



# Memorandum

**Date:** October 26, 2023

**To:** Southern Nevada District Board of Health

**From:** **Michael Johnson, PhD, Director of Community Health** *M.A. on behalf of M.J.*  
**Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH, District Health Officer** *FL*

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**Subject:** Community Health Division Monthly Activity Report – September 2023

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

### **A. Chronic Disease Prevention Program (CDPP)**

The 2023 Move Your Way Summer Initiative began in May and wrapped up in August. The initiative encourages physical activity throughout the summer months. In total, the Chronic Disease Prevention Program (CDPP) and partners participated in 11 Move Your Way Summer events at local pools or recreation centers. These events allowed families to participate in free physical activity. Over 2,300 families participated in one of the Move-Your Way summer pool events. Additionally, we worked with Promotoras Las Vegas (PLV) to promote Move Your Way and provide educational materials at 20 community events reaching the Hispanic community. Over 2,600 people were reached through these efforts. The 2024 Initiative will launch in May 2024.

The Verano Sin Soda (Soda Free Summer) initiative also began in May and wrapped up in August. The initiative is geared towards the Hispanic community. CDPP staff worked with PLV to participate in outreach events to promote elimination or reduction of sugar sweetened beverages. Promotional items like water recipe cards and water bottles were provided to participants who pledge to reduce or eliminate sugary beverage consumption over the summer. A media campaign in Spanish to promote healthy beverages, ran through August. In total, CDPP staff and Promotoras participated in 21 community events reaching nearly 3,000 people. Additionally, 45 social media posts promoting Verano Sin Soda were posted during the initiative.

The CDPP staff facilitates the Partners for a Healthy Nevada obesity prevention coalition. A hybrid meeting was hosted in August with 42 in person attendees and 12 online attendees. In

addition to member presentations and updates, a legislative wrap up was provided by The Health Equity Coalition for Chronic Disease, Three Square, and Children's Advocacy Alliance.

In conjunction with the previous initiatives, CDDP worked with four (4) faith-based pantries this year to implement the Supporting Wellness at Pantries (SWAP) program. The SWAP program ranks and sorts of foods into green, yellow, or red categories to help pantry clients make informed food choices. Pre-intervention assessments were conducted at each pantry and opportunities to improve the nutritional environment were identified. Pantry staff and volunteers were trained in the SWAP program and pantries were provided with supplies to implement the program including shelf-tags, posters, shelves, baskets, and other supplies to display sorted and ranked foods. One of the four pantries also adopted a nutrition standards policy. Post assessments occurred in each pantry and all four (4) pantries improved their assessment score from pre to post.

Our CDDP staff and promotors taught a Faithful Families class in Spanish at the Iglesia Ciudad de Gracia church in August. At least eight (8) people attended each class. Faithful Families provides education on physical activity and nutrition and is specifically designed to be delivered in faith-based settings.

The CDDP team worked with the Southern Nevada Breastfeeding Coalition and other partners to commemorate Breastfeeding Month in August. Activities included a paid and earned social marketing campaign featuring local women. Campaign ads directed people to the Nevada Breastfeeds website as well as the websites for the Southern Nevada Breastfeeding Coalition and the Kijiji Sisterhood for information on local resources. A breastfeeding communications toolkit was also shared with partners. To commemorate Black Breastfeeding Week, CDDP worked with coalition partners to support the annual Human Milk Donation Drive. The event occurred on Saturday August 26 at the WIC Office in West Las Vegas. Over 20 people participated in the event and over 600 oz of milk was collected.

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

This month, TCP staff trained 880 student athlete teen influencers to share information regarding the dangers of electronic vapor products with fellow teens. This month, staff continued recruiting high school sports teams for the fall 2023 athletic season. Eight (8) youth-led social branding initiatives were held in partnership with local football, cheer, soccer, and volleyball teams to promote messages about the dangers of tobacco products.

Also within this month, SNHD TCP staff implemented a new social media initiative to increase awareness about the dangers of tobacco use, including e-cigarettes. Teens promoted SNHD's teen vaping prevention initiative, BreakDown, by sharing a short video on their individual social media pages. To date, this campaign has resulted in 15,727 impressions among local high school students.

