Memorandum

Date: November 19, 2026

To: Southern Nevada District Board of Health

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

Subject: Community Health Division Monthly Activity Report – October 2026

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

A. Chronic Disease Prevention Program (CDPP)

Pop-Up Produce Stands: In September, staff partnered with RTC and Prevail Marketplace to host two (2) seasonal Pop-Up Produce Stands at the RTC Bonneville Transit Center. To increase access to healthy foods, Double Up Food Bucks were offered. The two (2) September events resulted in 495 pounds of fresh produce sold, marking the highest monthly total of the year. Additionally, 25% of transactions were made using SNAP benefits, and 41 individuals were connected to SNAP and other community resources through referrals.

5210 Healthy Habits Campaign: 5210 is an initiative to encourage four healthy habits in kids: eating five (5) servings of fruits and vegetables, limiting screen time to two (2) hours or less, engaging in one (1) hour of physical activity, and consuming zero (0) sugary drinks. In September, CDPP staff prepared and disseminated materials for the 5210 and Childhood Obesity Awareness Month (COAM) in partnership with the Partners for a Healthy Nevada (PHN). As part of these efforts, two (2) communication toolkits for COAM and 5210 were distributed to over 100 community partners to support outreach and awareness efforts. Dissemination efforts also included a presentation on the Healthier Tomorrow Radio program, a social media campaign in English and Spanish, and a press release, which led to two (2) earned media opportunities. Staff also shared 5210 resources and information at events, including Healthy Kids Fest and at a local elementary school. An estimated 315 families attended these events.

Community Outreach Screening Event at the Las Vegas Preeclampsia Walk: Staff participated in the annual Preeclampsia Walk at Craig Ranch Park in partnership with the Southern NV Black Nurses Association (SNBNA). The event provided an opportunity to conduct blood pressure

screenings and promote heart health education to attendees. Our volunteers provided all 80 attendees with educational materials and program resources to encourage healthy lifestyle changes and support cardiovascular health. Of the 80 attendees, five participants received blood pressure screenings.

Health Communications: Staff leveraged multiple communications platforms and outreach strategies to increase awareness of chronic disease and tobacco-related resources, events, services, and information. Website engagement steadily increased throughout the quarter. Across all topics, the gethealthyclarkcounty.org website averaged more than 200,000 visitors per month, culminating in a quarterly high of 298,479 visitors in September. Similarly, vivasaludable.org averaged more than 9,500 visitors per month, with traffic increasing to 16,130 visitors in September.

Safe Routes to Parks: Staff implemented the Safe Routes to Parks media campaign between March 2026 and September 2026 to highlight the work done with REACH partners to make finding a park easier and physical activity more accessible. During this promotional period, over 24,750 people visited the Places to Play webpage on gethealthyclarkcounty.org and 9,973 people visited the Spanish-language Places to Play webpage on vivasaludable.org.

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

NTCSC Partners Summit and Strategic Planning Session: Our SNHD Tobacco Control Team participated in the annual NTCSC Partners Summit and Strategic Planning Session held in Reno, joining state and national partners to share ideas, strengthen collaborations, and help shape priorities for the year ahead. The summit provided a valuable opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions around tobacco prevention, cessation, and policy ideas for the upcoming Nevada Legislative Session. Staff presented on the activities and success of our current tobacco control program and provided technical assistance to other state partners on how to implement evidence-based tobacco control initiatives. There were 47 community partners and organizations in attendance.

Hispanic Heritage Month: During Hispanic Heritage Month, the Por Mi, Por Ti, Por Nosotros, Viva Saludable initiative participated in various community events such as the Fiestas Patrias event at the Centennial Hills Amphitheater, Fiesta en la Alberca by the City of Las Vegas, Mexican Patriotic Committee's Mexican Independence Day Celebration, and the Her Power, Our Progress event celebration hosted by Latinas in Power and the Latin Chamber of Commerce. Staff distributed culturally relevant tobacco cessation and smoke-free living materials, providing attendees with resources and information to support healthier, tobacco-free lifestyles. These events reinforced the message of living smoke and vape-free and protecting families and communities from tobacco and secondhand smoke exposure. These events reached 2,820 attendees. In addition, in-kind media was provided by Telemundo and Univision.

