



DATE: May 28, 2026

TO: Southern Nevada District Board of Health Members

FROM: Cassius Lockett, PhD, District Health Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'CJ', is written over the name 'Cassius Lockett' in the 'FROM' line.

SUBJECT: District Health Officer Report

Youth Rally for Tobacco-free Campus

The Southern Nevada Health District's Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Tobacco Control Program and Students Promoting Awareness Responsibility & Knowledge (SPARK), the agency's Youth Advisory Council, hosted an interactive outreach event at the College of Southern Nevada's (CSN) West Charleston campus to educate students, faculty and staff about the benefits of a tobacco-free campus on Tuesday, April 28. Members of the Youth Advisory Council answered questions and distributed educational materials to students, faculty and staff.

The Health District's SPARK Youth Advisory Council is made up of local high school students who are actively amplifying youth voices on public health issues while developing leadership and advocacy skills. These students partnered with the Health District's Tobacco Control Program for their SPARK Spring Project, "CSN, The Time is Now." Nearly 2,000 Clark County School District students participated in the project, capturing photographs of their peers holding message boards that reflect support for a tobacco-free campus. A collage of these photos was displayed on the CSN campus during the event.

The initiative also encouraged peer-to-peer conversations and put student voices front and center in the call for change, as momentum builds across Southern Nevada to create tobacco-free learning environments. It highlighted the health and community benefits of adopting a tobacco-free policy and underscored the growing movement among higher education institutions across the region.

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, in 2024, 3.4% of young adults ages 18 to 24 smoked cigarettes, while more than four times as many in this age group reported vaping (14.8%). In Clark County, the prevalence was even higher in 2023, with 7.5% reporting cigarette use and 17.4% reporting e-cigarette use. Nearly all adults who smoke (99%) begin before age 26, making college campuses a critical setting for prevention efforts. Tobacco-free policies not only help reduce smoking rates among students but also shift social norms, eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke and support those trying to quit.

To learn more about the benefits of tobacco-free campus policies, visit [3 benefits of tobacco-free policies at colleges and universities](#). For individuals looking to quit smoking, free cessation resources are available through the Nevada Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) or nevada.quitlogix.org.

Legionnaires' Disease Investigation

On April 28, the Health District announced it was investigating two travel-associated cases of Legionnaires' disease associated with stays at the Wynn Las Vegas. One person stayed at the property in September 2025 while the other stayed in February 2026. Both individuals have since recovered.

Following notification of these cases, the Health District conducted environmental sampling at the facility. Multiple samples tested positive for *Legionella*, the bacteria that can cause Legionnaires' disease. In response, the Wynn initiated immediate and comprehensive water system remediation measures, and the most recent samples indicate no detectable levels of *Legionella* in the affected areas. The property is also conducting ongoing follow-up testing to help ensure the continued safety of its water systems. The facility is cooperating with the Health District's investigation, has initiated direct guest notifications regarding potential exposure, and is implementing precautionary measures designed to mitigate any further risk of illness.

Legionnaires' disease symptoms typically begin within two to 10 days after exposure to the bacteria. However, people should watch for symptoms such as cough, shortness of breath, fever, muscle aches and headaches for up to two weeks after exposure.

People who are at increased risk of getting sick include:

- People 50 years or older
- Current or former smokers
- People with chronic lung disease
- People with weakened immune systems
- People who take drugs that can weaken their immune systems (after a transplant operation or chemotherapy)
- People with underlying illnesses such as diabetes, kidney failure or liver failure

Anyone with additional questions can contact the Health District's Helpline at (702) 759-4636 (INFO), Monday – Friday, from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. More information on Legionnaire's disease is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov/legionella/index.html.

For questions about lead testing of consumer products, contact SNHD_OutbreakSupport@snhd.org. For more information about childhood lead poisoning prevention, visit: www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/community-health-center/clppp/.

Diabetes Education

This June, the Southern Nevada Health District will expand access to diabetes education by launching its first virtual self-management classes in Spanish. Led by trained health educators, the free classes provide participants who have diabetes or prediabetes with practical management strategies and tools to build healthier habits and lower the risk of serious health complications.

The virtual Spanish-language classes will be held via Microsoft Teams on June 22 and 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. Attendance at both sessions is required. The Health District also continues to offer virtual diabetes self-management classes in English, with upcoming classes set for June 3, 10 and 17 from 10 a.m. to noon. To register for the Spanish-language classes, complete the [Formulario de Clase de Automanejo de la Diabetes](#). To register for English-language virtual or in-person classes, call (702) 759-1270 or complete the [Diabetes Self-Management Interest Form](#).

In Clark County, approximately 238,000 people 12.8% of the adult population — were living with diabetes. Statewide, an estimated 304,000 Nevada adults (11.9%) were diagnosed with the condition. Diabetes prevalence in Clark County was higher among multiracial (26.1%), Hispanic (15.3%), and Black (11.9%) adults compared with white adults (10.2%). Similar disparities were observed in Clark County for prediabetes, with higher prevalence among Hispanic (19.1%) and Black (16.7%) adults compared to white adults (15.4%). The American Diabetes Association estimates that about 816,000 Nevada adults — roughly 1 in 3 — are living with prediabetes, placing them at increased risk of developing Type 2 diabetes if the condition is not identified and addressed. However, many people with prediabetes remain undiagnosed.