Staff promoted the Because We Matter initiative and provided culturally competent educational materials to 120 attendees of NAACP/Las Vegas Urban Leagues' Move in The Park community event and 32 attendees of the IT Roundtable Networking event. Educational material provides information to prevent smoking initiation, informs of tobacco policies, encourages cessation,

and informs the priority population of tobacco use's harm to African Americans and the Black community.

The TCP extended an ongoing community partnership with a Latino owned business to promote tobacco-free lifestyles among the Hispanic community at the business's second location grand opening event. Culturally and linguistically appropriate tobacco cessation resources were provided to every customer upon entry.

This month, the TCP's African American focused campaign, You Can Do It-Quit For US, aired on TV, radio, social media, and web banners to educate and increase the awareness of African Americans of tobacco-related issues and promote the Nevada Tobacco Quitline. The media ran from February to August with average impressions of over 200,000 per month throughout the campaign.

Our team met with the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNVRHA), to discuss a collaboration to help promote their updated smoke and vape-free policy among their various communities. Staff discussed the importance of promoting the smoke-free policy within their properties and thoroughly explained the materials available to help enforce the smoke-free policies. Questions and challenges were addressed. Over 15 managers who oversee various SNVRHA communities attended the meeting and will be working with staff to obtain necessary materials and technical support.

### **C. Other Efforts**

OCDPHP has received additional funding from the CDC to support COVID and flu vaccine education and delivery among our REACH grant priority populations (African Americans and Hispanics). OCDPHP staff are working with community partners to train influential messengers in the community, promote vaccine update and increase accessibility to vaccines among these populations. During August:

1. Fourteen (14) community health workers were trained. To date, 354 community-level spokespersons have been trained through this effort.
2. Two (2) community events to distribute information and promote vaccination occurred in reaching 580 individuals.
3. 18 new pop-up vaccine clinics were offered with 73 people receiving a COVID vaccine and 47 people receiving a flu vaccine. A total of 6,131 vaccines have been provided to date through these efforts.
4. A new media campaign highlighting changes that will occur as a result of the end of the public health emergency declaration and to encourage vaccination among priority populations began aired in May and will run through September. To date this campaign has reached 1.7 million people.

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

**A. OEMSTS – September 2022 / 2023 Data**

September EMS Statistics	September 2022	September 2023	
Total certificates issued	1473	705	↓
New licenses issued	68	77	↑
Renewal licenses issued (recert only)	1370	617	↓
Driver Only	24	31	↑
Active Certifications: EMT	745	905	↑
Active Certifications: Advanced EMT	1623	1834	↑
Active Certifications: Paramedic	1813	1955	↑
Active Certifications: RN	63	60	↓

**III. OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS (OPHP)**

**A. Planning and Preparedness**

1. Persistence to draft the Shelter Support Annex and Administrative Preparedness Annex.
2. Planners continue to review and revise the Excessive Heat, CHEMPACK, Nuclear and Radiation, Administrative Preparedness, and Mass Care Support plans.
3. The Emergency Notification Annex was approved by leadership.
4. Our the Invasive Aedes Response Annex for review to leadership.

**B. Training, Exercises and Public Health Workforce Development:**

1. Our OPHP staff continues planning for the upcoming Full-Scale Anthrax Exercise to take place October 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, along with community partners.
2. OPHP Trainers continue to develop Position Specific Task Books and related training curricula. Revised PHP New Hire Orientation and Annual ICS/Planning P/Forms training. Continuance to update POD training for October FSE.
3. OPHP Planners have provided POD Training to the City of Las Vegas and the City of North Las Vegas.
4. Attended Medical Management for CBRNE Events training provided by TEEX agency on September 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>.
5. Trainers provided New Hire Emergency Preparedness Training to 17 staff on September 20<sup>th</sup> and continues every other month. Updated Annual ICS/Planning P/Forms training was provided to 16 staff on September 14<sup>th</sup> and continuing quarterly.