Be the Light and Wildly Well Wellness Conference: Staff participated in the 2nd Annual Be the Light Youth Conference, hosted by Al-Maun (Neighborly Needs), and the Wildly Well Wellness

Conference to engage and educate youth and adults on the dangers of vaping and flavored tobacco products. During these presentations, staff reached 170 attendees. The presentation also included information about the health risks associated with tobacco and nicotine use, the tactics used to market flavored products to young people, and resources available to support tobacco-free lifestyles. This participation helped raise awareness and strengthen community partnerships dedicated to protecting youth from tobacco-related harms.

Cessation Material Distribution: Tobacco cessation educational materials are continuously reviewed and updated to ensure the community has access to current, evidence-based information and resources. These materials are made readily available through the Southern Nevada Health District Tobacco Control Program's free storefront and general program website, providing convenient access for both community members and partner organizations. During the month of September, materials were distributed to 21 locations throughout Southern Nevada, including NV HAND properties, hospitals, community centers, neighborhood clinics, counseling centers, and other community-serving organizations. More than 2,100 educational materials were disseminated, helping to increase awareness of available cessation resources, promote tobacco-free living, and connect individuals with support services to assist them on their journey to quit tobacco use.

CCSD Family Engagement Partnership: Staff re-established a partnership with the CCSD Family Engagement Center to promote the Por Mi, Por Ti, Por Nosotros initiative and encourage tobacco-free lifestyles. The Family Engagement Department offers CCSD family's valuable resources and learning opportunities designed to empower and educate them in supporting their children's overall well-being and academic success. The goal of this collaboration is to deliver a series of activities, including educational workshops, participation in family wellness nights, pledge campaigns, and resource sharing that help families remain smoke-free and vape-free. As part of this ongoing collaboration, staff also presented to Family Engagement Department staff on the newly developed Healthy Homes, Healthy Lungs Smoke-Free Family Kits, highlighting how the kits can be used to engage families and introduce age-appropriate conversations about smoke-free living. Staff also provided an update on available parent workshops for families with middle and high school students, focusing on youth vaping, social media, peer pressure, and youth culture.

UNLV 'Ewalu Club Collaboration: The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) Tobacco Control Program's Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Initiative, Island eNVy, partnered with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) 'Ewalu Club during its back-to-school event to promote tobacco- and vape-free living among Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NH/PI) young adults. The event engaged 113 NH/PI college students and provided an opportunity for staff to share culturally relevant education on the health risks associated with commercial tobacco and vaping products, while highlighting the importance of making healthy, tobacco-free lifestyle choices. Staff also promoted available tobacco cessation resources and support services designed to help individuals quit tobacco and nicotine products. In addition to providing education and resources, staff reinforced SNHD's Tobacco Control Program's commitment to maintaining a strong

partnership with the 'Ewalu Club and supporting NH/PI students through ongoing outreach, education, and collaborative activities throughout the academic year.

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

A. Education Committee

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

The Committee worked on the education component for the general pediatric assessment protocol and discussed continuing education for EMS Instructors.

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 Drug, Device and Protocol Committee was cancelled due to technical issues.

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 medical director of each firefighting/franchised agency; 2) One 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 Medical Advisory Board meeting was cancelled due to technical issues.

D. 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 Committee examined the Trauma Needs Assessment Tool from 2018 and reviewed TFTC data reports for 2nd Quarter 2026.

