



# Memorandum

**Date:** November 16, 2023

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

**From:** Michael Johnson, PhD, *Director of Community Health*  
Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH, *District Health Officer* *FL*

*MJ*

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

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

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

Congratulations to our Barber/Beauty Shop Health Outreach Program (BSHOP/BeSHOP) who received the Nevada Public Health Association's (NPHA) Public Health 2023 Program of the Year Award at the NPHA annual conference in Reno. CDPP staff were presented with the award at the SNHD Board of Health meeting in September.

Our CDPP partnered with 15 Partners for a Healthy Nevada (PHN) members and other community partners to promote the 5-2-1-0 Healthy Habits Everyday initiative during Childhood Obesity Awareness month in September. Sponsored activities included a pop-up produce stand, youth sports league scholarships, a community walk/run, a virtual cooking class, distribution of 5-2-1-0 materials at community events, and sponsorship of, and participation in, the Healthy Kids Festival. Other components of the month-long awareness campaign included a paid media campaign and several earned media opportunities. Communication toolkits in English and Spanish, free downloadable videos, flyers, and posters to promote 5-2-1-0 were also shared with partners and are available for download on our websites in English and Spanish.

CDPP worked with City of Henderson (COH) to increase access to healthy foods among low-income seniors by increasing utilization of their downtown farmer's market. In addition to providing free transportation for seniors from two (2) downtown area Senior Centers to a farmers' market, COH with CDPP support, relocated the downtown farmers market to Army Street, adjacent to one (1) of the downtown senior centers. COH provided \$5 vouchers to use at the market and the market also accepted SNAP and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) coupons. As a result of the collaboration, the voucher redemption rate among seniors

increased from 14% to 96%. COH agreed to permanently relocate the market to Army Street and has committed to continue providing vouchers throughout 2024. The project successfully enabled low-income seniors to access high-quality produce and better utilize their SNAP and SFMNP benefits.

With Every Heartbeat is Life (WEHIL) training was provided to six (6) CHWs from the Nevada Faith and Health Coalition who work in three (3) places of faith serving the African American community, by our CDPP staff. WEHIL is a cardiovascular health program developed for use in the African American community. CHWs who attended the training received a WEHIL Instructor Manual. CDPP maintains a WEHIL Lending Library with all materials and supplies needed to teach the WEHIL class. CDPP will continue to provide support to CHWs as they schedule and organize WEHIL classes at their places of faith.

Diabetes Self-Management, Education & Support (DSMES) classes were provided by our CDPP staff in September, to 46 participants including one (1) virtual class with nine (9) participants and one (1) in-person class with three (3) participants in English. As part of Hispanic Heritage Month, two (2) in-person DSMES classes were provided in Spanish. 34 people participated in one (1) of the Spanish DSMES classes.

Maintaining partnership with the RTC and Prevail Marketplace, our CDPP staff hosted the September Pop-Up Produce Stand at the RTC Bonneville Transit Center. Fall Pop-Up Stands will run monthly through December and offer low-cost fresh produce. Pop-Up Stands accept SNAP. The September Pop-Up Stand sold over 280lbs of produce. 35% of all sales were SNAP/EBT transactions.

At the September Southern Nevada Breastfeeding Coalition (SNBFC) meeting, CDPP staff participated and coordinated the guest speaker: Dr. Yabo - CDC Advisor. Dr. Yabo spoke about the importance of flu vaccine for pregnant and lactating people as well as families with young children. 15 people attended the presentation. CDPP also supported the 'Nursing Nook' hosted by SNBFC at the Las Vegas Baby Expo in September. The Nursing Nook provided a safe, secure, and comfortable place for lactating parents to nurse or express breast milk. Breastfeeding resources were also provided.

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

Communication continued with TCP staff & the leadership of Nevada State University to offer technical assistance for the adoption of a tobacco-free campus policy. This policy is on track to be announced in Spring 2024 and implemented Fall 2024. Announcement and implementation dates are now being determined. SNHD staff developed a media engagement plan for Nevada State, including designs and mock-ups, and an online policy guide.

Our team collaborated with the Mexican Patriotic Committee to promote a tobacco-free lifestyle at the annual Fiestas Patrias celebration held at the Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza at Lorenzi Park. Culturally appropriate tobacco cessation resource flyers were distributed at the event entrance. The event was smoke and vape-free. No smoking and no vaping signage was posted throughout event grounds as friendly reminders to the public. Announcements promoting the Nevada Tobacco Quitline were supplied in English and Spanish throughout the duration of the event. Over 1,000 people attended the event. Staff also promoted tobacco-free



lifestyles and distributed culturally appropriate tobacco cessation materials at the El Grito event at the East Las Vegas Community Center and at the Container Park Las Vegas Latino Festival reaching over total of 2,000 participants.

