



Memorandum

Date: May 28, 2026

To: Southern Nevada District Board of Health

From: **Xavier Gonzales, PhD, Community Health Director**
Cassius Lockett, PhD, District Health Officer

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

Subject: Community Health Division Monthly Activity Report – April 2026

I. OFFICE OF CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION & HEALTH PROMOTION (OCDPHP)

A. Chronic Disease Prevention Program (CDPP)

The 2026 **Pop-Up Produce Stands** launched in March. A total of twelve (12) Pop-Up Produce Stands are planned throughout this year. In addition to accepting cash, credit, debit and SNAP, this year the Pop-Up Stands will also accept and offer the Double Up Food Bucks Program (DUFB) and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program coupons. The Nevada Department of Welfare and Supportive Services' (DWSS) SNAP Outreach Team also participates in the Pop-Up Stands to assist clients with issues regarding SNAP benefits. The Pop-Up Stands are a collaboration between SNHD, The Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), and Prevail Marketplace and are held at the Bonneville Transit Center. In March:

- 331 pounds of produce was sold.
- 22% of all transactions were SNAP transactions (DUFB eligible)
- Over 100 people were provided technical assistance by the DWSS SNAP Outreach Team.

OCDPHP staff are working with **The Just One Project (TJOP)** to implement the **Supporting Wellness at Pantries (SWAP) program** in all five (5) of their food pantries. In March, TJOP adopted a nutrition standards policy for their food pantries that is in alignment with the Healthy Eating Research guidelines for the charitable food system. We are working with TJOP to develop educational materials for their pantries and implement the SWAP program.

Our team developed and launched a new online **Diabetes Prevention Program** in English and Spanish called **"Walking Together: Preventing Diabetes"**. The online course provides information

and education to reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes. The program can be found on our Get Healthy (English) and Viva Saludable (Spanish) websites.

A news release has been issued promoting **Diabetes Alert Day** and available resources including DSMES classes and the new online prevention program, Walking Together: Preventing Diabetes. SNHD staff facilitated two (2) DSMES classes in March reaching thirteen (13) people.

SNHD staff developed and sent the **Healthy Headlines e-newsletter** with information on Chronic Disease Prevention programs, resources, and services. The quarterly newsletter was sent in March. It was delivered to 6,728 emails and had a 33% open rate. The next quarterly newsletter will be sent in June.

OCDPHP representatives presented at the **Healthy Habits Youth Conference** to over 60 participants. Information on chronic disease programs and resources, including 5210 guidelines was shared with participants.

Staff and partners provided **free blood pressure screening, education, and referral** at four (4) community screenings in March held at places of faith, community gardens, and schools. Over 40 people were screened and six (6) were referred to appropriate community and healthcare resources.

Team OCDPHP provided refresher training on the **Pressure Point Challenge** with Barber Shop Health Outreach Program (BSHOP) and Beauty Shop Health Outreach Program (BeSHOP) owners, barbers, and stylists. Pressure Point Challenge materials were also shared with BSHOP and BeSHOP locations. The Pressure Point Challenge, an engagement challenge for BSHOP and BeSHOP locations, will kick off in April and run through June.

B. **Tobacco Control Program (TCP) Update**

TCP staff partnered with the Nevada Cancer Coalition on a **campaign to reach tobacco retailers to In Nevada**, reminding them about the importance of checking identification for all tobacco sales and associated penalties for selling tobacco to minors. Educational postcards were direct mailed to over 2,100+ tobacco retailers across Nevada. This campaign will include a series of three postcards that will be mailed over the next few months.

SNHD staff developed the **new youth-led initiative called “Vive Real”** to support culturally and linguistically relevant tobacco prevention messaging among Hispanic and Latino high school students. Vive Real’s goal is to increase awareness about the health risks associated with vaping and nicotine addiction while promoting tobacco-free lifestyles and cessation resources at youth events. Vive Real participated in two (2) events in March at Rancho High School and Matter Academy East, reaching over 800 teens.