E. OEMSTS – October 2025 / 2026 Data

October EMS Statistics	Oct 2025	Oct 2026		Mo. Fiscal Average 2025-2026
Total certificates issued	142	85	↓	295
New licenses issued	8	78	↑	76
Renewal licenses issued (recert only)	0	7	↑	210
Driver Only	64	46	↓	54
Active Certifications: EMT	1,144	924	↓	1,087
Active Certifications: Advanced EMT	1,898	1,790	↓	1,864
Active Certifications: Paramedic	2,250	2,283	↑	2,337
Active Certifications: RN	86	95	↑	90

III. OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS (OPHP)

A. Planning and Preparedness

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

(Emergency Planning & Preparedness)

1. Emergency Operations Plans under review by OPHP:
   a) Community Reception Center
   b) BioWatch
   c) Recovery Annex
   d) SNHD Continuity of Operations Plan – Essential Records/Resources
   e) Threat Response Guide
   f) Emerging Highly Infectious Disease
2. Completion & Approved Plans
   a) SNHD Continuity of Operations Plan
   b) Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
   c) Medical Countermeasures Annex
   d) Ebola Response Annex
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
   b) State of Nevada Office of Emergency Management

i. Planner connected with State Charter Authority, City of Henderson Charter Authority, and North Las Vegas Charter Authority to increase participation in EOP Development Committees in charter schools.

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
   f) Impacted Persons Database Healthcare Training, Exercise, Development Working Group
   g) Resiliency Coalition Working Group

B. Training, Exercises, and Public Health Workforce Development

Attended Trainings and Events Activities

1. Senior Planner and PHP Technician attended the O-0305 – Type 3 All Hazards Incident Management Team training.
2. Senior Planner attended the Lithium Battery Incident Response for Region 9 Readiness Network ECHO Program.
3. Senior Planner attended the Bridging the Gap: Standard Rapid Response Across Hospitals, Emergency Services & HAZMAT webinar.
4. Planner attended COOP Train-the-Trainer session.
5. Planner attended Media training hosted by the Office of Communications.
6. Staff attended the TEEX Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness Training on October 7th – 8th.
7. Senior Planners and Trainer attended TEEX Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Management Course October 7th – 8th at Dignity Health San Martin campus.
8. Supervisor presented to the Bordering on Disaster Conference in Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada on October 14th on the public health response and lessons learned from the October 1st shooting.

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. OPHP continues to support the City of Las Vegas with provision of ICS 300/400/G191 training schedule. ICS 400 was provided to twelve (12) students on October 6th at Clark County Fire Station 18. G191 was provided for thirteen (13) students at City of North Las Vegas OEM on October 14th. ICS 300 for nine (9) newly added Incident Command System Team members was provided October 5th – 7th at SNHD Decatur.
2. New Hire Orientation was not provided in October due to every other month scheduling. The next training will be on November 18th at SNHD Decatur.
3. CPR course was not provided in October due to insufficient student registration.
4. Staff are reviewing and updating all Job Action Sheets (JAS) to ensure that there is a sheet for each position in various plans organizational charts.
5. Staff are drafting an appendix for the MCM plan related to testing.

6. Twelve (12) SNHD staff attended ICS Team training on October 15th at SNHD Decatur.
7. Trainer and Senior Planner provided MCM training to fourteen (14) OPHP staff on October 28th.

Upcoming Training and Exercise Events

1. Trainers continue to update training calendar for 2026 course offerings to include Introduction to Radiological/Nuclear WMD Operations AWR-140, ALERRT Civilian Response to Active Assailant, Response to Bombing Incidents (RBI) and ICS Team Training.
2. Planning efforts for the 2027 Biological Functional Exercise continue.
3. Incident Command Team training scheduled for November 19th at the Decatur campus.

C. Southern Nevada Healthcare Preparedness Coalition (SNHPC)

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. SNHPC held its monthly meeting. Manager, Senior Planners, Planners, and Trainer attended.
2. OPHP Planners attended the Emergency Management Committee meetings for UMC and Dignity Health.
3. Manager, Senior Planner, and Clinical Advisor attended the LAS In-Person & Virtual Tabletop Exercise (TTX) – IS Cybersecurity TTX.
4. Senior Planner and Clinical Advisor participated in the NDMS/FCC Final Planning Meeting.
5. SNHPC Information Sharing Annex, Patient Movement Annex, COOP, and Extended Downtime Support Plan reviewed and updated.
6. SNHPC Readiness and Training and Exercise Plans are under review.
7. SNHPC Workforce Readiness/Resilience Plan, Continuity and Recovery Plan, Cybersecurity Support Plan, and Recovery Plan under development.
8. OPHP staff attended FCC/NDMS Nourishing Courage Final Planning Meeting October 28th at SNHD Decatur.
9. Trainer provided Active Assailant training to fifteen (15) MRC volunteers on October 29th at SNHD Decatur.
10. TEEX Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Management MGT-439 was provided to 24 community partners on October 7th – 8th at Dignity Health San Martin campus.
11. SNHPC HVA Worksheet meeting was conducted on October 19th with subcommittee members via TEAMs. Next meeting scheduled for November 5th at the monthly coalition event at the City of Las Vegas OEM.

