



Memorandum

Date: March 26, 2026

To: Southern Nevada District Board of Health

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

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

Subject: Community Health Division Monthly Activity Report – February 2026

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

A. Chronic Disease Prevention Program (CDPP)

Chronic Disease Physical Activity campaigns including the ‘**Let’s Socialcise**’ and ‘**Get Your Pedal On**’ were selected by the CDC to be listed in the CDC’s State and Community Health Media Center, an online repository of media and marketing materials for preventing obesity and chronic conditions. Once posted, they will be available for use by other communities around the country.

The annual **Slam Dunk Health Program** launched and will run through April 2026. The model practice program is a partnership between SNHD, the Clark County School District (CCSD) and the Las Vegas Aces WNBA team and promotes physical activity and healthy eating. This year, 644 CCSD classrooms in 104 CCSD elementary schools have signed up to participate. This equals an estimated 15,200 students who will participate in the challenge this year.

Staff submitted the **Recognition Program Annual Status Report to the American Diabetes Association (ADA)**. This report is required to maintain the ADA recognition for our Diabetes Self-Management, Education & Support (DSMES) classes. The report was approved as submitted.

To promote **2026 DSMES classes**, a news release was issued and generated multiple earned media opportunities including a news story that included interviews with both our Senior Health Educator and our Health Educator/LRD and a Spanish language class participant. In January, staff facilitated **two (2) DSMES classes** (one in English and one in Spanish) reaching fourteen (14) participants.

Staff facilitated a **Hypertension and Diabetes education class** in January at Destinations Alexander, an assisted living facility for older adults. In total, 26 participants attended the class.

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

Staff presented at the **Nevada Minority Health & Equity Coalition quarterly meeting** on the disproportional burden that tobacco has on African American Community, available tobacco cessation resources, and the upcoming Because We Matter Tobacco Free Living Summit. There were 62 people in attendance at the meeting.

SNHD Tobacco Control Program team member Cassandra Meraz was nominated and elected to sit on the **2026 Executive Board of the Nevada Tobacco Control & Smoke-free Coalition as the Board Secretary and Communications Chair**. The Nevada Tobacco Control & Smoke-free Coalition is a collaboration of organizations and individuals that work to promote smoke-free environments.

SNHD's **teen vaping prevention initiative, BreakDown**, continued to utilize social media strategies focused on changing social norms and dispelling the myths about vaping. Staff utilizes elements that teens relate to like social media, pop culture, music, and sports in order to create culturally appropriate messaging. Through this approach, staff successfully engaged students with vape-free messaging on social media increasing the follower count by 4% or 1,032 teens this month. In addition, the BreakDown movement successfully trained 714 student athletes on the health risks of vaping.

In partnership with the **SNHD Health Equity Program**, the Tobacco Control Program is working with the **SPARK YAC (Students Promoting Awareness, Responsibilities, and Knowledge Youth Advisory Committee)** on a project to increase awareness about the dangers of secondhand smoke and to encourage a voluntary tobacco-free policy at the College of Southern Nevada (CSN). SPARK YAC members will be collecting photo pledges from fellow students to show support for the initiative. The Tobacco Control Team attended meetings and provided training during January in preparation for the project.

Tobacco staff provided a **presentation at the Nevada (NV) HAND all-hands team meeting** on the benefits of tobacco-free policies. During the presentation, staff shared resources including complimentary materials and current tobacco cessation resources for both NV HAND residents and staff. Over 300 NV HAND team members were present for the presentation.

Staff attended an educational outreach event with the **Nevada Association of Student Councils (NASC) at their annual Southern Nevada Zone conference**. At this outreach event, staff distributed teen branded educational materials to promote tobacco/vape-free living and available tobacco cessation resources. The Nevada Association of Student Councils Zone conference was attended by 1,200+ students representing 44 high schools.

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 discussed education related to neonatal resuscitation and the finalization of the SNHD Paramedic Mentorship/Internship Program.

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.

This Committee reviewed draft protocol revisions to include in the July 2026 protocol rollout.

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 SNHD whose duties relate to the administration and enforcement of EMS Regulations as an ex-officio member.

This Board heard reports from the Education and Drug/Device/Protocol Committees.

