

The History, Present, and Future of Health District After Dark (HDAD)

Presented by Laura Valentino, MPH, M.Ed., PSHRA-CP, Sr. HR Specialist-Academic Affairs

Co-Founder and Co-Organizer: Cheryl Radeloff, Ph.D., Senior Health Educator, Office of Disease Surveillance



Objectives

- Describe the history, present, and future of HDAD.
- Discuss collaborative HDAD efforts that can be applied to other programs and initiatives.



HEALTH
DISTRICT
*-after
dark-*



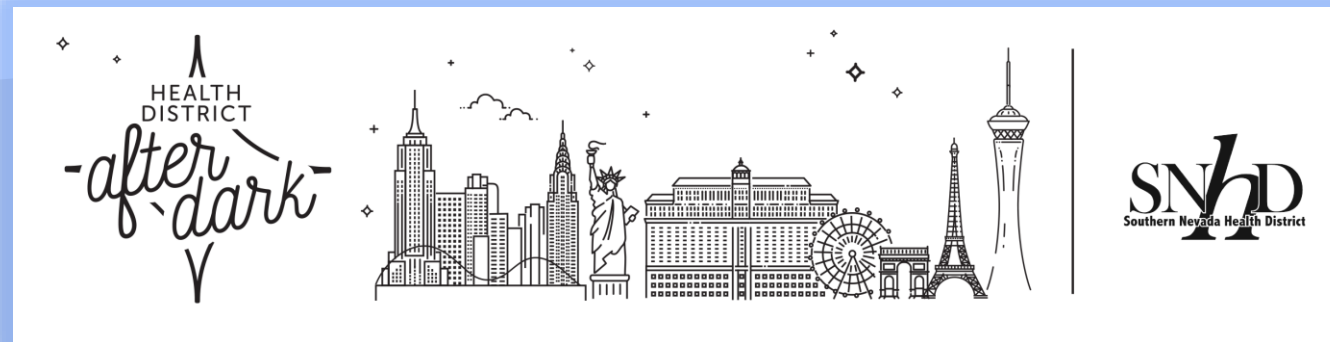
SNHD
Southern Nevada Health District

Beginnings

- The SNHD Academic Affairs Committee recognized there were few opportunities available for the community and the SNHD workforce to come together to hear and discuss topics of public health interest.
- HDAD was proposed to SNHD leadership in May 2019.
- Influenced by two local models (Roseman lecture series & UNLV Barrick museum lecture series).
- Twelve HDAD events held since October 2019.
- HDAD is meant to engage the Southern Nevada community and workforce (broadly defined) on emerging, timely, and/or provocative public health topics.
- Allow space for local and national experts to share their findings and network with community and workforce members.

Background

- Past Events: Conversations about Immunizations, State of Nevada’s Public Health Safety Net, etc.
- HDAD panels regularly feature local and state experts.
- HDAD models collaboration between public health entities, academic researchers, and local, state, and national community-based organizations.
- Targeted audiences: SNHD workforce, community partners, community members, academic faculty, college students.



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The Southern Nevada Health District Academic Affairs Committee presents a discussion of provocative public health topics

OCTOBER'S TOPIC
THE STATE OF NEVADA'S PUBLIC HEALTH SAFETY NET

MODERATOR
Dr. Cheryl Reddloff, Senior Health Educator, SNHD

PANELISTS:
Dr. John Peabham, Associate Dean, Office of Statewide Initiatives, University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine
Ryann Tackels, Director of Health and Social Policy, Kenny Guinn Center for Policy Priorities
Emma Rodriguez, Communications and Legislative Affairs Administrator, SNHD

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 23
4:00-6:00PM

CALL 702-759-0609 FOR MORE INFORMATION

SNHD Red Rock Conference Room
280 S. Decatur Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89107

Microsoft Teams Register online

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TOPIC:
CONVERSATIONS ABOUT IMMUNIZATIONS

GUEST SPEAKERS
Dr. Benjamin Ashraf, Southern Nevada Health District
Dr. Brian Labus, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Dr. Lyanna LaFredo, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Dr. Chris Elaine Mariano, Southern Nevada Health District

Moderator
+ Professor Minnie Wood, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

THURSDAY
JANUARY 29
3-4 PM
SNACKS & NETWORKING
4-6 PM
PRESENTATION

CALL 725-271-9642 FOR MORE INFORMATION

WHERE
Online and at
Red Rock Conference Room
280 S. Decatur Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89107

Scan to register
Or visit bit.ly/4sXLMb1

SNHD Southern Nevada Health District

HEALTH DISTRICT
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MAY'S TOPIC
EXTREME HEAT

A panel of experts will discuss concerns and challenges for public health in extreme heat.