New/Upcoming Activities

1. NDMS/FCC Nourishing Courage Full scale exercise at Nellis AFB on November 4th.

D. PHP Technician and N-95 Fit Testing

1. Sixty-eight SNHD Employees were FIT tested for personal protective equipment during October.

E. Fusion Center Public Health Analyst

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. Disseminated public health Information between SNHD and the Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center (SNCTC).
2. SNHD Analyst provided public health input for threat assessments on special events of local significance.
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. Our analyst continues to develop appropriate connections to increase communication between SNHD, SNCTC, and its partner organizations.
6. Collaborating with five (5) surrounding fusion centers on areas of public health concern to produce monthly joint public health bulletins.

F. Grants and Administration

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. Our manager continues to represent the Community Health Division management on various SNHD working group committees and initiatives.
2. The OPHP Manager continues to reduce the physical inventory of miscellaneous stockpiled preparedness resources and transfer of excess grant-purchased surplus property to community partners for use.
3. SNHD received fully executed, State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health FY2027 subawards. Manager and Supervisor are in the process of renewing required contracts associated with these awards.
4. SNHD received the BioWatch program Notice of Award for FY2027.
5. Manager is collaborating with other divisions and programs to submit project proposals for additional grant funding opportunities.
6. Manager is in process of renewing unfunded, Public Health Crisis Response grant through Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

G. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of Southern Nevada

1. MRC hosted Active Assailant training for volunteers at SNHD Decatur on October 29th. Calendars were distributed, along with health outreach information from OCDPHP.
2. MRC Coordinator attended SNHPC meeting, planned training and activities for upcoming months, sent out newsletters, and continued to recruit and deactivate volunteers.

MRC Volunteer Hours FY2026 Q2

Activity	Oct	Nov	Dec
Training	15		
Community Event	0		
SNHD Clinic	0		
Emergency Deployment	0		
FY2026 Total Hours	**15**		
FY2026 Economic Impact	**$542.10**		
FY2025 Total Hours	**32.50**		
FY2025 Economic Impact	**$1,318.53**		

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. The current amount is $36.14. https://independentsector.org/research/value-of-volunteer-time/(Economic impact rates updated April 2026)

IV. VITAL RECORDS

A. October is currently showing a **4% decrease in birth certificate** sales in comparison to October 2025. **Death certificate** sales are currently showing a **3.5% increase** in comparison to October 2025. SNHD received revenues of $34,073 for birth registrations, $22,750 for death registrations, and an additional $7,152 in miscellaneous fees.

COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program – Fiscal Year Data

Vital Statistics Services	Oct 2025	Oct 2026		Yr Average 10/2025 - 10/2026
Births Registered	1,900	1,887	↓	1,940
Deaths Registered	1,682	1,631	↓	1,725
Fetal Deaths Registered	13	13		15

Vital Statistics Services	Oct 2025	Oct 2026		Yr Average 10/2025-10/2026
Birth Certificates Mail	95	95		108
Birth Certificates Online Orders	4,152	3,961	↓	3,427
Birth Certificates Billed	104	118	↑	123
Birth Certificates Number of Total Sales	4,351	4,174	↓	3,658
Death Certificates Mail	129	111	↓	134
Death Certificates Online Orders	7,760	8,065	↑	7,894
Death Certificates Billed	64	56	↓	49
Death Certificates Number of Total Sales	7,953	8,232	↑	8,077