6. Our Trainer provided ICS 400 training on September 19<sup>th</sup> at CC Fire Station 18.

**C. Southern Nevada Healthcare Preparedness Coalition (SNHPC)**

1. The SNHPC meeting occurred on September 7, 2023.
2. Our Clinical Advisor and Readiness and Response Coordinator completed review of two (2) hospital emergency operations plans.
3. SNHPC Clinical Advisor and Readiness and Response Coordinator planned and facilitated a tabletop exercise to test and review the Hospital Area Command response, Medical Surge Support Team participation and review the hospital surge and communications plan. This tabletop exercise was attended by hospitals, jurisdictional emergency managers, EMS, Fire departments, and other community partners.
4. Our SNHPC Clinical Advisor served as the exercise evaluator at Sunrise Hospital MCI Surge tabletop exercise.
5. The SNHPC Clinical Advisor, Chair, and Trainer revised the Charter for review and approval at the September meeting.
6. SNHPC Clinical Advisor continues to support the Western Regional Alliance for Pediatric Emergency Management (WRAP-EM) for pediatric readiness and valley-wide response.
7. Our SNHPC Clinical Advisor is actively involved with the ongoing development and testing of the Clark County Multiagency Victim Database and Patient Tracking program.

**D. Fusion Center Public Health Analyst:**

1. Disseminated seven (7) public health-related reports covering various communicable disease updates and cybersecurity threats to the health sector through the appropriate Fusion Center distribution lists.
2. Developed three (3) special event threat assessments encompassing five (5) events (Black Hat USA and DEFCON, Summer MAGIC, Las Vegas Raiders, and Vegas Golden Knights 2023-2024 Seasons) and disseminated through the appropriate Fusion Center distribution lists.
3. Assisted in the Sphere exercise with Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Emergency Management.

**E. Grants and Administration:**

1. Our OPHP team received the subgrant awards for budget period 5 for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program and Hospital Preparedness Program grants from the state.

**F. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of Southern Nevada:**

1. Three (3) MRC Volunteers supported the SNHD Immunization Clinic in September, assisting patients checking in.

2. Two (2) volunteers supported the Nevada Hand Senior Wellness Fair with blood pressure checks at the YMCA.
3. The MRC Coordinator planned training and activities for upcoming months, sent out newsletters, and continued to recruit and deactivate volunteers.
4. Our MRC Coordinator attended monthly NACCHO MRC and PPAG Workgroup meetings, as well as SNHPC.

**MRC Volunteer Hours FY2024 Q1**

(Economic impact rates updated August 2023):

Activity	July	August	September
Preparedness Exercise	0	3	0
Community Event/BP	0	12	9
SNHD Immunization Clinic	47.75	75.25	14
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>47.75</b>	<b>90.25</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Economic impact</b>	<b>\$1,518.45</b>	<b>\$2,869.95</b>	<b>\$845.79</b>

**IV. VITAL RECORDS**

- A. September 2023 is currently showing 8.3% decrease in birth certificate sales in comparison to September 2022. Death certificate sales currently showing a 7.6% decrease in comparison to September 2022. SNHD received revenues of \$29,029 for birth registrations, \$19,721 for death registrations; and an additional \$6,846 in miscellaneous fees.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program Birth/Deaths Registered – Fiscal Year Data**

Vital Statistics Services	Sept 2022	Sept 2023		FY 22-23 (Sept)	FY 23-24 (Sept)	
<b>Births Registered</b>	1,945	1,424	↓	6,147	5,371	↓
<b>Deaths Registered</b>	1,753	1,560	↓	5,210	4,864	↓
<b>Fetal Deaths Registered</b>	14	13	↓	49	43	↓

**COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program Birth/Deaths Certificates – Fiscal Year Data**

Vital Statistics Services	Sept 2022	Sept 2023		FY 22-23 (Sept)	FY 23-24 (Sept)	
Birth Certificates Sold (walk-in)	31	43	↑	121	147	↑
Birth Certificates Mail	103	116	↑	357	431	↑
Birth Certificates Online Orders	3,349	3,061	↓	11,842	11,878	↑

Birth Certificates Billed	118	79	↓	330	306	↓
<b>Birth Certificates Number of Total Sales</b>	3,601	3,299	↓	12,650	12,762	↑
Death Certificates Sold (walk-in)	26	8	↓	40	57	↑
Death Certificates Mail	151	155	↑	435	519	↑
Death Certificates Online Orders	7,383	6,799	↓	23,609	21,086	↓
Death Certificates Billed	21	37	↑	86	112	↑
<b>Death Certificates Number of Total Sales</b>	7,581	6,999	↓	24,170	21,774	↓

**COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program Birth/Deaths Cert. Sales by Source – Fiscal Year Data**

<b>Vital Statistics Sales by Source</b>	<b>Sept 2022</b>	<b>Sept 2023</b>		<b>FY 22-23 (Sept)</b>	<b>FY 23-24 (Sept)</b>	
Birth Certificates Sold Valley View (walk-in)	.9%	1.3%	↑	1%	1.2%	↑
Birth Certificates Mail	2.9%	3.5%	↑	2.8%	3.4%	↑
Birth Certificates Online Orders	93%	92.8%	↓	93.6%	93.1%	↓
Birth Certificates Billed	3.3%	2.4%	↓	2.6%	2.4%	↓
Death Certificates Sold Valley View (walk-in)	.3%	.1%	↓	.2%	.3%	↑
Death Certificates Mail	2%	2.2%	↑	1.8%	2.4%	↑
Death Certificates Online Orders	97.4%	97.1%	↓	97.7%	96.8%	↓
Death Certificates Billed	.3%	.5%	↑	.4%	.5%	↑

**COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program Birth/Deaths Certificates Sales – Fiscal Year Data**

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Sept 2022</b>	<b>Sept 2023</b>		<b>FY 22-23 (Sept)</b>	<b>FY 23-24 (Sept)</b>	
<b>Birth Certificates (\$25)</b>	\$90,025	\$82,475	↓	\$316,250	\$319,050	↑
<b>Death Certificates (\$25)</b>	\$189,525	\$174,975	↓	\$604,250	\$544,350	↓
<b>Births Registrations (\$13)</b>	\$33,371	\$29,029	↓	\$117,767	\$109,616	↓
<b>Deaths Registrations (\$13)</b>	\$21,242	\$19,721	↓	\$68,289	\$62,946	↓
<b>Convenience Fee (\$2)</b>	\$7,238	\$6,356	↓	\$25,334	\$23,988	↓
<b>Miscellaneous Admin</b>	\$489	\$490	↑	\$1,726	\$1,695	↓
<b>Total Vital Records Revenue</b>	\$341,890	\$313,046	↓	\$1,133,616	\$1,061,645	↓

\*Numbers will change once stable

**COMMUNITY HEALTH Passport Program – Fiscal Year Data**

**B. PASSPORT SERVICES** – Passport Services is appointment only. Passport photos remain suspended.

	Sept 2022	Sept 2023		FY 22-23 (Sept)	FY 23-24 (Sept)	
<b>Applications</b>						
Passport Applications	745	581	↓	2,201	2,061	↓
	Sept 2022	Sept 2023		FY 22-23 (Sept)	FY 23-24 (Sept)	
<b>Revenue</b>						
Passport Execution/Acceptance fee (\$35)	\$26,075	\$20,335	↓	\$77,035	\$72,135	↓

**V. HEALTH EQUITY**

**A.** The Health Equity program received a No Cost Extension from the Center for Disease Control to build, leverage, and expand infrastructure support for COVID prevention and control among populations that are at higher risk and underserved.

1. The program continues to collaborate with SNHD programs and grant subrecipients to plan and coordinate COVID community strategies and events.

**B.** The Health Equity Program works towards reducing health disparities through increasing organizational capacity and implementing community strategies.

1. On September 8th, 2023, the Health Equity team participated in the NV Hands Senior Wellness event and provided information and resources to 300+ senior residents.

2. On September 8th, 2023, the Health Equity team participated in the Feria De Recursos Para La Comunidad and provided information and resources to families.

**VI. SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (SNPHL)**

**A. Clinical Testing:**

1. The SNHD Nursing Division: molecular and microbiology culture, Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) testing.

2. SNHD STD department: the CDC Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (GISP) as well as enhanced Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (eGISP). SNPHL performs NAAT and culture testing of N. gonorrhoeae isolates and submits isolates to a reference laboratory for the determination of antibiotic susceptibility patterns. SNPHL has also joined eGISP Part B to expand culture-independent testing for antimicrobial resistance genes of gonococcal isolates.

3. A total monthly samples tested is listed in the following table:



Test Name	Monthly Count	Avg Year to Date
GC Cultures	72	67
NAAT NG/CT	1082	1104
Syphilis	871	965
RPR/RPR Titers	175/76	193/95
Hepatitis Total	1226	958
HIV/differentiated	622/26	639/18
HIV RNA	96	73

4. COVID testing:

- SARS-CoV-2 PCR extraction is currently performed on the KingFisher Flex platform only.
- SNPHL is to maintain the capacity of 2000 tests/day with a turnaround-time of <48 hours (TAT 2Day- currently at / near goal).
- For September, the average daily testing was 28 and the average turnaround time was 31 hours for PCR testing from the collection date to the release of the test report.
- IT created easy patient accession and direct report verification from SNPHL LIMS into SNHD patient report portal.
- Incorporate high throughput instruments such as Eppendorf 5073 automation of specimen fluid handling station.
- Molecular laboratory will add Tecan instrument after installing the updated script for the SARS-CoV-2 WGS procedure. The field person from Tecan will come to install the script in September.

