD is charged with providing administrative support, tracking and collecting data, and preparing the annual report.
In the second year of implementing the Washoe County Health District’s CHIP, 33 objectives were met and 40 strategies were implemented. Specific achievements are outlined below.

**Access to Healthcare and Social Services**

This priority was led by 10 community organizations that supported the work to increase access to health care and social services through 10 performance measures and 14 strategies. The working group pursued efforts and achieved progress on the overarching goals including: the development of a community health hub, increasing accesses to primary care, increasing coordination of care, increasing access to transportation, and increasing the number of adults who receive their high school diploma. In the second year of implementation, 50% of the objectives have been met and 86% of the strategies have been implemented. Major successes include:

- Three Family Health Festivals were conducted outside of the 89502 zip code. Moving the model into other zip codes expanded outreach efforts that further met the need for services.
- Truckee Meadows Healthy Communities conducted a Remote Area Medical Event that provided medical, vision and dental care to a total of 335 patients at a value of $137,000 of free services.
- Funding of $10 million dollars was approved for Graduate Medical Education programs in Nevada, in which the Sanford Center Geriatric Clinic will be one clinic training site.
- There was a 121% increase in the number of Washoe County residents who received their adult high school diploma from RISE Academy for Adult Achievement. In school year 2016-2017, a total of 331 diplomas were awarded.
- The Nurse Health Line, one of three Community Health Programs provided through REMSA received over 28,000 calls. Instead of taking a trip to the emergency room, 2,009 calls were recommended to a primary care provider for a more appropriate level of care.

**Behavioral Health**

This priority was led by 20 community organizations that supported the work to advance 32 performance measures and 21 strategies. The working group pursued efforts and achieved progress on the overarching goals including: improving access to behavioral health services, creating a healthier environment for youth, and a reduction in youth substance use and abuse. In the second year of implementation, 56% of the objectives have been met and 81% of the strategies have been implemented. Major successes include:

- A state system to report bullying was established, which created multiple avenues to report bullying incidents. During school year 2016-2017, 870 incidents of bullying were reported, slightly higher than SY 15-16.
- Social and Emotional curriculum to help students manage emotions and achieve positive behavior goals was adopted and implemented in 80% of schools within Washoe County.
• Community Health Alliance had approximately 6,000 patient encounters in 2017. After patients received a behavioral health screening during their regular primary care visit, about 250 immediately received early intervention care through a “warm hand off” referral on the same day.

• The Harm Reduction Center at Northern Nevada HOPES collected 906,273 used needles and distributed over 1.3 million clean needles.

• Crossroads expanded program capacity by adding three transitional houses; 158 beds are now available, seven more than their 2017 goal.

• Children’s Cabinet delivered the Signs of Suicide program to 1,316 middle schools students in school year 2016-2017; a total of 374 students were identified as needing immediate follow up care with a behavioral health therapist.

• Teen Intervene, an early intervention program aimed to reduce substance abuse among youth, had an 82% increase in participation among youth.

• The University of Nevada, Reno reached a total of 223 college students with the Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention of College Students (BASICS) program, about 20 more cases than 2016, of those 11 were self-referrals.

• Big Brother’s Big Sisters, SMART Moves SMART Kids, and Positive Action are programs that made headway increasing youth participation and comprehension of social and emotional skills.

Education

This priority was led by eight community organizations that supported the work to advance 18 performance measures and 11 strategies. The working group pursued efforts and achieved progress on the overarching goals including improving education outcomes and supporting student health through nutritious eating habits and physical activity. In the second year of implementation, 39% of the objectives have been met and 64% of the strategies have been implemented. Major successes include:

• The Washoe County graduation rate was 84% in school year 2017, a 7% increase from school year 2016.

• Communities in School expanded their program into Sparks Middle School, providing a total of 6 programs in schools throughout Washoe County. In school year 2016-2017, the graduation rate for students receiving CIS supports was 76%, 23% higher than Washoe County School District’s Children in Transition graduation rate.

• United Way of Northern Nevada unveiled their Community Solutions Action Plan, “Literacy is the Cure” to support Nevada’s early readers for school success.

• Washoe County schools made significant progress toward meeting three wellness goals to support implementation of physical activity, wellness instruction and nutrition education.
• Washoe County School District Nutrition Services had a total of 24 Title 1 school participate in Provision 2 during the 2016-2017 school year; since all kids eat for free at participating school, the stigma of getting a school meal is reduced and meal participation typically increases.

• Additional programs supporting health and wellness such as Girls on the Run Sierras and the Wolf Pack Coaches Challenge advanced physical activity initiatives through alignment of school curricula.

**Food Security**

This priority was led by five community organizations that supported the work to advance 10 performance measures and six strategies. The working group pursued efforts and achieved progress on the overarching goals including; implementing programs that address the immediate need for food and promote long term health and to enhance home-delivered meal programs to seniors. In the second year of implementation, 50% of the objectives have been met and 60% of the strategies have been implemented. Major successes include:

- The Collaborating for Communities (C4C) Leadership team developed an action plan that advanced food security initiatives through collective impact.

- Prescription Pantry a two-year pilot project was developed and implemented to decrease food insecurity by screening patients for food insecurity. When it is determined that a patient is food insecure, the patient is provided a “prescription” to access food at one of the seven community healthy food pantries, or the clinic based pantry.

- The Washoe County Human Services Agency received over $1M in federal funding to support the senior nutrition program. Washoe County served 381,913 meals to seniors participating in the Congregate and Home Delivered meal programs. In addition, Meals on Wheels received a $82,000 increase in funding for FY18 as a result of the 2017 legislative session.

The 2016-2018 CHIP served as a roadmap in implementing initiatives to improve the health of Washoe County and a great number of accomplishments have resulted from that. The strength of community partnerships enhanced the work of the CHIP through a common understanding of the CHIP’s purpose and opportunity to leverage resources. Successes were seen across all four priorities due to the community wide engagement and collaborative work. While challenges of limited funding hampered the progress of some programs outlined in the CHIP, the successes demonstrate the evolution and progress accomplished by CHIP workgroups and community partners in 2017. Looking ahead, the successes and challenges seen during the inaugural CHIP will guide the development of subsequent health improvement plans and shape further efforts to engage the community in collaborative efforts to improve the health of all in Washoe County.