Team TCP participated in the **College of Southern Nevada (CSN) Health and Wellness Fair** in March to increase awareness about the benefits of a tobacco-free campus policy. Staff

distributed informational sheets about the “CSN: Time is Now” initiative to encourage voluntary tobacco-free campus policy adoption. In addition, available tobacco cessation resources were promoted to help people who smoke quit. Also, staff continued coordination with the **SNHD Youth Advisory committee (YAC)** to collect photo pledges from their peers to show support for the tobacco-free campus initiative. To date, over 1,300+ photo pledges have been collected from Southern Nevada teens. The YAC students will display all photo pledges on the CSN campus for an educational outreach event on April 28th.

SNHD staff participated in a **Resident Lunch and Learn** at Nevada HAND’s Rome Pines Senior Apartments in March. The presentation highlighted the health and safety benefits of smoke-free housing policies, the harmful effects of secondhand smoke exposure, particularly among older adults. Staff provided residents with educational materials and information about available tobacco and vape cessation resources to support those interested in quitting. The event was attended by fifteen (15) residents and property staff.

TCP Staff presented to the **Nevada Attorney General Substance Use (SURG) response Workgroup on Prevention** in March. The presentation included information on the current tobacco and cannabis prevention funding landscape and provide recommendations and best practices for Nevada. The goal of the SURG Workgroup is to develop recommendations to improve Nevada’s substance use prevention and response efforts.

II. OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES & TRAUMA SYSTEM (OEMSTS)

A. Regional Trauma Advisory Board (RTAB)

The RTAB is an advisory board with the primary purpose of supporting the Health Officer’s role to ensure a high-quality system of patient care for the victims of trauma within Clark County and the surrounding areas. The RTAB makes recommendations, and assists in the ongoing design, operation, and evaluation of the system from initial patient access to definitive patient care.

The Board reviewed nominations from the RTAB Nominating Committee, reviewed 4th Quarter 2025 trauma data, and voted to not pass a motion to support St. Rose Siena’s application to upgrade to a level II trauma center.

B. Drug/Device/Protocol Committee (DDP)

The DDP Committee assists the OEMSTS, the Medical Advisory Board (MAB), and the QI Directors Committee in researching, developing, and editing new and existing protocols. Members include volunteer representatives from permitted agencies, receiving hospitals, and individuals involved with the training of EMS professionals.

The Committee continued reviews of new pediatric respiratory protocols, including the introduction of non-invasive positive pressure ventilation (NIPPV) for pediatric patients.

C. Medical Advisory Board (MAB)

The primary mission of the MAB is to support the Health Officer’s role to ensure quality patient

care within the EMS system by making recommendations and assisting in the ongoing design, operation, and evaluation of the EMS system from initial patient access to definitive patient care. The members include: 1) One (1) medical director of each firefighting/franchised agency; 2) One (1) operational director of each firefighting/franchised agency; 3) Chairman of the Regional Trauma Advisory Board; and 4) An employee of the District, whose duties relate to the administration and enforcement of EMS Regulations as an ex-officio member.

The Board heard reports from the DDP committee and participated in a presentation on the Southern Nevada Post Overdose Response Team (SPORT).

D. OEMSTS – April 2025 / 2026 Data

April EMS Statistics	Apr 2025	Apr 2026		Mo. Fiscal Average 2025-2026
Total certificates issued	90	88	↓	208
New licenses issued	37	82	↑	81
Renewal licenses issued (recert only)	6	6	=	108
Driver Only	59	48	↓	60
Active Certifications: EMT	914	1,034	↑	1,008
Active Certifications: Advanced EMT	1,852	1,838	↓	1,740
Active Certifications: Paramedic	2,162	2,330	↑	2,100
Active Certifications: RN	81	90	↑	80

III. OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS (OPHP)

A. Planning and Preparedness

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

(Emergency Planning & Preparedness)

1. Continued review and revision of:
 - a) Community Reception Center
 - b) BioWatch
 - c) Recovery Annex
 - d) Medical Countermeasures Annex
 - e) SNHD Continuity of Operations Plan – Essential Records/Resources
2. Completion & Approved Plans
 - a) SNHD Continuity of Operations Plan
 - b) Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
3. State and Local Community Working Group meetings and OPHP Participation
 - a) Monthly State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health Public Health Preparedness Strategic Plan Subcommittees (Required Activity under federal grants)