Early screening and healthy lifestyle changes, including increased physical activity, improved nutrition and modest weight loss when appropriate, can help prevent or delay the onset of Type 2 diabetes. Self-management education programs can also help individuals better manage their condition and overall health.

The Health District’s Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion offers diabetes self-management and prevention classes throughout the year at the Main Public Health Center, 280 S. Decatur Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89107, and online. To learn more about diabetes resources in Southern Nevada, go to [Get Healthy Clark County|Local Diabetes Resources](#) or [Viva Saludable |Recursos Locales Para la Diabetes](#). For information about additional classes, events and programs offered by the Health District, visit the [Get Healthy Clark County Community Calendar](#).

Move Your Way®

The Health District launched its annual Move Your Way® campaign on May 22, inviting Clark County residents to “dive into a healthier summer” through free, family-friendly poolside events that combine music, activities and community engagement to encourage physical activity while helping participants stay cool during the summer months. Sponsored by the Health District’s Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, the events will take place at recreation center pools throughout the Valley from May 22 through September 7. Each event offers an opportunity for families and individuals to stay active, connect with others and enjoy the summer season. A full schedule of events is available at [GetHealthyClarkCounty.org](#) and [VivaSaludable.org](#).

Regular physical activity plays a critical role in preventing chronic disease, yet many people in Clark County are not getting enough exercise. According to the 2023 Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System, 26.2% of adults in Clark County were sedentary, meaning they reported no physical activity outside of work in the past 30 days. The 2025 Youth Risk Behavior Survey also found that 13.6% of high school students were sedentary, reporting no days with at least 60 minutes of physical activity in the previous week. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity per week or 75 minutes of vigorous activity, along with muscle-strengthening activities on two or more days per week.

Move Your Way® is a national campaign led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that encourages people to meet the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans through everyday movement. The campaign offers tools and resources to help individuals set goals, stay motivated and build lasting healthy habits.

In addition to in-person events, people can access free online programs at www.GetHealthyClarkCounty.org and at www.VivaSaludable.org. These include Walk Around Nevada and the Neon to Nature mobile app, along with resources supporting healthy eating, tobacco cessation and overall wellness.

Community Meetings

Week ending 05/03:

Biweekly:

- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports
- Attended the New Hire Orientation
- Facilitated the Health Executive Council meeting

Monthly:

- Participated in the Disease Surveillance & Control Division leadership meeting

Quarterly:

- Participated in the Public Health Advisory Board meeting
- Participated in the Community Health Division leadership meeting

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Facilitated an interview with EIS recruit
- Attended the Ad Hoc CDC Response All-STLT Update call
- Participated in a meeting on the Bio-Watch program
- Participated in a meeting with Mahoney and Associates regarding cost allocation
- Participated in a meeting with representatives from CDC on the Epi-Aid EIS Officer role

Week ending 04/26:

Biweekly:

- Attended the CDC Response All-STLT Update call
- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports

Monthly:

- Participated in the Southern Nevada District Board of Health meeting

Professional Development/Conferences:

- Attended the EIS Recruitment at the CDC

Week ending 04/19:

Biweekly:

- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports

Monthly:

- Participated in the individual Southern Nevada District Board of Health Agenda Review meetings with MPT Black, Councilwoman Brune, Commissioner Kirkpatrick, Bobbette Bond, Scott Nielson, Mayor Hardy, Councilwoman Summers-Armstrong

Quarterly:

- Participated in the Lab Test Pricing Check-in meeting

Professional Development/Conferences:

- Attended the 2026 NACCHO Preparedness Summit (virtually)

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Attended the New Hire Orientation
- Facilitated an internal meeting regarding Ryan White Part B Funding
- Attended the Ad Hoc CDC Response All-STLT Update call
- Attended the Southern Nevada District Board of Health – Special Meeting
- Attended a meeting on Geonomics-Bioinformatics Lab Partnership with Touro University
- Participated in a meeting with representatives from CDC on the Epi-Aid Objectives

Week ending 04/12:

Biweekly:

- Participated in the Lab Expansion meeting
- Attended the CDC Response All-STLT Update call
- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports
- Participated in the Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) Update meeting

Monthly:

- Participated in the BCHC Monthly Member meeting

Bi-monthly:

- Participated in the CSTE Chronic Disease Subcommittee call

Quarterly:

- Participated in the BCHC Finance Committee meeting
- Participated in the Public Health and Preventive Care Division leadership meeting

Media/Interviews/Panelist/Presenter/Events:

- Attended the National Public Health Week Breakfast at the Main Decatur Facility
- Facilitated the 2026 State of Public Health

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Facilitated an internal meeting regarding Ryan White Part B Funding
- Participated in a meeting with UMC regarding Community Connect

Week ending 04/05:

Biweekly:

- Facilitated one-on-one meeting with CDC EIS Officer
- Attended the CDC Response All-STLT Update call
- Facilitated the Health Executive Council meeting
- Facilitated one-on-one meetings with Direct Reports
- Participated in the EIS Bi-weekly Check-in meeting

Monthly:

- Participated in the Disease Surveillance & Control Division leadership meeting

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Attended various meetings regarding the lab expansion
- Attended a meeting regarding BioWatch program
- Attended an EIS 2026 Interviews & Match webinar
- Attended a meeting with Scott Nielson and Virginia Valentine