A new toolkit was developed for parents to support vape-free lifestyles among teens in Southern Nevada, which is now available in Spanish. This toolkit will be distributed to middle and high schools in the Clark County School District throughout the school year.

The TCP team created a new media campaign to highlight the recent increase in e-cigarette sales in Nevada. These social media posts are now being shared across all Get Healthy Clark County platforms to raise awareness among the public and community stakeholders.

We hosted an 8-week in-person tobacco cessation program in Spanish. Participants can develop a personalized plan to help them quit, while obtaining professional support and free nicotine replacement therapy. The group sessions are taking place at the East Las Vegas Community Center. The first group session was held on September 27<sup>th</sup>. This is being offered to increase access to cessation options for those individuals who may not be comfortable with seeking telephonic cessation assistance.

### **C. Other Efforts**

OCDPHP has received additional funding from the CDC to support COVD 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 September:

1. Fifteen (15) community health workers were trained. To date, 369 community-level spokespersons have been trained through this effort.
2. Three (3) community events to distribute information and promote vaccination occurred reaching 2,300 individuals. To date 102 events have reached over 51,000 individuals.
3. 12 new pop-up vaccine clinics were offered with 82 people receiving a COVD vaccine and 184 people receiving a flu vaccine. A total of 6,397 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 airing in May and ran through September. To date this campaign has reached 1.8 million people. This project concluded on September 29, 2023. A final programmatic report is currently being developed.

**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. This Committee discussed the education component for the Paramedic Mentorship/Internship Program, and the Trauma Field Triage Criteria and Adult Cardiac Arrest protocols.

**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 DDP continued working on proposed revisions to the Clark County EMS Emergency Medical Care Protocols.

**C. Medical Advisory Board (MAB)**

The primary mission of the MAB is to support the District 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 MAB 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 Southern Nevada Health District whose duties relate to the administration and enforcement of EMS Regulations as an ex-officio member. The Board heard reports from the sub-committees.

**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 Board reviewed the 2nd Quarter 2023 trauma transport data, announced additions to the Trauma website, and reviewed the updated TFTC national guidelines, which will go into effect on January 1, 2024.

**E. OEMSTS – October 2022 / 2023 Data**

September EMS Statistics	September 2022	September 2023	
Total certificates issued	69	84	↑
New licenses issued	59	71	↑
Renewal licenses issued (recert only)	2	0	↓
Driver Only	28	37	↑
Active Certifications: EMT	794	912	↑
Active Certifications: Advanced EMT	1638	1872	↑
Active Certifications: Paramedic	1829	1967	↑
Active Certifications: RN	65	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. The Excessive Heat Plan was submitted to leadership for review.
5. Submitted the Invasive Aedes Response Annex for review to leadership.
6. 37 SNHD employees were FIT tested for personal protective equipment.

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

1. The Spores Bowl Full Scale Exercise was successfully conducted October 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. This exercise comprised of a bioterrorism scenario, Laboratory, Bio Watch, Epi, and healthcare response was held Thursday, October 12, 2023, to include: four (4) Federal, four (4) State, two (2) County, and three (3) City Agencies, three (3) hospitals, one (1) local law enforcement and one (1) resort.
2. On October 14<sup>th</sup>, an SNHD Point of Dispensing (POD) exercise was conducted to test plans for mass dispensing of medication to the public and those with handicap, disability, and limited access to functional needs. 160 SNHD employees and 25 volunteers were trained in POD operations.
3. OPHP Trainers continue to develop Position Specific Task Books and related training curricula, revised PHP New Hire Orientation & Annual ICS/Planning P/Forms training and perpetual updates to POD training for October FSE.



4. OPHP Planners provided POD Training to the Cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas.
5. Trainers and our Clinical Advisor provided ICS 400 training on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.
6. Our Clinical Advisor attended a Sports and Special Event Risk Management training provided by TEEEX on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>.
7. The Clinical Advisor attended an Emergency Management Seminar with the Office of Foreign Ministries and local Consulates, hosted by Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, City of Las Vegas Office of Emergency Management and Clark County Office of Emergency Management on Oct 5<sup>th</sup>.

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

1. The SNHPC Clinical Advisor and Readiness and Response Coordinator planned and completed the review of two (2) hospital emergency operations plans.
2. Our SNHPC Clinical Advisor provided support to ongoing planning for Formula 1 and Superbowl 2024 response.
3. The SNHPC Sub-committee established for HVA 2024 update, meetings scheduled for November.