Revenue	Oct 2025	Oct 2026		Yr Average 10/2025 -10/2026
Birth Certificates ($25)	$108,775	$104,350	↓	$91,450
Death Certificates ($25)	$198,825	$205,800	↑	$201,930
Births Registrations ($13)	$36,192	$34,073	↓	$32,916
Deaths Registrations ($13)	$22,555	$22,750	↑	$22,495
Convenience Fee ($2)	$8,172	$6,882	↓	$6744
Miscellaneous Admin	$508	$270	↓	$526
Total Vital Records Revenue	$375,027	$374,125	↓	356,061

COMMUNITY HEALTH Passport Program – Fiscal Year Data

B. PASSPORT SERVICES – Passport Services is appointment-only.

Applications	Oct 2025	Oct 2026		Yr Average 10/2025 - 10/2026
Passport Applications	603	341	↓	610

Revenue	Oct 2025	Oct 2026		Yr Average 10/2025 - 10/2026
Passport Execution/Acceptance fee ($35)	$21,105	$11,935	↓	$21,368

Passport Services is by appointment only. FY27 is still in progress, however the current volume is a trending decline in application demand compared to prior years.

V. HEALTH EQUITY

Health Equity Program – October 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 October:

A. The Health Equity Program works towards establishing community partnerships and collaborations to increase the capacity of communities to address health disparities.
   1. October 1st, the Brain Health program facilitated the Brain Health Community Action group meeting with over ten community partners in attendance. This meeting was the first for the new year and set the tone for remainder of the year by formalizing the vison and mission of the group.

2. October 7th, the Health Equity program implemented week four (4) of the Youth Advisory Council. YAC members completed addressing Social Determinants of Health and received information from the Office of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance and its functions.
3. October 14th – 15th, the Health Equity department in collaboration with the FQHC participated in the Clark County Employee Health and Wellness Fair. During both days 610 Clark County employees received information related to the youth council, access to care, services provided by District, and education on brain health.
4. October 17th, the Health Equity team participated in the 2026 Alzheimer's Walk. The program outreach and education and participated in the walk. This year the Team raised $1625.00.
5. October 20th, the Health Equity team provided support to the Cleveland Clinic on their memory screening outreach event held at Sun City Summerlin.
6. October 21st, the Health Equity program implemented week five (5) of the Youth Advisory Council. YAC members completed Mental health and well-being for teens received information from the FQHC and Behavioral Health Program and its functions.

VI. HEALTH CARDS

A. Locations

1. Advance appointments for our Decatur, Fremont, and Henderson offices open each weekday morning at 6 a.m. for that day in the following week.
2. Additional same-day appointments at our Decatur and Fremont offices open for booking each working day around 7:30 a.m. as staffing allows.
3. Same day appointments for our Laughlin and Mesquite offices are open each working day at 5 a.m.

B. Public Service

FOOD HANDLER CARDS	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	August 2026	Sept 2026	Oct 2026
New Cards	4,505	5,493	4,902	4,327	4,296	3,825
Renewal Cards (In-person and Online)	3,680	3,717	3,726	3,553	3,378	3,237
Duplicates	515	479	462	472	486	444
CFSM (Manager) Cards	176	176	165	210	233	199
Re-Tests	954	1,033	1,023	927	915	863

BODY ART CARDS	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	August 2026	Sept 2026	Oct 2026
Body Art Cards	110	84	116	108	106	115
Body Art Mentor Cards	13	14	9	34	27	19

BODY ART CARDS	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	August 2026	Sept 2026	Oct 2026
Duplicates	3	2	3	1	0	0
Re-Test	4	6	5	3	5	4

TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	August 2026	Sept 2026	Oct 2026
	9,960	11,004	10,411	9,635	9,446	8.716

C. Passing and Paying

For the month of October, Health Cards averaged 60 "passing and paying" online renewal clients per day, with a total of 1,859 clients renewing online.