A monthly summary of COVID PCR/NAAT testing is listed as follows:

Month	# PCR& NAAT/#POS	COVID	# PCR\$ NAAT/#POS
January	8775/722	July	1216/85
February	6614/542	August	527/198
March	6676/497	September	555/139
April	5174/4335	October	
May	4544/244	November	

June	2103/136	December	
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5. Reportable disease reports:

- SNPHL continues to perform 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.
- A monthly summary of reportable diseases tests is listed as follows:

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Campylobacter	Campy ID	3	7	2	7	7	10	9	2	7				
	Campy Screen	7	10	6	10	11	12	13	5	10				
Neisseria species	Gonorrhoeae Culture	70	66	34	56	71	75	61	101	72				
	Gram Stain/WBC	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0				
	Neisseria ID	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	2				
	Haemophilus ID	0	0	8	2	3	0	1	1	1				
Unknown ID	Bacterial ID	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3				
	WGS (PulseNet)	24	21	24	33	36	37	34	29	27				
Salmonella	Salmonella Screen	16	14	13	17	25	26	26	25	17				
	Salmonella Serotype	15	10	12	17	25	21	21	24	16				
Shigella	Shigella Screen	4	7	10	10	4	6	3	8	5				
	Shigella Serotype	4	5	12	3	3	3	2	3	3				

STEC	STEC Screen	4	0	7	8	1	5	7	3	1				
	STEC Serotype	4	0	1	2	1	3	2	0	3				
Unknown	Stool Culture	3	14	2	4	5	0	0	0	0				
Vibrio	Vibrio ID	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	4				
	Vibrio Screen	0	0	1	1	0	6	0	0	6				
Yersinia	Yersinia Culture/ID	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3	0				

**B. Epidemiological Testing and Consultation:**

1. SNPHL participates in the SNHD Outbreak Investigation Committee and Foodborne Illness Taskforce. There were zero cases for GI outbreak investigation in September.
2. SNPHL continues to report results of influenza testing to the CDC National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS). In September, SNPHL performed 22 respiratory panels on the BioFire.

**C. Emergency response and reportable disease isolate testing report:**

1. 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. SNPHL’s additional mission is as a member of the CDC Laboratory Response Network (LRN) testing for the identification of potential biological weapons/agents on environmental daily samples within its unique BSL3 environment.

2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Select Agent Rule out (total PCR)	0	0	2	2	1	0	1	2	4			

3. SNPHL is clinically validated for using Whole Genome Sequencing (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.

4. SNPHL performed 29 Whole Genome Sequencing tests (WGS) as part of PulseNet Foodborne Outbreak Surveillance in September 2023.
5. SNPHL has completed validation for all bacterial groups on the Bruker MALDI-TOF instrument for streamlined screening of bacterial isolates, to decrease turnaround time and modernize microbiological identification methods.
6. SNPHL is validated for sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 and variants of concern through the identification of lineages and clades.
7. SNPHL has sustained capacity of sequencing many 192 SARS-CoV-2-positive RNA extracts per week with expectations of increasing this capacity with appropriate staffing, instrumentation, and method development. As of September 2023, SNPHL has sequenced 115 SARS-CoV-2-positive RNA extracts. The new Laboratory Technologist and Laboratory Assistant have completed their training and have been aiding in SARS-CoV-2 sequencing.
8. SNPHL is clinically validated 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.
9. SNPHL coordinates and participates with Environmental Health and Veritas Labs for Legionella surveillance.

