



Overarching NPHA Advocacy and Policy Priorities

The mission of the Nevada Public Health Association (NPHA) is to serve as the voice for public health in Nevada in order to improve health and achieve health equity in our state. In keeping with our vision of a healthy Nevada, NPHA organizes its advocacy around five overarching advocacy and policy priorities:

- Building public health infrastructure and capacity
- Creating health equity and reducing health disparities
- Ensuring the right to health and health care
- Promoting evidence-based policymaking
- Advocating for Health in All Policies

As an affiliate of the American Public Health Association (APHA), NPHA's overarching goals and related advocacy efforts are closely aligned with APHA's advocacy and policy agenda.

2021 NPHA Advocacy Agenda

During 2021 and consistent with NPHA's overarching advocacy and policy priorities, NPHA will focus its advocacy and policy efforts on the following issues:

- Advocating for permanent sources of flexible funding for public health to address current and emerging threats to public health, including the current COVID-19 pandemic
- Supporting efforts to expand and diversify dedicated revenue streams to support public health, health care, and human services in Nevada
- Ensuring access to affordable, high-quality clinical and preventive health services for all Nevada residents, including oral health services, substance use treatment, and behavioral health care
- Supporting policies and budget recommendations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change in Nevada, including full implementation of the State Climate Strategy
- Building public health capacity and preparedness in rural and frontier counties of Nevada, including the development of core public health services and cross-jurisdictional sharing in public health
- Advocating for comprehensive sex education reform in Nevada's public schools
- Advocating for sustained funding for evidence-based tobacco and e-cigarette prevention and control, and support for model tobacco 21 legislation and policy (T21), increases in tobacco and other-tobacco-product taxes, and comprehensive smoke-free workplaces

- Supporting evidence-based gun violence prevention and firearm safety measures, including advocacy for the enforcement of existing policy on background checks on all gun purchases
- Promoting healthy lifestyles through the support of nutritious eating and active living, including policy that supports the creation of built environments and complete streets that integrates physical activity into daily life, increases access to healthy foods, and eliminates food deserts
- Protecting and promoting maternal, child, and adolescent health in Nevada, including advocacy for increased access to reproductive services for birthing individuals
- Supporting efforts to increase access to routine and recommended immunizations for all ages (HPV, meningococcal, and Tdap vaccination) and efforts to address vaccine hesitancy
- Supporting evidence-based injury prevention in Nevada, including programs and policies to improve pedestrian safety and reduce transportation-related injuries
- Supporting HIV modernization and decriminalization
- Supporting efforts to mitigate and reduce intimate partner violence
- Advocating for evidence-based policy and improved surveillance to prevent drug overdoses and drug-related deaths, and supporting those in recovery
- Promoting an effective public health framework for regulating legal marijuana sales and use in Nevada, including support for smoke-free policy, comprehensive youth prevention efforts, mass media education campaigns on health risks, and tax revenue for prevention programs and research
- Advocating for funding and policy to ensure a competent public and personal health care workforce
- Advocating for policy measures that address health equity and the social determinants of health in Nevada, including investments in Birth-12 education and higher education, support for efforts to establish a living wage for all Nevada workers, advocacy for healthy and affordable housing, and efforts to improve civic engagement

NPHA has the flexibility to educate, inform and act, when appropriate, on other pressing public health issues that may not easily be categorized under the overarching NPHA advocacy and policy priorities and our 2021 advocacy agenda and current policy efforts.

NPHA Advocacy and Policy Committee

The NPHA Board of Directors established its Advocacy and Policy Committee (APC) to oversee the development and implementation of the association's advocacy, legislative, and policy activities.

For additional information about the Nevada Public Health Association and the work of the NPHA Advocacy and Policy Committee in 2021, visit www.nphaonline.org or contact NPHA APC Chair, Dr. John Packham at john.f.packham@gmail.com.

Approved by the NPHA Board of Directors on December 15, 2020.