VII. SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (SNPHL)

A. Clinical Testing: Key Updates

1. SNHD Public Health and Preventive Care 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. SNHD FQHC Division Support

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 Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (eGISP).
b) Performing NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Test) and culture testing for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* isolates, which are submitted to reference laboratories for antibiotic susceptibility patterns.
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	58	34
NAAT NG/CT	1650	1635

Syphilis	759	758
RPR/RPR Titers*	230/37	152/39
Hepatitis Total	2407	2530
HIV/differentiated	652/20	665/17
HIV RNA	133	135

*= 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.

b) SNPHL maintains a testing capacity of 2,000 tests per day, with a turnaround time (TAT) of less than 48 hours (current TAT two-day currently at / near goal).

c) In October, the average daily testing volume was twelve (12) 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 is provided in the accompanying table:

Month	# PCR & NAAT/#POS	Month	# PCR & NAAT/#POS
January	359/13	July	81/8
February	298/11	August	80/30
March	173/5	September	439/85
April	128/7	October	272/55
May	128/3	November	
June	68/9	December	

4. Reportable Disease Testing

a) SNPHL continues routine testing of reportable disease specimens submitted by community stakeholders. Isolates tested are reported to OEDS on a weekly basis to aid in disease investigation, and SNPHL and OEDS coordinate with CDC PulseNet if required.

b) A monthly summary of reportable disease testing provided on the accompanying table:

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Campylobacter	Campy ID	3	2	9	6	7	9	4	9	0	0			49
	Campy Screen	3	5	12	13	17	12	13	21	12	11			119
Neisseria species	Gonorrhoeae Culture	24	22	25	28	14	40	31	36	57	58			335
	Gram Stain/WBC	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0	5	0			15
	Neisseria ID	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0
	Haemophilus ID	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3			4
Unknown ID	Bacterial ID	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0			4
	WGS (PulseNet)	14	19	17	19	32	45	57	44	36	32			315
Salmonella	Salmonella Screen	6	12	6	10	12	30	34	32	21	27			190
	Salmonella Serotype	5	12	6	7	11	29	33	23	2	0			128
Shigella	Shigella Screen	2	3	5	2	6	6	9	11	8	7			59
	Shigella Serotype	1	2	3	0	5	3	6	5	0	0			25
STEC	STEC Screen	5	1	2	7	3	5	8	8	8	6			53
	STEC Serotype	3	2	2	3	0	1	4	4	2	0			21
Unknown	Stool Culture	1	5	0	2	2	5	4	3	5	0			27

Vibrio	Vibrio ID	2	0	0	4	0	0	2	1	0	0			9
	Vibrio Screen	3	0	1	4	0	0	5	2	0	0			15
Yersinia	Yersinia Culture/ID	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	0	0			8

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 were no gastrointestinal (GI) outbreak samples received for investigation in October.
2. **Influenza Surveillance Reporting**
   SNPHL continues to report influenza testing results to the CDC's National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS). In October, SNPHL performed nineteen (19) 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), 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, STEC (Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*) serotypes, and Shiga toxin genes.
3. **PulseNet Surveillance**
   In October 2026, SNPHL performed 32 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 of 297 bacterial organisms were identified in October.
5. **SARS-CoV-2 Sequencing**
   SNPHL is validated for sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 and variants of concern through the identification of lineages and clades. SNPHL has sustained capacity of sequencing many 96 SARS-CoV-2-positive RNA extracts per week with expectations of increasing this capacity with appropriate staffing, instrumentation, and method development. As of October 2026, SNPHL has sequenced forty-eight (48) SARS-CoV-2-positive RNA extracts.

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	43	22	79	24	42	40		

7. **Vector-Borne Disease Testing**
   SNPHL provides vector testing for Environmental Services, Viral testing for Dengue, West Nile (WNV), Western Equine Encephalitis, and Saint Louis encephalitis. Our facility hosted a CDC demonstration for the Vector team.

   a) A total of **2,921 mosquito pool samples were tested** in October.
   b) In October, there were (53) WNV-positive mosquito pool samples were identified.
   c) Results are communicated to Environmental Health and subsequently released to the public.

8. **Gonococcal Isolation Surveillance Program (GISP/eGISP)**
   In October, SNPHL collected 48 clinical isolates:

   a) *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*: eighteen (18) isolates
   b) *Neisseria meningitidis*: five (5) 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 2,130 Real-Time PCR screenings for *Candida auris* in October 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 COVD online ordering applications for long-term care facilities.