2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Legionella	7	1	24	8	0	8	8	7	0			

10. SNPHL provides vector testing for Environmental Services, Viral testing for Zika, West Nile, Western Equine Encephalitis, and Saint Louis encephalitis. Our facility hosted a CDC demonstration for the Vector team. In September, we tested a total of 425 mosquito pool samples. One (1) positive WNV mosquito pool sample was identified in July. Environmental Health released the test result to the public after we informed the test result to them.
11. As part of the Gonococcal Isolation Surveillance Program (GISP) and enhanced GISP (eGISP), in September, a total of 72 clinical isolates, Neisseria gonorrhoeae 15 isolates

and Neisseria meningitidis two (2) isolates, were collected and will be sent to either the regional laboratory for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) or the CDC, respectively. Remnant NAATs or N. gonorrhoeae samples will be sent to the CDC for molecular-based AST testing as part of eGISP Part B.

**D. All-Hazards Preparedness:**

1. SNPHL provides / assists testing for SNHD COVID Emergency Incident Response, local community outreach, CCDC jail-detention centers, institutions of higher education, and long-term nursing facilities Rapid-Antigen POC (CDC-EUA: Abbott IDNow; Qiagen Sofia; BD Vector) with outbreak confirmation RT-PCR testing supported by SNPHL.
2. SNPHL provides COVID Biosafety Training/Guidelines to Non-Traditional testing sites.
3. SNPHL coordinates with training/exercises for First Responders including local Civil Support Team, HazMat, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department.
4. SNPHL provides information to local laboratorians on CDC packaging and shipping infectious substances and the chain of custody procedures.
5. Provided onsite training for COVID online ordering applications for long-term care facilities.
6. Supplied Biosafety Guidance to Sentinel Sites regarding Monkeypox.
7. Furnished Monkeypox and Bivalent COVID Booster vaccination to laboratory staff.
8. Perpetuated Biosafety Training and guidance to SNPHL personnel.

**E. September 2023 SNPHL Activity Highlights:**

1. SNPHL has a stable CDC supply of Viral Transport Medium (VTM) used in COVID collection kits.
2. Renewed certificate from CDC the Division of Select Agent and Toxin (DSAT) has been received. The expiration date for renewing the certificate is September 19, 2026.
3. The clinical health laboratory purchased three (3) instruments for clinical testing to enhance the community health service. SNPHL received the urine analysis and Hematology instruments. Currently, the validation for both instruments has begun.
4. The new senior lab technician in the Microbiology Laboratory has accepted the offer and will report to work on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.
5. Our Emergency Response laboratory started to validate the warrior panel and verification process with CDC.
6. According to the WGS and genomic data analysis, the Omicron variant XBB.1.5 and XBB.1.16, lineages are domain lineage, .4%, 22%, and 22% respectively, in September,

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.

7. SNPHL still remains the service for the Monkeypox testing for the residents of Clark County even though the ICS for Monkeypox has been demobilized.
8. According to the data of influenza surveillance in this flu season, the A/H3 and A/H1 are major subtype of influenza and the percentage of ratio between two subtypes are 80% and 20%, respectively.
9. SNPHL participates in the CDC Avian Flu surveillance project by sending the testing guidance and specimen collection procedure to the local hospitals through HAN system. Any ICU patient with influenza A positive must send the specimen to our laboratory to do influenza subtyping in order to rule out avian influenza.
10. There are safety concerns for the SNPHL facility security camera upgrade which is currently under process by Facilities. The facility team has purchased the cameras, upgraded the wire system, and will install the cameras in September. This project will replace the current surveillance cameras and software system to enhance the quality of images and cover more areas of the laboratory building.
11. Currently our BSL-3 laboratory has detected a total of 46 possible Monkeypox cases. Those presumptive samples have been sent to CDC this week to CDC for a confirmation test. There hasn't been any Monkeypox cases received since May 2023.
12. The builder/Architect for the SNPHL Lab expansion project has met facility team and laboratory staff to discuss the laboratory design. The builder/Architect had on-site visits and had lab tours. We all agreed that have weekly meeting to review and updated the lab design on October 12, 2023.

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

September SNPHL Services	2022	2023	
Clinical Testing Services <sup>1</sup>	4,535	4,693	↑
Epidemiology Services <sup>2</sup>	383	791	↑
State Branch Public Health Laboratory Services <sup>3</sup>	8,914	310	↓
All-Hazards Preparedness Services <sup>4</sup>	10	7	↓
Environmental Health Services <sup>5</sup>	653	719	↑

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes Stool culture, EIA, Norovirus PCR, Respiratory Pathogen PCR, Epidemiological investigations, or consultations.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Includes Preparedness training, teleconferences, and Inspections.

<sup>5</sup> Includes vector testing.