

# Northern Nevada Shared Services Learning Community



- Churchill
- Elko
- Eureka
- Humboldt
- Lander
- Pershing
- Washoe
- White Pine



## About the Region

The eight counties making up the project area represent an area roughly equal in size to the six New England States combined. The region makes up about 57% of the Nevada land mass but has only 20% of the population. The population density is 8.73 per square mile but only 2.08 per square mile in the seven rural and frontier counties. Those seven counties make up 4.25% of the state's population. Outside of Washoe County, the majority of public health services in the seven other counties are provided through the State.

## Recent Activities

- Development of public health services inventory questionnaire
- Development of public health services gaps and priorities questionnaire
- Follow-up site visits with Counties to ground truth questionnaire results

## Key Findings

- Several of the rural and frontier Counties do not have an appointed health officer.
- Other than the Washoe County Health District, only Churchill County routinely convenes a local board of health.
- Many local public health services are provided through the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health.
- Often, local leadership does not have a thorough understanding of the importance or the work involved in providing these services.
- Local understanding of public health issues is typically not data driven.
- Distances between population centers and the lack of local infrastructure make sharing difficult.

## Tactical Change

Rather than attempting to develop and implement cross-jurisdictional sharing arrangements in the near term, it was determined that a more feasible and appropriate use of the funds would be to provide assistance to the County best poised to revitalize their Board of Health and engagement in public health activities, which is Churchill County. This could then allow the other rural and frontier counties in the project area to benefit from an opportunity to observe the Churchill County Board of Health in action and an opportunity to discuss how the use of local data might be used to engage leadership within their own communities.

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