D. OEMSTS – February 2025 / 2026 Data

February EMS Statistics	Feb	Feb		Mo. Fiscal
	2025	2026		Average
				2025-2026
Total certificates issued	107	71	↓	148
New licenses issued	97	67	↓	72
Renewal licenses issued (recert only)	6	2	↓	53
Driver Only	54	61	↑	56
Active Certifications: EMT	899	1177	↑	978
Active Certifications: Advanced EMT	1897	1896	↓	1739
Active Certifications: Paramedic	2154	2357	↑	2068
Active Certifications: RN	76	91	↑	79

III. OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS (OPHP)

A. Planning and Preparedness

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

(Emergency Planning & Preparedness)

1. Continued review and revision of:
 - a) Nuclear and Radiation
 - b) Community Reception Center
 - c) Administrative Preparedness
 - d) SNHD Basic EOP and Direction and Control Annexes
 - e) BioWatch
 - f) Recovery Annex
 - g) Medical Countermeasures Annex
 - h) Tularemia Threat Response Guide
 - i) SNHD Continuity of Operations Plan – Essential Records/Resources
2. SNHD Continuity of Operations Plan
 - a) A COOP working group and IT met in January to begin the review of each office's comprehensive list of Essential Records/Resources. Over the course of the next several months each office will review and update this section prioritizing each record and resource.
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) Planners attending the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health Quarterly Planning meeting.
4. Monthly SNHD Meetings
 - a) Central Safety Committee
 - b) Joint Labor Management Committee
 - c) Policy Committee (Manager)
 - d) Institutional Review Committee
 - e) Community Health Improvement Plan Steering Committee
 - i. Funding and Access to Care Working Group
 - f) Resort Emergency Management Working Group

B. Training, Exercises, and Public Health Workforce Development

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. OPHP continues to support the City of Las Vegas with provision of ICS 300/400/G191 training schedule. ICS 300 was provided on February 3rd – 5th for 24 students.

2. A CPR course and skills training was provided February 12th for four (4) SNHD staff at the SNHD Decatur location.
3. Trainers provided Incident Command Standard Awareness Training to twelve (12) students on February 25th at the Decatur location.
4. Our trainer and Administrative Assistant coordinated BLS instructor meeting to review updates to the AHA 2025 BLS Standards, effective March 1st.
5. The Senior Planner attended Grant Procedures training.
6. Attended the Nevada Emergency Preparedness Association – Preparedness Summit 2026 February 10th - 11th.
7. Participated in the AWR 330 – Whole Community Planning Training on February 9th.
8. Collaborated on the COOP 101 Training on February 9th.
9. Supported the Southern Nevada Food Council Meeting- Staff provided information and helped facilitate a tabletop related to Emergency Food Planning for Southern Nevada.

Upcoming Training and Exercise Events

1. Upcoming ALERRT Civilian Response Active Shooter Events (CRASE) briefing confirmed for EH Solid Waste on March 5th.
2. 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 and ICS Position Specific Training.
3. Staff held the Radiation Workshop on February 23rd. Forty community and state partners attended. Knowledge learned from the workshop will be used to begin drafting the Community Reception Center Annex to the Medical Counter Measures Plan.
4. Our planners continue efforts for the SNHD Radiation Game which will be held on April 22nd.
5. The Bio Functional Exercise Concept and Objectives meeting was held February 19th. The Initial Planning meeting is scheduled for April 30th.
6. Our staff will be importing contacts into Regroup in March and will be conducting an all staff call down drill on March 26th to test the system.

C. Southern Nevada Healthcare Preparedness Coalition (SNHPC)

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. SNHPC held its monthly meeting. Supervisor, Senior Planners, and Planners attended.
2. Our Clinical Advisor presented training on the OSCAR/ARF at the monthly meeting on February 5th.
3. The Planner distributed cybersecurity questionnaire at monthly meeting on February 5th.
4. OPHP Planners attended the Emergency Management Committee meetings for UMC.
5. Our Senior Planners, Planners, Clinical Advisor, and Trainer will begin reviewing and updating the SNHPC COOP, Cybersecurity Assessment, Extended Downtime Health Care Delivery Impact Assessment, Information Sharing Plan, Med Surge Support Plan, Recovery Plan, and Resource Management Plan.

6. The Senior Planner completed draft of the Cybersecurity Assessment and is currently under review by the Clinical Advisor.
7. OPHP assembled MCI bags for the EDs to support MCI surge. Bags will be distributed at the April meeting.
8. The Hospital Area Command exercises identified field triage as an area for improvement. OPHP obtained a START Triage Tabletop Training Kit. We will begin Triage Training with the EDs in Fall 2026.
9. Our Senior Planner and Clinical Advisor provided a presentation on Hospital Area Command at Utah State EM on February 12th.