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

1. Special Event Assessments for: Shriners Childrens Open PGA; Fall NASCAR Weekend South Point 400, When We Were Young, TwitchCon; National Business Aviation Association-Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition; LV Aces Championship Parade; and SEMA Show.
2. Collaborated for Formula 1 and Super Bowl planning.

**E. Grants and Administration:**

1. Our OPHP team received the subgrant awards for budget period 5 for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program, the Cities Readiness Initiative, and the Hospital Preparedness Program from the state. These have been signed by SNHD and are awaiting signatures from the state.
2. We are preparing budgets for budget period 4 (2022-2023) carryover grants for all subawards.

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

1. One (1) MRC Volunteer supported the SNHD Immunization Clinic in October, assisting patients checking in.
2. Fifteen volunteers trained and exercised POD plans at the Spores Bowl POD exercise.
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 Q2**

(Economic impact rates updated August 2023):

Activity	October	November	December
Preparedness Exercise	81		
Community Event/BP	0		
SNHD Clinic	4.5		
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>85.5</b>		
<b>Economic impact</b>	<b>\$2,718.90</b>		

**IV. VITAL RECORDS**

- A. October 2023 is currently showing a 10% decrease in birth certificate sales in comparison to October 2022. Death certificate sales currently showing a 4.6% decrease in comparison to October 2022. SNHD received revenues of \$27,276 for birth registrations, \$20,995 for death registrations; and an additional \$6,737 in miscellaneous fees.

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

Vital Statistics Services	Oct 2022	Oct 2023		FY 22-23 (Oct)	FY 23-24 (Oct)	
<b>Births Registered</b>	2,148	1,541	↓	8,315	6,911	↓
<b>Deaths Registered</b>	1,433	1,150	↓	6,642	6,014	↓
<b>Fetal Deaths Registered</b>	18	22	↑	68	65	↓

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

Vital Statistics Services	Oct 2022	Oct 2023		FY 22-23 (Oct)	FY 23-24 (Oct)	
Birth Certificates Sold (walk-in)	60	43	↓	181	190	↑
Birth Certificates Mail	118	120	↑	475	551	↑
Birth Certificates Online Orders	3,237	2,901	↓	15,079	14,779	↓
Birth Certificates Billed	121	114	↓	451	420	↓
<b>Birth Certificates Number of Total Sales</b>	<b>3,536</b>	<b>3,178</b>	<b>↓</b>	<b>16,186</b>	<b>15,940</b>	<b>↓</b>
Death Certificates Sold (walk-in)	8	23	↑	48	80	↑
Death Certificates Mail	178	164	↓	613	683	↑
Death Certificates Online Orders	7,435	7,105	↓	31,044	28,191	↓

Death Certificates Billed	55	30	↓	141	142	↑
<b>Death Certificates Number of Total Sales</b>	<b>7,676</b>	<b>7,322</b>	<b>↓</b>	<b>31,836</b>	<b>29,096</b>	<b>↓</b>

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

Vital Statistics Sales by Source	Oct 2022	Oct 2023		FY 22-23 (Oct)	FY 23-24 (Oct)	
Birth Certificates Sold Valley View (walk-in)	1.7%	1.4%	↓	1.1%	1.2%	↑
Birth Certificates Mail	3.3%	3.8%	↑	2.9%	3.5%	↑
Birth Certificates Online Orders	91.5%	91.3%	↓	93.2%	92.7%	↓
Birth Certificates Billed	3.4%	3.6%	↓	2.8%	2.6%	↓
Death Certificates Sold Valley View (walk-in)	.1%	.3%	↑	.2%	.3%	↑
Death Certificates Mail	2.3%	2.2%	↓	1.9%	2.3%	↑
Death Certificates Online Orders	96.9%	97%	↑	97.5%	96.9%	↓
Death Certificates Billed	.7%	.4%	↓	.4%	.5%	↑

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

Revenue	Oct 2022	Oct 2023		FY 22-23 (Oct)	FY 23-24 (Oct)	
Birth Certificates (\$25)	\$88,400	\$79,450	↓	\$404,650	\$398,500	↓
Death Certificates (\$25)	\$191,900	\$183,050	↓	\$796,150	\$727,400	↓
Births Registrations (\$13)	\$32,435	\$27,274	↓	\$150,202	\$136,890	↓
Deaths Registrations (\$13)	\$22,035	\$20,995	↓	\$90,324	\$83,941	↓
Convenience Fee (\$2)	\$6,990	\$6,228	↓	\$32,324	\$30,216	↓
Miscellaneous Admin	\$551	\$509	↓	\$2,277	\$2,204	↓
<b>Total Vital Records Revenue</b>	<b>\$324,311</b>	<b>\$317,506</b>	<b>↓</b>	<b>\$1,475,927</b>	<b>\$1,379,151</b>	<b>↓</b>