4. **Monkeypox Biosafety Guidance**
   Biosafety guidance was supplied to sentinel sites in response to Monkeypox.

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. **Ebola/High-Risk Pathogen Preparedness**
   Ebola / High-Risk Pathogen Preparedness: Reviewed SNHD Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) plan, State Concept of Operations, and hospital/EMS Ebola protocols to support ongoing preparedness planning; materials are being used as a baseline for future response planning discussions.

E. **October 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 resolve the IP address and test the integrated system adjustment for the installation of the on-site 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; no additional updates were reported this month.
3) **Genomic Surveillance – SARS-CoV-2**
   According to the WGS and genomic data analysis, the Omicron variant SW.2.1, RK.1.5 and XFG lineages are domain lineages in October 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/H1 is a major subtype of influenza.
5) **Ebola Testing**
   October 30th, a total of 2,921 mosquito pools were tested through the mosquito surveillance program. Surveillance activities identified 54 West Nile virus (WNV)-positive mosquito pools across Southern Nevada. To date, no mosquito pools have tested positive for St. Louis encephalitis (SLE), Western equine encephalitis (WEE), or dengue virus. These findings indicate that WNV remains the primary mosquito-borne pathogen detected during the 2026 surveillance season, while no evidence of other targeted arboviruses has been identified.
6) **BioFire Warrior Ebola Testing**
   Our SNPHL team performs the Ebola testing by using BioFire Warrior panel which can detect Bacillus anthracis, Yersinia pestis, Francisella tularensis, Coxiella burnetii, Ebola virus, and Marburg virus. Current maximum capacity is 20 samples per day, and turn-around time is 4 – 6 hours. No suspect Ebola samples were tested in October.
7) **Expansion Planning: BSL-3 Equipment**
   The Facilities team is addressing air conditioning issues in the Microbiology and storage

areas to maintain appropriate environmental conditions for laboratory operations. Preventive boiler maintenance is also being performed to support reliable building heating and hot water systems.

8) **Carbapenemase Detection**
The SNPHL has implemented the GeneXpert platform for the detection of carbapenemase-producing organisms through identification of carbapenemase genes from rectal swab specimens. This testing service became available to healthcare providers in October and supports local surveillance and infection prevention efforts.

9) **CPO Outbreak Investigation**
The SNPHL supported a CPO outbreak investigation at Sunset Ridge Post Acute by testing approximately 45 recollected resident screening specimens after the original specimens were not tested within the required timeframe. Carba-R testing identified a high positivity rate, including detection of KPC and NDM carbapenemase genes. The results supported resident cohorting, infection prevention measures, and outbreak control efforts at the facility.

10) **CLIA Inspection & Certification**
The SNPHL successfully completed August 30th, State inspection and renewed its CLIA certification with only one minor deviation identified. The inspection approval enabled expansion of the laboratory testing menu to include Measles PCR, Creatinine/Microalbumin testing, CRO culture and susceptibility testing, and CRO PCR colonization screening. Overall, the laboratory remains in good regulatory standing, with corrective actions implemented and new testing capabilities now available to support public health and healthcare partners throughout Southern Nevada.

11) **BioWatch Program**
During October 2026, SNPHL continued the transition of the BioWatch program from UNLV to SNPHL by advancing operational planning, staff training, and grant implementation activities. Staffing plans were adjusted to address funding delays while maintaining program readiness, and a BioWatch kickoff meeting was conducted to support knowledge transfer and integration of program operations into SNPHL.

F. **COMMUNITY HEALTH – SNPHL – Calendar Year Data**

October SNPHL Services	2025	2026	
Clinical Testing Services [1]	5,651	6,788	↑
Epidemiology Services [2]	294	518	↑
State Branch Public Health Laboratory Services[3]	0	0	=
All-Hazards Preparedness Services [4]	6	5	↓
Environmental Health Services [5]	485	417	↓

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

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

[3] Includes COVD 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.