GUEST SPEAKERS
Rebecca Cruz-Nanez, Southern Nevada Health District
Paul Gully, Regional Transportation Commissioner
Dr. Erick Bandala, Green Research Institute

WEDNESDAY
MAY 18
4:30-5:30PM

CALL 702-759-0609 FOR MORE INFORMATION

Red Rock Conference Room
280 S. Decatur Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89107

WebEx Register online

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AUGUST TOPIC:
HEALTH EQUITY IN SIN CITY

SPEAKERS:
Dr. Jon Wynn, Chair and Professor, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Department of Sociology
Tamera Travis, Epidemiologist, SNHD
Xavier Foster, Health Equity Coordinator, SNHD

TUESDAY
AUGUST 6, 2024
4:30 - 6:30 P.M.

UNLV Community Education Building
4250 S. Maryland Parkway, 99113
or join us virtually

REGISTER TO ATTEND:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/951029584087?aff=soodtcreator>

PRESENTED BY: SNHD UNLV

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SEPTEMBER'S TOPIC:
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

A panel will discuss the concerns and challenges around access to reproductive and sexual health.

GUEST SPEAKERS
Dr. Tanya Bass, National Coalition of STD Directors
Cristina Hernandez, MA, Director of Public Health
Maria-Teresa Liebermann-Parraga, Senior Birth Program
Dr. David Orentlicher, UNLV Health Law Program
Bonnie Sorenson, Southern Nevada Health District
+ Jacinta Wood, Body and Mind

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER 12
4:30-6:00PM

CALL 702-759-0609 FOR MORE INFORMATION

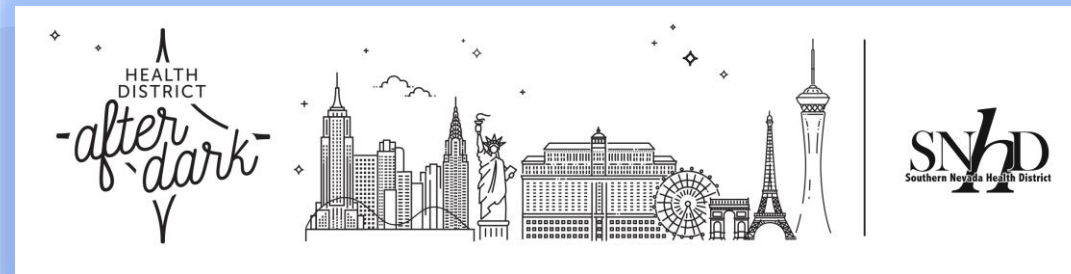
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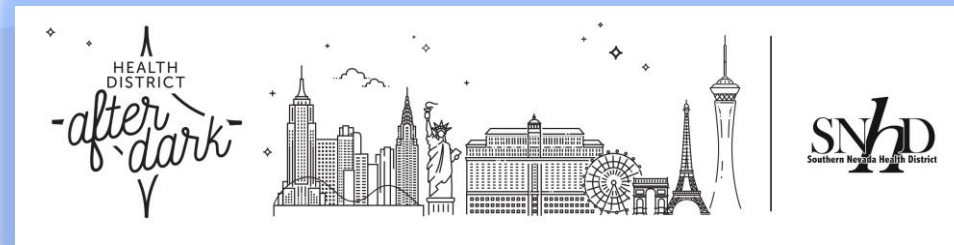
Successes

- Has grown from 30 to over 60 attendees.
- Positive feedback on evaluations.
- Undergraduate and graduate internships.
- HDAD presentations: Project Echo 2020, Public Health Improvement Training (PHIT) 2021, NPHA 2019, 2022, 2023, and 2025.
- Presented to other jurisdictions per their requests (City of Nashville PH and San Diego PH).
- PHIG funding and ability to expand/constrict depending on availability of funding.
- Mentioned as a PHIG “quick win” at CDC PHIG 2025 annual meeting.