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

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

Applications	Oct 2022	Oct 2023		FY 22-23 (Oct)	FY 23-24 (Oct)	
Passport Applications	788	585	↓	2,989	2,646	↓
Revenue	Oct 2022	Oct 2023		FY 22-23 (Oct)	FY 23-24 (Oct)	
Passport Execution/Acceptance fee (\$35)	\$27,580	\$20,475	↓	\$104,615	\$92,610	↓



**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 October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Health Equity team and grant partners: Puentes & Clark County Law Foundation, provided interviews to local radio station 98.1. During these interviews, information on available services resources were provided to Spanish speaking residents of Las Vegas.
  - 2. On October 24<sup>th</sup>, the Health Equity team participated in the Clark County Health Fair, providing resources and service information to 300 participants.
  - 3. During the month of October, the Health Equity team facilitated four (4) workshops for SNHD leadership and staff.

**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	79	68
NAAT NG/CT	1122	1106
Syphilis	938	963
RPR/RPR Titers	189/92	192/94

Hepatitis Total	1210	958
HIV/differentiated	689/26	644
HIV RNA	93	75

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 October, the average daily testing was 16 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 October.

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	487/178
May	4544/244	November	
June	2103/136	December	

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	
Campylobacter	Campy ID	3	7	2	7	7	10	9	2	7	11			
	Campy Screen	7	10	6	10	11	12	13	5	10	23			
Neisseria species	Gonorrhoeae Culture	70	66	34	56	71	75	61	101	72	79			
	Gram Stain/WBC	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0	0			
	Neisseria ID	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	2	0			
	Haemophilus ID	0	0	8	2	3	0	1	1	1	5			
Unknown ID	Bacterial ID	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0			
	WGS (PulseNet)	24	21	24	33	36	37	34	29	27	36			
Salmonella	Salmonella Screen	16	14	13	17	25	26	26	25	17	26			
	Salmonella Serotype	15	10	12	17	25	21	21	24	16	20			
Shigella	Shigella Screen	4	7	10	10	4	6	3	8	5	11			
	Shigella Serotype	4	5	12	3	3	3	2	3	3	4			
STEC	STEC Screen	4	0	7	8	1	5	7	3	1	8			
	STEC Serotype	4	0	1	2	1	3	2	0	3	0			
Unknown	Stool Culture	3	14	2	4	5	0	0	0	0	0			
Vibrio	Vibrio ID	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	4	1			
	Vibrio Screen	0	0	1	1	0	6	0	0	6	6			
Yersinia	Yersinia Culture/ID	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	3	0	1			

**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 October.
2. SNPHL continues to report results of influenza testing to the CDC National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS). In October, SNPHL performed 30 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	0		

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 36 Whole Genome Sequencing tests (WGS) as part of PulseNet Foodborne Outbreak Surveillance in October 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 October 2023, SNPHL has sequenced 178 SARS-CoV-2-positive RNA extracts.
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. As of August 2023, SNPHL conducts Legionella water testing for certain Legionella cases reported to ACDC and EH.

2023	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Legionella	7	1	24	8	0	8	8	20	36	30		

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 October, we tested a total of 1317 mosquito pool samples. Twelve positive WNV mosquito pool samples were identified in October. 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 79 clinical isolates, Neisseria gonorrhoeae 18 isolates and Neisseria meningitidis four (4) 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. October 2023 SNPHL Activity Highlights:**

1. SNPHL has a stable CDC supply of Viral Transport Medium (VTM) used in COVID collection kits.
2. Passed LRN Challenge Panel with a 100% grade.
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 continued training and onboarding in SNPHL protocols.
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 EG.5, and XBB.1.16, lineages are domain lineages, 4%, 22%, and 22% respectively, in October, 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. Identified Monkeypox positive test results, for the first time since November of 2022. SNHD PIO issued a news release on 11/2/2023 relating to these findings and cases. The Whole Genome sequencing of October Monkeypox Positive samples is pending.
8. According to the data of influenza surveillance in this flu season, the A/H3 and A/H1 are major subtypes 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. SNHD Facilities completed the roof repair project and the upgraded camera installation project in October.



11. 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 to have weekly meeting to review and update the lab design on October 12, 2023.

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

October SNPHL Services	2022	2023	
Clinical Testing Services <sup>1</sup>	4,817	5,357	↑
Epidemiology Services <sup>2</sup>	534	1,173	↑
State Branch Public Health Laboratory Services <sup>3</sup>	7,110	339	↓
All-Hazards Preparedness Services <sup>4</sup>	7	7	-
Environmental Health Services <sup>5</sup>	41	1,347	↑

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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.

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

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