New/Upcoming Activities

1. Ongoing coordination for the 2026 TEEX trainings:
 - a) Medical Management of Chemical I, Biological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) Events PER-211 August 26th – 27th, hosted by City of North Las Vegas (NLV City Hall).
 - b) Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Management MGT-439 October 7th – 8th, 2026, hosted by Dignity Health Siena Campus.
2. Continued planning and coordination for HERT course at UMC on March 25th - 26th.
3. Trainers confirmed instructional support to DEM Basic Academy March 2nd – 6th, at Station 18.
4. Our Trainer confirmed presentation by SNHD Office of Communications/Public Information for July SNHPC meeting.

D. PHP Technician and N-95 Fit Testing

1. Twenty-nine SNHD Employees were FIT tested for personal protective equipment during the month of February.

E. Fusion Center Public Health Analyst

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. Disseminated public health Information between SNHD and the Southern Nevada Counter Terrorism Center (SNCTC) in February.
2. Analyst provided public health input for threat assessments on special events of local significance including conventions and sports events.
3. Monthly Analyst continues to provide weekly verbal public health briefings during SNCTC collaboration meetings.
4. 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 for production of monthly joint public health bulletins.
7. The OPHP Analyst contributes to a public health section to the Nevada Annual Threat Assessment.

F. Grants and Administration

Ongoing/Continuing Activities

1. The manager continues to monitor grant deliverables and budgets for FY 2026 with the State of Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health.
2. Our manager continues to represent Community Health Division management on various SNHD working group committees and initiatives.
3. The OPHP Manager and Supervisor completed FTE worksheets and budgets for FY2027.
4. OPHP Manager continues to reduce physical inventory of miscellaneous stockpiled preparedness resources and transfer of excess grant purchased surplus property to community partners for use.
5. Manager, Supervisor and Senior Planners attended the Partners’ Meeting.

G. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) of Southern Nevada

1. MRC Coordinator attended the SNHPC meeting, NEPA Summit, planned training and activities for upcoming months, sent out newsletters, and continued to recruit and deactivate volunteers.
2. Our MRC Coordinator participated in the NEPA Summit and Radiological Workshop with the intent of promoting the use of volunteers in the emergency management field.
3. The MRC Coordinator attended Incident Command Awareness Training.

MRC Volunteer Hours FY2026 Q2

Activity	January	February	March
Training	38		
Community Event			
SNHD Clinic			
Emergency Deployment			
Total Hours	38	0	
Economic Impact	\$1,322.02		
FY2025 Total Hours	36	8	
FY2025 Economic Impact	\$1,205.64	\$300.98	

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

IV. VITAL RECORDS

- A. February is currently showing a **33% decrease in birth certificate** sales in comparison to February 2025. **Death certificate** sales are currently showing a **9% decrease** in comparison to

February 2025. SNHD received revenues of \$25,571 for birth registrations, \$21,853 for death registrations; and an additional \$775 in miscellaneous fees.

COMMUNITY HEALTH Vital Statistics Program – Fiscal Year Data

Vital Statistics Services	Feb 2025	Feb 2026		Yr Average 02/2025-02/2026
Births Registered	1,745	1,360	↓	1,957
Deaths Registered	1,926	1,736	↓	1,776
Fetal Deaths Registered	23	11	↓	15

Vital Statistics Services	Feb 2025	Feb 2026		Yr Average 02/2025-02/2026
Birth Certificates Sold (walk-in)	2	7	↑	11
Birth Certificates Mail	152	93	↓	113
Birth Certificates Online Orders	4,134	2,666	↓	3,898
Birth Certificates Billed	79	124	↑	109
Birth Certificates Number of Total Sales	4,367	2,890	↓	4,131
Death Certificates Sold (walk-in)	16	19	↑	16
Death Certificates Mail	160	115	↓	157
Death Certificates Online Orders	8,357	7,582	↓	7,771
Death Certificates Billed	44	64	↑	47
Death Certificates Number of Total Sales	8,577	7,780	↓	7,993