- i. Resources & Supply Chain Work Group
 - ii. Health Equity Work Group
4. Monthly SNHD Meetings
 - a) Central Safety Committee
 - b) Joint Labor Management Committee
 - c) Policy Committee (Manager)
 - d) Institutional Review Committee
 - e) Resort Emergency Management Working Group

B. Training, Exercises, and Public Health Workforce Development

Attended Trainings and Events Activities

1. Isotope Crossroads TTX sponsored by DOE/NNSA and Las Vegas FBI/WMD on April 15th at the Renaissance Las Vegas.
2. OPHP trainer attended Faith Luthern School EOP Development Committee.
3. Our team attended a Lithium-Ion Battery Training.
4. Staff attended the Southern Nevada Extreme Heat Summit on April 29th.
5. OPHP Manager, Supervisor, and MRC Coordinator attended the NACCHO Preparedness Summit April 13th – 16th.

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. OPHP continues to support the City of Las Vegas with provision of ICS 300/400/G191 training schedule. ICS 300 was provided on April 7th – 9th for 26 students at the Clark County Fire Station 18.
2. A CPR course and skills training was provided April 8th for six (6) SNHD staff at the SNHD Decatur location.
3. Our trainer presented Fundamentals of Threats and Hazard modules to 25 students attending week two (2) at the National Emergency Management Basic Academy at ARMOR Training Center on April 13th - 14th.
4. Trainer supported Medical Emergency Response Team Training for six (6) staff on April 27th at the Decatur campus and nine (9) staff at Fremont PHC on April 28th.
5. The Senior Planner and Manager participated in Lower Colorado Dams Office Emergency Action Plan Functional Exercise.
6. Senior Planner and PHP Technician attended Basic Academy Phase II (L0102 and L0103).
7. Planners executed the Radiation CRC Game on April 22nd. Eighteen SNHD staff members from various departments attended. The game was well received and provided a general awareness of CRC operations.
8. OPHP staff attended the RTC / SNS Heat Summit on April 29th.
9. Planner met with City of Henderson Emergency Management to discuss conducting a Radiation Workshop on July 29th.
10. Bio Functional Exercise Initial Planning Meeting was held on April 30th.

Upcoming Training and Exercise Events

1. Trainers continue to update the training calendar for 2026 course offerings to include Introduction to Radiological/Nuclear WMD Operations AWR-140, ALERTT Civilian

Response to Active Assailant, Response to Bombing Incidents and ICS Position Specific Training. Upcoming RBI course is scheduled for June 17th at Decatur.

2. Our Manager, Supervisor, and Planner are working with Desert Research Institute and other jurisdictional partners to conduct an Extreme Heat TTX scheduled for May 18th.

C. Southern Nevada Healthcare Preparedness Coalition (SNHPC)

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. SNHPC held its monthly meeting. Supervisor, Senior Planners, and Planners attended.
2. OPHP Planners attended the Emergency Management Committee meetings for UMC.
3. Our Senior Planners, Planners, Clinical Advisor, and Trainer will begin reviewing and updating the Information Sharing Plan, Med Surge Support Plan, Recovery Plan, and Resource Management Plan.
4. MCI Surge Bags will continue to be distributed at the May 7th meeting.
5. SNHPC members participated in the NDMS FCC initial planning meeting.
6. SNHPC members participated in the review of the HVA/Updated THIRA.
7. Senior Planner, Planner, and Clinical Advisor began planning for the SNHPC August retreat – Extended Downtime Health Care Delivery Impact.
8. Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA) committee convened to review Threat & Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments (THIRA). Update resulting in “monitoring notations” to current HVA.

New/Upcoming Activities

1. Ongoing coordination for the 2026 TEEX trainings:
 - a) Medical Management of Chemical, Biological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) Events PER-211 August 26th – 27th, hosted by City of North Las Vegas (NLV City Hall).
 - b) Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Management MGT-439 October 7th – 8th, hosted by Dignity Health Siena Campus.
2. SNHD Office of Communications/Public Information presentation remains on agenda for July SNHPC meeting.
3. The Cybersecurity healthcare presentation by a CISA representative at the SNHP meeting will be rescheduled later this year due to Federal Government shutdown.
4. OPHP staff will plan to observe NNSA's first Mass Casualty Transportation drill on May 6th at Mercury, NV.

