

---

# OFFICE OF HEALTH DISPARITIES (OHD)

## Legislative Report 2019

---

COLLABORATION PROJECTS  
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED  
GROUPS COORDINATED  
COMMITTEES  
DISSEMINATION  
REPORTS  
ARTICLES  
WEBSITE  
IN THE NEWS  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
PRESENTATIONS  
INTERPRETATION

**Mandate** Utah Code Title 26, Chapter 7, Section 2  
**Mission** To advance health equity and reduce health disparities in Utah  
**Director** Dulce A. Díez, MPH, MCHES [ddiez@utah.gov](mailto:ddiez@utah.gov) (801) 703-0064  
**Website** [www.health.utah.gov/disparities](http://www.health.utah.gov/disparities)



---

## COLLABORATION PROJECTS

### 1. ***Bridging Communities and Clinics Primary Care***

*Purpose:* To link residents of Glendale (SLC) and South Salt Lake with primary care.

*Partners:* Health Access Project (Community Health Centers)  
Communities United (community-based organization)  
National Tongan American Society (community-based organization)  
Salt Lake American Muslim (community-based organization)  
Utah Health Policy Project (community-based organization)

*Status:* Completed. Screened and referred 216 individuals; 126 of them were connected to primary care.

### 2. ***Bridging Communities and Clinics Dental Days***

*Purpose:* To provide dental care in a brick and mortar clinic to residents of Glendale and South Salt Lake.

*Partners:* UDOH Family Dental Plan Clinics  
UDOH Oral Health Program  
Roseman College of Dental Medicine  
Salt Lake Community College Dental Hygiene Program  
Volunteer dentists and dental hygienists  
Community Organizations from Glendale and South Salt Lake

*Status:* Completed. OHD sponsored and hosted three dental days at the Salt Lake UDOH Family Dental Plan Clinic. More than 250 individuals received free dental services totaling more than \$52,000.

### 3. ***Bridging Communities and Clinics: Mobile Oral Health Clinics***

*Purpose:* Provide dental care in a mobile dental clinic to residents of Glendale (SLC) and South Salt Lake

*Partners:* Community Building community (community-based organization)  
Salt Lake Community College Dental Hygiene Program  
PROMISE South Salt Lake (city of SSL)

*Status:* Completed. OHD sponsored and coordinated three mobile clinic events. Free dental care was provided to 71 SSL residents.

### 4. ***Fortis Free Dental Days***

*Purpose:* To provide dental hygiene services to refugees. To educate refugees about dental hygiene and dental services.

*Partners:* Fortis College of Dental Hygiene  
UDOH Oral Health Program  
Granite Peaks Learning Center

*Status:* Completed. Coordinated one event that provided services to 35 refugees.

### 5. ***Seal Your Smile School-Based Sealant Program***

*Purpose:* To evaluate the program and its impact on oral health disparities in children attending schools on the west side of Salt Lake City.

*Partners:* UDOH Family Dental Plan Clinics  
Salt Lake Education Foundation

*Status:* Ongoing

---

## **6. The Fortitude Project**

*Purpose:* To bring a mobile unit to the Fortitude facility to provide primary care, vision care, and medically assisted treatment (MAT) for substance use disorders to Fortitude residents. To develop processes for mobile health care services for this population.

*Partners:* UDOH Violence and Injury Prevention Program

Utah Department of Corrections Fortitude Treatment Center (state agency)

Utah Partners for Health (Federally Qualified Community Health Center)

*Status:* Ongoing

## **7. Improving Data Analysis of Racial/Ethnic Disparities**

*Purpose:* To allow users to query health indicator data by a combined race/ethnicity option, instead of having to query once for ethnicity and once for race. This will ensure a more complete and accurate picture of racial/ethnic disparities in Utah.

*Partners:* UDOH Center for Health Data and Informatics

*Status:* Ongoing

## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

### **1. It Takes a Village Giving Our Babies the Best Chance (Replication)**

*Technical assistance provided:* The University of Utah and Southern Utah Pacific Islander Coalition

*Summary:* With the support of the OHD, the University of Utah was awarded national funding to replicate the OHD's It Takes a Village project in St. George, Utah. The OHD is providing technical assistance through facilitator training, data support, a fidelity assessment, and guidance.

