

Washoe County Health District City of Sparks Presentation

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Washoe County Health District

Public Health Mission

“To protect and enhance the quality of life for all citizens of Washoe County through providing health promotion, disease prevention, public health emergency preparedness, and environmental services.”



Washoe County Health District

Public Health

- **“Public Health” is the application of knowledge to the identification of society’s health needs, along with government and private initiatives that address those needs.**
- **Public Health practitioners include all types of health providers-- environmentalists, health educators, and many others.**



Washoe County Health District

Core Functions of Public Health

- **Assessing and monitoring** of the health of communities and populations at risk to identify health problems and priorities;
- **Formulating public policies**, in collaboration with community and government leaders, designed to solve identified local and national health problems and priorities;
- **Assuring** that all populations have access to appropriate and cost-effective care, including health promotion and disease prevention services, and evaluation of the effectiveness of that care.



Washoe County Health District

Washoe County District Board of Health

District Health Officer

Administrative
Health Services

Air Quality
Management

Community & Clinical
Health Services

Environmental
Health Services

Epidemiology &
Public Health
Preparedness



Washoe County Health District

DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH

➤ City of Reno

- ❖ Councilman Dan Gustin
- ❖ Mr. Matt Smith (Chair)

➤ City of Sparks

- ❖ Councilwoman Julia Ratti
- ❖ Dr. Denis Humphreys, OD

➤ Washoe County

- ❖ Commissioner Kitty Jung (Vice-Chair)
- ❖ Dr. George Furman, MD

➤ Board Appointee

- ❖ Dr. George Hess, MD



Washoe County Health District

Air Quality Management Division

- **Ambient Air Monitoring Program**
 - ❖ Carbon monoxide
 - ❖ Ozone
 - ❖ PM10 and PM2.5
 - ❖ Nitrogen dioxide
 - ❖ Meteorological data
- **Planning Program**
 - ❖ Bring community into compliance with federal health standards
- **Permitting and Compliance Program**



Washoe County Health District

Community and Clinical Health Services Division

- **Chronic Disease Prevention – Nutrition / Fitness / Tobacco**
- **Community & Clinical Health Services**
- **Family Planning**
- **Immunizations**
- **Public Health Nurse – Home Visitation**
- **Sexual Health – HIV / STD**
- **Tuberculosis Control**



Washoe County Health District

Environmental Health Services Division

- **General Environmental Health Services**
 - ❖ **Food Safety Inspections and Compliance**
 - ❖ **Food Borne Illness Investigation**
 - ❖ **Institutions – Mobile Home Parks, Schools**
 - ❖ **Housing Complaints**
 - ❖ **Land Use Planning**
 - ❖ **Invasive Body Decorations and Tattoo**



Washoe County Health District

Environmental Health Services Division

- **Hazardous Materials**
- **Safe Drinking Water Program**
- **Solid Waste Management**
- **Underground Storage Tanks**
- **Vector Disease Control**



Washoe County Health District

Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness Division

- **Surveillance and analysis of health data**
 - ❖ Communicable and Chronic Diseases
- **Guidance and monitoring of disease investigations**
- **All Hazards Emergency Preparedness:**
 - ❖ Bioterrorism
 - ❖ Pandemic Flu/National epidemics
 - ❖ Natural Disaster
- **Vital Statistics**



Washoe County Health District

Administrative Health Services Division

- **Compliance for fiscal and operational policies established by the DBOH and the BCC**
- **Emergency Medical Services
 - ❖ **DBOH Multi-Casualty Incident Plan**
 - ❖ **Oversight of REMSA Franchise****
- **Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program**



Washoe County Health District

Authority Granted

- The Board of Health may exercise the powers granted to the Cities and County by statute regarding ambulance service.
- The Board of Health may displace or limit competition by granting a franchise for services



Washoe County Health District

DBOH Oversight

- DBOH organizational, performance and operational compliance annually.
- DBOH approves the amount of the maximum average patient bill for ground and rotary wing ambulance transport.
- Establishes the limit for the number of times prepaid ambulance service may be used by an individual in a membership year.



Delegation to DHO

- Oversight duties delegated by the District Board of Health to the District Health Officer and Health District staff to monitor and report REMSA's performance under the franchise granted by the DBOH.



Washoe County Health District

DHO Oversight

- Informs REMSA of the annual CPI adjustment amount.
- Approves use of penalty fund for costs of operational or educational materials.
- Receives financial documents annually.
- Reviews disputes in time exemptions and makes final binding determination.
- Reports REMSA's annual performance to the DBOH annually.



Washoe County Health District

Communicable Diseases

➤ NRS/NAC 441A

- ❖ Reportable conditions – Physicians and labs
- ❖ Investigation – Public Health
 - Confirm diagnosis
 - Identify contacts
 - Identify source of infection
 - Determine if case is employed in a sensitive occupation
 - Determine extent of any outbreak
 - Carryout measures for prevention, suppression, and control



Washoe County Health District

Chronic Disease

- **Largest proportion of overall morbidity and mortality**
- **Generally not reportable**
- **Death records**
- **Application of long-term studies to local situation**
- **Hospital discharge data**
- **Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)**
- **Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)**



Washoe County Health District



Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

www.washoecounty.us/health



Washoe County Health District