D. PHP Technician and N-95 Fit Testing

1. Nineteen SNHD Employees were FIT tested for personal protective equipment during the month of April.

E. Fusion Center Public Health Analyst

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. Disseminated public health Information between SNHD and the Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center (SNCTC) in April.

2. Analyst provided public health input for threat assessments on special events of local significance including conventions and sports events.
3. Monthly, our analyst continues to provide weekly verbal public health briefings during the SNCTC collaboration meetings.
4. The OPHP analysts continue to participate in weekly Counter Terrorism Analytic Group (CTAG) meetings.
5. Aided law enforcement agencies during investigation of biologicals in a residential area.
6. Our analyst continues to develop appropriate connections to increase communication between SNHD, SNCTC and its partner organizations.
7. Collaborating with five (5) surrounding fusion centers on areas of public health concern for production of monthly joint public health bulletins.
8. The OPHP Analyst contributes to a public health section to the Nevada Annual Threat Assessment.

F. Grants and Administration

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. The manager continues to monitor grant deliverables and budgets for FY 2026 with the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH).
2. Our manager continues to represent the Community Health Division management on various SNHD working group committees and initiatives.
3. The OPHP Manager and Supervisor completed FTE worksheets and budgets for FY2027. Manager has also completed 2nd Budget Augmentation supporting documentation.
4. OPHP Manager continues to reduce physical inventory of miscellaneous stockpiled preparedness resources and transfer of excess grant purchased surplus property to community partners for use.
5. FY2027 scopes of work were completed and submitted to DPBH.

G. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of Southern Nevada

1. MRC Coordinator attended SNHPC meeting, planned training and activities for upcoming months, sent out newsletters, and continued to recruit and deactivate volunteers, and attended NACCHO Preparedness Summit.
2. MRC Volunteers provided a first aid station at the Walk MS fundraiser in Sunset Park.
3. MRC Volunteers distributed preparedness and clinic information at the Neighborhood Block Party at Davis Park.
4. MRC hosted Psychological First Aid training at UNR Cooperative Extension campus for MRC and CERT volunteers, SNHD employees, and one state employee (only MRC hours are counted in the table).

MRC Volunteer Hours FY2026 Q2

Activity	April	May	June
Training	42		
Community Event	12		
SNHD Clinic			
Emergency Deployment			
FY2026 Total Hours	54		
FY2026 Economic Impact	\$1,956.42		
FY2025 Total Hours	39		
FY2025 Economic Impact	\$1,535.86		

Source: Department of Labor Economic Value Calculator for medical volunteers. For general volunteer help, which is most of the time, the Independent Sector calculates the value of volunteer time and publishes it each year. Current amount is \$34.79. <https://independentsector.org/research/value-of-volunteer-time/>(Economic impact rates updated April 2025):

IV. VITAL RECORDS

- A. April is currently showing a **23% decrease in birth certificate** sales in comparison to April 2025. **Death certificate** sales are currently showing a **5% decrease** in comparison to April 2025. SNHD received revenues of \$29,315 for birth registrations, \$22,503 for death registrations; and an additional \$6,926 in miscellaneous fees.

COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program – Fiscal Year Data

Vital Statistics Services	Apr 2025	Apr 2026		Yr Average 04/2025-04/2026
Births Registered	2,213	1,585	↓	1,969
Deaths Registered	1,805	1,794	↓	1,765
Fetal Deaths Registered	16	23	↑	15

	Apr 2025	Apr 2026		Yr Average 04/2025- 04/2026
Vital Statistics Services				
Birth Certificates Sold (walk-in)	9	N/A		-
Birth Certificates Mail	150	77	↓	109
Birth Certificates Online Orders	4,226	3,242	↓	3,708
Birth Certificates Billed	135	145	↑	120
Birth Certificates Number of Total Sales	4,520	3,464	↓	3,948
Death Certificates Sold (walk-in)	21	N/A		-
Death Certificates Mail	206	99	↓	150
Death Certificates Online Orders	8,445	8,128	↓	7,818
Death Certificates Billed	41	50	↑	47
Death Certificates Number of Total Sales	8,713	8,277	↓	8,032