### **2. Oral Health Report**

*Technical assistance provided:* UDOH Oral Health and Maternal and Child Health

*Summary:* The OHD has contributed and co-authored with the OHP a new report utilizing the All Payer Claims Database to analyze the number of Utahns who sought oral health care services in a Utah hospital emergency room. Other partners involved in this project include Voices for Utah Children and the former state dental director.

### **3. TeamSmile**

*Technical assistance provided:* TeamSmile, Granite School District, and the Utah Jazz

*Summary:* The OHD provided technical assistance and linked TeamSmile and the Granite School District to organize a day of free dental services for elementary school students. On April 11, 2019 more than 250 elementary school children from Magna and West Valley City received free dental services at the Vivint Smart Home Arena.

### **4. Foundation for Opioid Response Efforts (FORE) Grant Application**

*Technical assistance provided:* United Way Salt Lake 2-1-1 and iCHAMPS

*Summary:* The OHD partnered with United Way Salt Lake 2-1-1 to submit a proposal to bring funding over two years to Utah to address the opioid epidemic by building resources for our recently incarcerated population.

---

**5. Administration for Children and Families Interoperability Grant Application**

*Technical assistance provided:* United Way Salt Lake 2-1-1, Utah Health Informatics Network, UDOH Center for Health Data and Informatics, Comagine, and 2-1-1 San Diego

*Summary:* The OHD provided technical assistance to United Way Salt Lake 2-1-1 to submit an interoperability grant application. The OHD proposed standardizing the Social Determinants of Health language and measurement as well as integrating the Utah Health Improvement Index into the Community Information Exchange.

**6. UDOH Disability and Health Program**

OHD staff reviewed and provided feedback on a disabilities training.

**7. UDOH Baby Your Baby Program**

OHD reviewed and provided feedback on its outreach program.

**8. UDOH BHP Primary Prevention Group**

OHD participated and provided feedback on a health equity training.

**9. UDOH Violence and Injury Prevention Program**

OHD participated in a grant review committee

## GROUPS COORDINATED

- **The Health Disparities Advisory Council (HDAC)**

Purpose: The OHD hosts and facilitates the HDAC, an advisory council from the UDOH that aims to align public health efforts with key stakeholders in the state of Utah to systematically address health disparities.

Partners: University of Utah Health Systems, Huntsman Cancer Institute, Voices for Utah Children, Community Health Centers of Utah, Intermountain Health Care, Brigham Young University, Utah Multicultural Affairs Office, Association for Utah Community Health, Neighbor Works Salt Lake, Select Health, Steward Health Care, Community Building Community, Comunidades Unidas, Health Access Project, Somali Community Self-Management Agency, National Tongan American Society; and Utah Department of Health programs, Children with Special Health Care Needs and Oral Health

Summary: The HDAC convenes meetings three times per year: April, August, and December where specific health equity issues are discussed. The committee currently has 25 members.

- **The UDOH Health Equity Work Group (HEWG)**

Purpose: The purpose of this workgroup is to advance health equity (HE) in Utah by integrating HE principles and practices into the UDOH's work internally, with communities, with outside agencies, and to champion a transformative change. In addition, this workgroup will help the UDOH with public health accreditation requirements.

Summary: The HEWG is integrated by 21 representatives from all UDOH divisions. A representative from human resources and a representative from the Utah Association of Local Health Departments are also invited to the meetings. This group meets monthly; the first meeting was held in October 2019.

---

## COMMITTEES

OHD staff participates in the following committees:

- ***The Utah Health Literacy Coalition***

Purpose: To help provide accurate health information and services people can easily find, understand, and use to inform their health decisions and actions.

Partners: Intermountain Health Care, the University of Utah Medical Library, Huntsman Cancer Institute, Salt Lake County Libraries, Summit County Library, Utah Library Association, Select Health.