Revenue	Feb 2025	Feb 2026		Yr Average 02/2025-02/2026
Birth Certificates (\$25)	\$109,175	\$72,250	↓	\$103,284
Death Certificates (\$25)	\$214,425	\$194,500	↓	\$199,817
Births Registrations (\$13)	\$37,206	\$25,571	↓	\$34,777
Deaths Registrations (\$13)	\$24,622	\$21,853	↓	\$22,758
Convenience Fee (\$2)	\$8,290	\$5,938	↓	\$7,909
Miscellaneous Admin	\$709	\$775	↑	\$635
Total Vital Records Revenue	\$394,427	\$320,887	↓	\$369,180

COMMUNITY HEALTH Passport Program – Fiscal Year Data

B. PASSPORT SERVICES – Passport Services is appointment only.

Applications	Feb 2025	Feb 2026		Yr Average 02/2025- 02/2026
Passport Applications	933	813	↓	725

Revenue	Feb 2025	Feb 2026		Yr Average 02/2025- 02/2026
Passport Execution/Acceptance fee (\$35)	\$32,655	\$28,455	↓	\$25,393

V. HEALTH EQUITY

Health Equity Program – February 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 February:

1. Youth Advisory Council (YAC - SPARK)

A. On February 4th, SNHD’s Youth Advisory Council SPARK (Students Promoting Awareness, Responsibility & Knowledge) completed their tenth meeting. The focus of this in-person meeting included a workshop on Crisis Communication and a presentation on the functions of the Office of Public Health Preparedness.

2. Mobility for All Workgroup

A. February 10th, the Health Equity Coordinator participated in the third Mobility for All workgroup. This workgroup was assembled by the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern NV (RTC) to help guide the development of their All-Access Mobility Plan, with the goal to develop and identify strategies to improve access through enhanced transit stops and better connections to other modes of travel.

3. Community Convening Action Plan

A. February 25th, the Health Equity Coordinator led the Community Convening Action Plan meeting. During this meeting the HE Coordinator reported on Healthy Brain Initiative funding and next steps; workgroup partners reported on objectives progress and other organizational updates. Jamie Ahumada, Planning Chief at the Aging & Disability Services Division presented on the Dementia Support Specialist Pilot Program.

4. Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map

A. February 25th, the Health Equity Coordinator, in his role as the Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map Strategist, participated in Road Map Strategist meeting. During this meeting

fellows strategist presented on their landscape assessments and learned about the Brain Health MAPP 2.0 guide.

VI. SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (SNPHL)

A. Clinical Testing: Key Updates

1. SNHD Nursing Division Support

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

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

2. STD Surveillance and Testing

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

- a) Participation in the CDC's Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project (GISP) and the enhanced GISP (eGISP).
- b) Performing NAAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Test) and culture testing for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* isolates, which are submitted to reference laboratories for antimicrobial susceptibility testing.
- c) Participation in eGISP Part B to expand culture-independent testing for antimicrobial resistance genes in gonococcal isolates.
- d) A detailed breakdown of monthly sample volumes provided on the accompanying table (RPR - Rapid Plasma Reagin):

Test Name	February 2026 Count	Avg Year to Date
GC Cultures	22	23
NAAT NG/CT	1604	1576
Syphilis	711	688
RPR/RPR Titers*	117/36	126/47
Hepatitis Total	2200	2268
HIV/differentiated	616/17	617/18
HIV RNA	151	135

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

3. COVID-19 Testing Operations

	Gram Stain/WBC	0	5											5
	Neisseria ID	0	0											0
	Haemophilus ID	0	0											0
Unknown ID	Bacterial ID	0	0											0
	WGS (PulseNet)	14	19											33
Salmonella	Salmonella Screen	6	12											18
	Salmonella Serotype	5	12											17
Shigella	Shigella Screen	2	3											5
	Shigella Serotype	1	2											3
STEC	STEC Screen	5	1											6
	STEC Serotype	1	2											3
Unknown	Stool Culture	1	5											6
Vibrio	Vibrio ID	2	0											2
	Vibrio Screen	3	0											3
Yersinia	Yersinia Culture/ID	0	1											1

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 sample received for investigation in February.

2. Influenza Surveillance Reporting

SNPHL continues to report influenza testing results to the CDC's National Respiratory and

Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS). In February, SNP HL performed 47 respiratory panel tests using the BioFire platform.

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

1. Reportable Disease Isolate Testing and Confirmation

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

2. Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) Validation

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

3. PulseNet Surveillance

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

4. Bacterial Isolate Screening

Using the Bruker MALDI-TOF instrument for streamlined screening of bacterial isolates. A total identified 189 bacterial organisms in February.