	April 2025	April 2026		Yr Average 04/2025- 04/2026
Revenue				
Birth Certificates (\$25)	\$113,000	\$86,600	↓	\$98,698
Death Certificates (\$25)	\$217,825	\$206,925	↓	\$200,796
Births Registrations (\$13)	\$37,830	\$29,315	↓	\$33,105
Deaths Registrations (\$13)	\$25,038	22,503	↓	\$22,680
Convenience Fee (\$2)	\$8,376	\$6,472	↓	\$7,564
Miscellaneous Admin	\$813	\$454	↓	\$605
Total Vital Records Revenue	\$402,882	\$352,269	↓	\$363,448

COMMUNITY HEALTH Passport Program – Fiscal Year Data

B. PASSPORT SERVICES – Passport Services is appointment only.

	Apr 2025	Apr 2026		Yr Average 04/2025- 04/2026
Applications				
Passport Applications	739	728	↓	719
Revenue				
Passport Execution/Acceptance fee (\$35)	\$25,865	\$25,480	↓	\$25,173

V. HEALTH EQUITY

Health Equity Program – April Highlights

The Health Equity Program continues to strengthen community partnerships and collaborations aimed at increasing the capacity of local communities to address health disparities.

Key Activities in April:

1. Youth Advisory Council (YAC - SPARK)

A. On April 1st, SNHD's youth advisory council SPARK (Students Promoting Awareness, Responsibility & Knowledge) completed their twelfth meeting. The focus of meeting was a workshop on Cultural Humility as it relates to healthcare. YAC members also participated in an introspection exercise exploring personal strengths and characteristics and how these could influence or inform their decision to pursue a career in public health.

2. Health Disparities and Health Inequities Workgroup

A. April 28th, SNHD's youth advisory council SPARK (Students Promoting Awareness, Responsibility & Knowledge) participated Tobacco-Free Media Day at the College of Southern Nevada West Charleston Campus as part of their involvement in the CSN project "The Time is Now." The Time is Now project is the group selection for their end of year project; and it consists of a selected by the Advisory Board and it consists of photo project advocating for a 100% tobacco-free College of Southern Nevada (CSN) campus. Media Day participation provided YAC members with a meaningful, hands-on experience in youth advocacy, media production, and public health messaging.

VI. SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (SNPHL)

A. Clinical Testing: Key Updates

1. SNHD Nursing Division Support

SNPHL provides laboratory services to the SNHD Nursing Division, including:

- a) Molecular and microbiological culture testing
- b) Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) diagnostics

2. STD Surveillance and Testing

SNPHL collaborates with the SNHD STD Department in the following activities:

- a) Participation in the CDC's Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (GISP) and the enhanced GISP (eGISP).
- b) Performing NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Test) and culture testing for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* isolates, which are submitted to reference laboratories for antimicrobial susceptibility testing.

- c) Participation in eGISP Part B to expand culture-independent testing for antimicrobial resistance genes in gonococcal isolates.
- d) A detailed breakdown of monthly sample volumes provided on the accompanying table (RPR - Rapid Plasma Reagin):

Test Name	Monthly Count	Avg Year to Date
GC Cultures	28	25
NAAT NG/CT	1,802	1,647
Syphilis	786	737
RPR/RPR Titers*	132/35	128/44
Hepatitis Total	2744	2,443
HIV/differentiated	708/10	655/16
HIV RNA	125	129

*= RPR / RPR Titers refer to tests used to screen for and monitor syphilis; RPR = Rapid Plasma Reagin

3. COVID-19 Testing Operations

- a) SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing is performed exclusively on the KingFisher Flex platform exclusively.
- b) SNPHL maintains a testing capacity of 2,000 tests per day, with a turnaround time (TAT) of less than 48 hours.
- c) In April, the average daily testing volume was six (6) samples, with an average TAT of 48 hours from collection to report release.
- d) IT enhancements include streamlined patient accession and direct report verification from SNPHL’s Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) into the SNHD patient portal.
- e) High-throughput automation has been incorporated, including the Eppendorf 5073 specimen fluid handling station.