Role of OHD: OHD is helping to lead the organization to develop an online media presence.

- ***United Way Social Determinants of Health Coalition***

Purpose: To share a community protocol around five elements of social determinants of health: assessment, referral, communication, follow up, and analysis.

Partners: University of Utah Health Care, Intermountain Healthcare, Utah Health Information Network, Association of Utah Community Health, Select Health, Steward Health Care, City of South Salt Lake Promise Neighborhood, Salt Lake County Health Department, among others.

Role of OHD: Provided feedback; share data and information.

- ***Driving Out Diabetes External Advisory Board***

This is an initiative from the Larry H. Miller Wellness Initiative at the University of Utah. The working areas include diabetes prevention, diabetes clinical care, and research.

Role of OHD: Provide feedback on projects and activities.

- ***Utah Oral Health Coalition***

Role of OHD: OHD's staff serves as Technology and Data subcommittee chair.

- ***Utah Newborn Safe Haven***

- ***March of Dimes***

- ***Bureau of Health Promotion Primary Prevention Group***

- ***UDOH Population Health Subcommittee***

## DISSEMINATION

### REPORTS

- December 2018, The Utah Health Improvement Index  
<https://health.utah.gov/disparities/data/ohd/UtahHII.pdf>
- January 2019, Health Disparities by Utah State Legislative District  
<http://health.utah.gov/disparities/data/ohd/HealthDisparitiesbyUtahStateLegislativeDistrict2019.pdf>
- July 2019, Survey of Oral Health Professionals and Students  
<http://health.utah.gov/disparities/data/ohd/SurveyFreeDentalDayVolunteers.pdf>

### HEALTH STATUS UPDATE ARTICLES

- December 2018, Cross-Cultural Education and Training of Oral Health Education Institutions in Utah  
[https://ibis.health.utah.gov/ibisph-view/pdf/opha/publication/hsu/2018/1812\\_OralDisparities.pdf#BN](https://ibis.health.utah.gov/ibisph-view/pdf/opha/publication/hsu/2018/1812_OralDisparities.pdf#BN)
- August 2019, Health Disparities by Utah State Legislative District  
[https://ibis.health.utah.gov/ibisph-view/pdf/opha/publication/hsu/SE09\\_Disparities.pdf](https://ibis.health.utah.gov/ibisph-view/pdf/opha/publication/hsu/SE09_Disparities.pdf)

---

## WEBSITE

- Website views 91, 696
- Newsletter opens 3,290
- Website Products
  - The OHD developed resources to help organizations implement the It Takes a Village project.
  - August 2019, Implementation Guide <http://health.utah.gov/disparities/it-takes-a-village/pdf/implementation-guide.pdf>
  - September 2019, Recruitment Packets <http://health.utah.gov/disparities/it-takes-a-village/pdf/ITAVRecruitmentPackets.pdf>
  - September 2019, Facilitator Training <http://health.utah.gov/disparities/it-takes-a-village/pdf/ITAVFacilitatorTrainingPreparationChecklist.pdf>