5. SARS-CoV-2 Sequencing

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

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

6. Legionella Surveillance

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

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

7. Vector-Borne Disease Testing

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

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

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

In February, SNPHL collected 27 clinical isolates:

a) *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*: seven (7) isolates

b) *Neisseria meningitidis*: one (1) isolate

These will be sent to regional labs or the CDC for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST). Remnant NAATs (NAAT - Nucleic Acid Amplification Test) or *N. gonorrhoeae* samples will be submitted to the CDC for molecular-based AST under eGISP Part B.

9. **C. auris PCR Screening**

SNPHL performed 1,625 Real-Time PCR screenings for *Candida auris* in February 2026.

D. **All-Hazards Preparedness:**

1. **Coordination with First Responder Training**

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

2. **Laboratory Packaging and Shipping Guidance**

SNPHL offers guidance to local laboratorians on CDC protocols for packaging and shipping infectious substances, including chain of custody procedures.

3. **Onsite Training for Long-Term Care Facilities**

SNPHL provided onsite training for long-term care facilities on the use of COVID-19 online ordering applications.

4. **Monkeypox Biosafety Guidance**

Biosafety guidance was supplied to sentinel sites in response to Monkeypox surveillance and containment efforts.

5. **Vaccination Support for Laboratory Staff**

SNPHL facilitated Monkeypox and bivalent COVID-19 booster vaccinations for laboratory personnel.

6. **Ongoing Biosafety Training for SNPHL Staff**

The laboratory continues to provide perpetual biosafety training and updated guidance to SNPHL personnel.

7. **Training After Equipment Upgrade**

The BSL-3 staff after have been trained and started using the double door autoclave and in the existing BSL-3 laboratory in February 2026.

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

1. **COVID-19 Testing Supplies and Reagent Forecast**

SNPHL has maintained a consistent supply of Viral Transport Medium (VTM) for COVID-19 collection kits, even following the cessation of ELC COVID funding.

2. **Facility Infrastructure and Equipment Calibration**

The Phoenix Controls company came to solve the IP address and test the integrated system

adjustment for the installation of the onsite monitor computer and network connection on the 2nd floor. This enables facility staff and Sunbelt Control employees to manage and modify the airflow, pressure, and temperature remotely or onsite.

3. **Genomic Surveillance – SARS-CoV-2**

WGS and genomic data analysis indicate that the Omicron variant XFG lineage was the dominant strain among samples received in February. SNPHL will continue sequencing close-contact samples to support ongoing investigations by the Office of Disease Surveillance (ODS).

4. **Influenza Surveillance**

Early data from the new influenza season show that A/H3 and B/Victoria are the predominant subtypes of influenza.

5. **Avian Influenza Surveillance**

SNPHL participates in the CDC’s Avian Influenza Surveillance Project by distributing testing guidance and specimen collection procedures to local hospitals via the Health Alert Network (HAN). Any ICU patients testing positive for Influenza A are required to submit specimens for subtyping to rule out avian influenza. No suspect avian flu samples were received in February.

6. **Facility Expansion Planning**

Phase I of the new facility design may focus on constructing BSL-3 and microbiology laboratories on the 2nd floor, with a semi-shell layout planned for the 1st floor.

7. **Expanded Clinical Testing Services**

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

8. **BSL-3 Equipment Services**

SNPHL commenced collaboration with the Facilities team to acquire laboratory equipment and IT accessories for the new laboratory building, utilizing State Public Health funding. The construction contract for the building will include the purchasing and installation of a double door autoclave and pass-through windows.

9. **SNPHL Acquired Equipment & Supplies**

SNPHL has obtained all items, which include the chemical storage hood, biosafety cabinet (BSC), GeneXpert instrument and computer, pipette tips, gloves, and various other accessories. Most of these items have been placed in the warehouse.

10. **CareSource Medicaid Contract**

SNPHL has now entered a contract with CareSource Medicaid. As of 2/6/2026, the currently contracted payers with SNPHL include Medicaid FFS, Molina Medicaid, CareSource Medicaid, Medicare, and Aetna.

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

February SNPHL Services	2025	2026	
Clinical Testing Services ¹	5,644	6,057	↑
Epidemiology Services ²	435	393	↓

State Branch Public Health Laboratory Services ³ All-Hazards Preparedness Services ⁴	0	0	=
	4	2	↓
Environmental Health Services ⁵	22	45	↑

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

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

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

⁴ Includes Preparedness training, teleconferences, and Inspections.

⁵ Includes vector testing.