A detailed summary of COVID-19 testing volumes and performance metrics provided in the accompanying table:

Month	# PCR & NAAT/#POS	Month	# PCR & NAAT/#POS
January	359/13	July	
February	298/11	August	

	Shigella Serotype	1	2	3	0									6
STEC	STEC Screen	5	1	2	7									15
	STEC Serotype	1	2	2	0									5
Unknown	Stool Culture	1	5	0	2									8
Vibrio	Vibrio ID	2	0	0	4									6
	Vibrio Screen	3	0	1	4									8
Yersinia	Yersinia Culture/ID	0	1	1	0									2

B. Epidemiological Testing and Consultation - Key Updates:

1. Outbreak Investigation Committee Participation

SNPHL actively participates in the SNHD Outbreak Investigation Committee and the Foodborne Illness Taskforce. There was one (1) gastrointestinal (GI) outbreak sample received for investigation in April.

2. Influenza Surveillance Reporting

SNPHL continues to report influenza testing results to the CDC’s National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS). In April, SNPHL performed 32 respiratory panel tests using the BioFire platform.

C. Emergency response and reportable disease isolate testing report - Key Activities and Capabilities:

1. Reportable Disease Isolate Testing and Confirmation

SNPHL performs reportable disease isolate testing and confirmation. Isolates submitted by local laboratories are serotyped and/or confirmed by Whole Genome Sequencing; stored on-site; and results reported and/or samples submitted to CDC through various national programs; Public Health Laboratory Information System (PHLIS), National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS), and Influenza Surveillance, and PulseNet Bacterial Outbreak Surveillance.

2. Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) Validation

SNPHL is clinically validated to use WGS for the identification of *Campylobacter* species (select species), pathogenic *Escherichia coli*, and *Salmonella* species. SNPHL is also validated for the determination of *Salmonella* serotypes and STEC (Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*) serotypes and Shiga toxin genes.

3. PulseNet Surveillance

In April 2026, SNPHL performed 19 Whole Genome Sequencing tests (WGS) as part of the PulseNet Foodborne Outbreak Surveillance program.

4. **Bacterial Isolate Screening**

Using the Bruker MALDI-TOF instrument for streamlined screening of bacterial isolates. A total identified 183 bacterial organisms in April.

5. **SARS-CoV-2 Sequencing**

SNPHL is validated for sequencing SARS-CoV-2 and variants of concern, through the identification of lineages and clades.

- a) Current capacity: up to 96 SARS-CoV-2-positive RNA extracts per week
- b) April 2026: six (6) SARS-CoV-2-positive RNA extracts sequenced.

6. **Legionella Surveillance**

SNPHL collaborates with Environmental Health and Veritas Labs for Legionella surveillance. Monthly isolate counts for 2026 are as follows:

2026	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Legionella	39	45	83	18								

7. **Vector-Borne Disease Testing**

SNPHL provides viral testing for Zika, West Nile Virus (WNV), Western Equine Encephalitis, and Saint Louis Encephalitis.

- a) A total of 625 mosquito pool samples were tested in April.
- b) In April no WNV-positive mosquito pool was identified.
- c) Results were communicated to Environmental Health and subsequently released to the public.

8. **Gonococcal Isolation Surveillance Program (GISP/eGISP)**

In April, SNPHL collected 25 clinical isolates:

- a) *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*: eight (8) isolates
 - b) *Neisseria meningitidis*: zero (0) isolates
- These will be sent to regional labs or the CDC for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST). Remnant NAATs (NAAT - Nucleic Acid Amplification Test) or *N. gonorrhoeae* samples will be submitted to the CDC for molecular-based AST under eGISP Part B.

9. **C. auris PCR Screening**

SNPHL performed 1,786 Real-Time PCR screenings for *Candida auris* in April 2026.

D. **All-Hazards Preparedness:**

1. **Coordination with First Responder Training**

SNPHL collaborates on training and exercises with first responder agencies including the Civil Support Team, HazMat units, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.