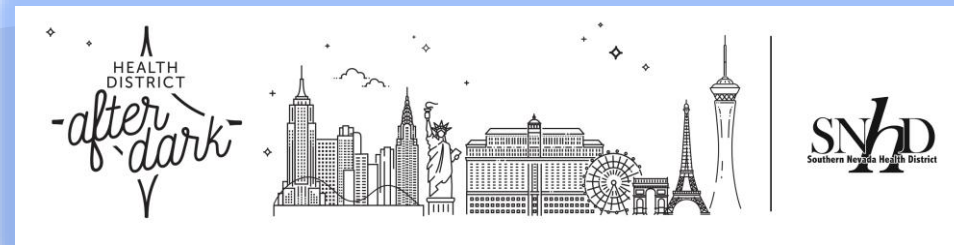
Challenges

- Community and Staff Interest varies per topic
- Administration Issues (Offering Continuing Education, Adjusted Work Schedules, Adherence to Facility Hours, Funding)
- Time and Knowledge to Organize Events (HDAD committee development, event planning)
- Competing demands on time and other professional obligations
- Social media
- Technology issues
- COVID-19



Best Practices and Lessons Learned

- Obtain leadership buy-in early and maintain support
- Engage stakeholders early and often
- Utilize personal and professional networks
- SNHD and co-sponsoring agency social media critical to community engagement
- Regular meetings with HDAD committee
- OC member present to take photos and meet with press
- Recruit tech assistance in-person
- Use registration software and evaluate the event



Attendee Feedback over the Years

Most valuable insights and takeaways?

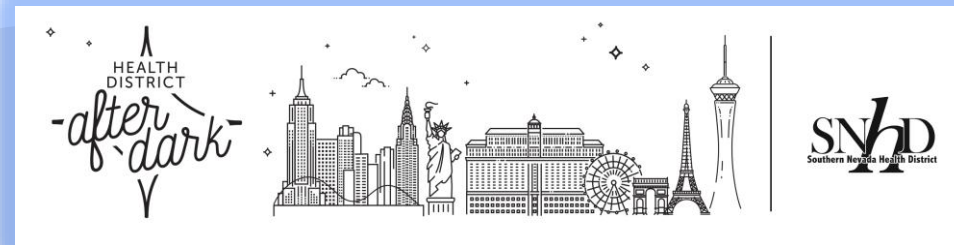
“Engage in policy changes to keep diversity and inclusion”

“Recent public health issues and possible solutions”

“Health trends and how we might prepare for our own brain health”

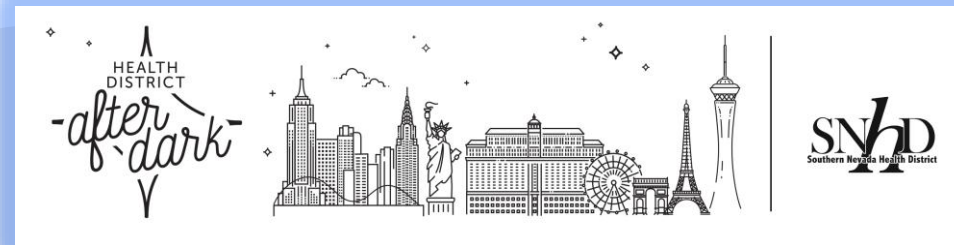
“50% of physicians do not discuss gun safety/violence with their patients”

“Oh gosh, so much. How gun violence is considered a safety issue and neglects how it’s a social issue, public health issue, and mental health issue.”



The Future of HDAD

- 3 HDAD events per year through 2027
- Offer more CEUs
- Continue to offer HDAD at SNHD and at other community partner organizations



Contact Us

Laura Valentino
valentino@snhd.org
725-271-9642

Cheryl Radeloff
radeloff@snhd.org
702-759-0734

