

Nevada State Profile

State Partnerships Improving Nutrition & Equity

Overview

State Partnerships Improving Nutrition & Equity (SPINE) is a program of the [National Association of Chronic Disease Directors'](#) (NACDD) [Center for Advancing Healthy Communities](#). In collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity (DNPAO), NACDD is providing funding to nine DNPAO Ambassador states to address food and nutrition security through equitable and sustainable actions that tackle economic and social conditions limiting food and nutrition security across the lifespan. State Health Departments receiving funding are Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oklahoma, and Oregon. Five states – Iowa, Michigan, Nevada, New Hampshire, and Oklahoma – received additional funding to augment existing efforts in their states to improve initiation, exclusivity, and duration of breastfeeding/chestfeeding.

SPINE states are developing meaningful partnerships or enhancing existing partnerships to support the implementation of a SPINE State Action Plan (SAP) that serves as a strategic roadmap for carrying out equitable food and nutrition security activities throughout their state. The initial project period was January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022; an additional year of funding was awarded in 2022, expanding the project period to December 31, 2023.

Learn more about the [SPINE program](#).

Activities

Overarching

- Partner with Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada (CCNN) through a memorandum of understanding to increase equitable access to healthy, affordable, safe, and culturally appropriate foods in underserved neighborhoods and service deserts by expanding the hot meal program and mobile office.
- Collaborate with the Nevada Council on Food Security (CFS) to develop and implement a Food Security Action Plan (FSAP) and increase community-led food system planning efforts.

Food and Nutrition Security

- Assist in opening two Client Choice Food Pantries that serve locally grown and produced fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy, starches, and proteins, and ensure access to culturally relevant options for clients in rural and frontier counties.
- Work with CCNN to develop and distribute a survey to food pantry patrons and service providers to evaluate county-specific needs, requests, and barriers to adopting best practices.
- Convene strategic planning sessions and facilitate focus groups with community members and partners to identify community needs; develop goals, objectives, and strategies for the FSAP; and solicit related feedback.

Breastfeeding/Chestfeeding

- Recruit six community members, representing Spanish-speaking, rural/frontier, and/or Black communities, to participate in a lactation training/certification.
- Update state breastfeeding support website, nevadabreastfeeds.org, to highlight and promote breastfeeding-friendly childcare providers and make it easier for caregivers to find breastfeeding-friendly early childcare centers.
- Create a 30-minute breastfeeding education video for early childcare center staff, including of a cultural humility component,

Health Equity

- Identify and appoint three new members that represent the community on the CFS.
- Maintain robust communication strategies via email, Facebook, and Instagram to improve connectivity, collaboration, trust, and capacity between CFS, partners, and community members and sustain community engagement.

Health Equity Spotlight

Working to open more Client Choice Food Pantries that offer wraparound services (i.e., immigration legal services, health services, benefit enrollment) to clients living in micro-urban and suburban service deserts, with a focus on serving with dignity. Case managers, social workers, and community health workers visit these pantries to ensure that clients' needs are addressed.



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