2. **Laboratory Packaging and Shipping Guidance**
SNPHL offers guidance to local laboratorians on CDC protocols for packaging and shipping infectious substances, including chain of custody procedures.
3. **Onsite Training for Long-Term Care Facilities**
SNPHL provided onsite training for long-term care facilities on the use of COVID-19 online ordering applications.
4. **Monkeypox Biosafety Guidance**
Biosafety guidance was supplied to sentinel sites in response to Monkeypox surveillance and containment efforts.
5. **Vaccination Support for Laboratory Staff**
SNPHL facilitated Monkeypox and bivalent COVID-19 booster vaccinations for laboratory personnel.
6. **Ongoing Biosafety Training for SNPHL Staff**
The laboratory continues to provide perpetual biosafety training and updated guidance to SNPHL personnel.
7. **Training After Equipment Upgrade**
The BSL-3 staff have been trained and started using the double door autoclave and in the existing BSL-3 laboratory.

E. **April 2026 SNPHL Activity Highlights:**

1. **COVID-19 Testing Supplies and Reagent Forecast**
SNPHL has maintained a consistent supply of Viral Transport Medium (VTM) for COVID-19 collection kits, even following the cessation of ELC COVID funding.
2. **Facility Infrastructure and Equipment Calibration**
The Phoenix Controls company came to solve the IP address and test the integrated system adjustment for the installation of the onsite monitor computer and network connection on the 2nd floor. This enables facility staff and Sunbelt Control employees to manage and modify the airflow, pressure, and temperature remotely or onsite.
3. **Genomic Surveillance – SARS-CoV-2**
WGS and genomic data analysis indicate that the Omicron variant XFG lineages were domain lineages in April 2026, from the samples received in the laboratory. Our laboratory will keep sequencing the closed contact samples to help ODS to follow up on the investigation.
4. **Influenza Surveillance**
The current influenza surveillance season showed that A/H3 and B/Victoria are major subtypes of influenza.
5. **Avian Influenza Surveillance**
SNPHL participates in the CDC's Avian Influenza Surveillance Project by distributing testing guidance and specimen collection procedures to local hospitals via the Health Alert Network (HAN). Any ICU patients testing positive for Influenza A, are required to submit specimens for subtyping to rule out avian influenza. No suspected avian flu samples were received in April.
6. **Expansion Planning: Facility & Equipment**

Drain system construction for the new two-floor, 6,400-square-foot-per-floor BSL-3 laboratory began in February 2026, with ground soil processing underway and an expected completion date of July 2027.

Facilities team acquiring laboratory equipment and IT accessories for the expansion, utilizing State Public Health funding. The construction contract for the building will include the purchasing and installation of a double door autoclave and pass-through windows.

7. Additional Test Items

The new additional test items for clinical chemistry, hematology and urinalysis have formally opened the service for FQHC and DPP division. The SNPHL website of test menu has been updated and added those new additional tests.

8. Completion of Genotypic validation

Genotypic validation is complete for NG-TEST Carba-5; GeneXpert/Carba-R procurement and Sensititre AST validation are underway. State CLIA inspection is expected in late April 2026. C. auris screening (400 samples/week) maintains a 9% positivity rate. AST turnaround is 4 – 5 days, with eight (8) Rezafungin non-susceptible isolates identified since September 2025.

9. CDC eFSAP inspection

SNPHL successfully completed the CDC eFSAP inspection from March 31st to April 1st and was informed that no further action is required. We anticipate receiving the renewal certificate shortly.

F. COMMUNITY HEALTH – SNPHL – Calendar Year Data

April SNPHL Services	2025	2026	
Clinical Testing Services ¹	8,371	6,926	↓
Epidemiology Services ²	314	342	↑
State Branch Public Health Laboratory Services ³	0	0	=
All-Hazards Preparedness Services ⁴	6	5	↓
Environmental Health Services ⁵	140	385	↑

¹ Includes N. Gonorrhoeae culture, GISP isolates, Syphilis, HIV, CT/GC molecular, Gram stain testing, and COVID Ab immunologic tests.

² Includes Stool culture, EIA, Norovirus PCR, Respiratory Pathogen PCR, Epidemiological investigations, or consultations.

³ Includes COVID PCR, WGS, and LRN testing, proficiency samples, reporting to CDC, courier services, infectious substance shipments, teleconferences, training, presentations and inspections, samples submitted to CDC or other laboratories' submissions.

⁴ Includes Preparedness training, teleconferences, and Inspections.

⁵ Includes vector testing.