## IN THE NEWS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

- November 2018, Utah Public Health Association E-Newsletter, *UPHA Board Members & Others Presenting at APHA* <https://www.upha.org/enews/2018-11enews.pdf>
- January 8, 2019, Utah Department of Health *Top 10 public health stories in Utah 2018* <https://health.utah.gov/featured-news/top-10-public-health-stories-in-utah-in-2018>
- February 5, 2019, Utah Department of Health, *New report highlights status of health disparities by legislative district* <https://health.utah.gov/featured-news/new-report-highlights-status-of-health-disparities-in-utah-by-legislative-district>
- February 5, 2019, ABC4, *Report highlights health disparities in Utah* <https://www.abc4.com/news/local-news/report-highlights-health-disparities-in-utah/>
- February 5, 2019, Fox 13 News, *Report shows public health by Utah legislative district* <https://fox13now.com/2019/02/05/report-shows-public-health-by-utah-legislative-district/>
- May 21, 2019, UDOH Office of Health Disparities Blog, *Utah Awarded its Very First Promising Practice for its work with Pacific Islanders* <https://utahmulticulturalhealth.blogspot.com/2019/05/utah-awarded-its-very-first-promising.html>
- March 14, 2019, Utah Department of Health, *Free dental services offered to dozens of underserved Utahns* <https://health.utah.gov/featured-news/free-dental-services-offered-to-dozens-of-underserved-utahns>
- March 15, 2019, ABC4, *Free dental clinic for those living in Glendale and South Salt Lake* <https://www.abc4.com/news/local-news/free-dental-clinic-for-those-living-in-glendale-and-south-salt-lake/>
- March 15, 2019, Deseret News, *Photos: Clinic provides underserved Utahns free dental services* <https://www.deseret.com/2019/3/15/20668546/photos-clinic-provides-underserved-utahns-free-dental-services#carolina-wangsgaard-holds-daughter-amanecer-2-while-son-max-4-has-his-teeth-cleaned-during-a-dental-day-clinic-at-the-family-dental-plan-clinic-in-salt-lake-city-on-friday-march-15-2019-the-event-sponsored-by-the-utah-department-of-health-provided-free-dental-services-such-as-x-rays-exams-fillings-and-cleanings-to-dozens-of-underserved-utahns>
- May/June 2019, Association of Maternal & Child Health Program (AMCHP) Pulse Article, *It Takes a Village: Combining data, community, and culture to address birth outcomes disparities in Utah's Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander communities*

---

<http://www.amchp.org/AboutAMCHP/Newsletters/Pulse/MayJune19/Pages/It-Takes-a-Village-Project.aspx>

- July 8, 2019, State of Reform, *Utah legislative districts show variable health outcomes*  
<https://stateofreform.com/news/states/utah/2019/07/utah-legislative-districts-show-variable-health-outcomes/>
- July 26, 2019, Voices for Utah Children, *Breaking down data to help all families thrive*  
<https://www.utahchildren.org/newsroom/publications/item/1002-breakingdowndata>
- August 30, 2019, Fox 13 News, *Your address impacts your health according to report*  
<https://fox13now.com/2019/08/29/your-address-impacts-your-health-according-to-report/>
- September 14, 2019, St. George News, *Utah Department of Health reports community health disparities vary by legislative district*  
<https://www.stgeorgeutah.com/news/archive/2019/09/14/mks-hw-utah-department-of-health-reports-community-health-disparities-vary-by-legislative-district/#.Xbx3zUVKhBw>

## PRESENTATIONS

- November 7, 2018, UDOH BHP, Evaluation, Epidemiology, and Data Workgroup
- November 14, 2018, American Public Health Association
- December 6, UDOH HII, brown bag (1<sup>st</sup>)
- December 10, 2018, HII, UDOH brown bag (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- December 12, 2018, Utah Health Policy Project Conference
- January 31, 2019, Regional VIII Federal Interagency Women's Health Task Force Webinar
- March 28, 2019, Society of Public Health Educators
- April 11, 2019, International Pacific Health and Education Gathering
- April 17, 2019, Get Healthy Utah Retreat
- June 11, 2019, UDOH Office of Home Visiting Collaboration Council
- June 25, 2019, Comagine Utah Partnership for Value
- July 2019, United Way, SDOH Coalition
- August 2019, UDOH Bureau of Epidemiology Management Meeting
- August 14, 2019, Wasatch Front Regional Council
- September 10, 2019, University of Utah, MPH Program
- September 13, 2019, Utah Oral Health Coalition
- September 18, 2019, Federal Office of Minority Health
- September 20, 2019, Tonga Research Association
- September 25, 2019, Dixie State University Dental Hygiene Community Oral Health Class
- October 1, 2019, BYU Department of Public Health, Diverse and Vulnerable Populations Course
- October 28, 2019, UDOH Health Equity Work Group
- November 5, 2019, Multicultural Commission
- December 3, 2019, UDOH Bureau of Health Promotion Conference

## INTERPRETATION

- Individuals served with interpretation equipment: 250