



DATE: May 28, 2020

TO: Southern Nevada District Board of Health Members

FROM: Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH, Acting Chief Health Officer

SUBJECT: Chief Health Officer Report

2019 Novel Coronavirus Update

Southern Nevada Health District is collaborating with jurisdictional partners to provide testing resources for seniors, minorities, and those most at risk for COVID-19. Community collection sites are being expanded to individuals of all ages and who are not experiencing symptoms.

Additionally, the Health District has implemented an automated case notification system to more quickly and efficiently provide people diagnosed with COVID-19 information on isolation as well as identify potential close contacts. When close contacts are identified, they are notified by the Health District and provided information on the need to self-quarantine. All identified contacts also can enroll in the Health District's symptom monitoring mobile app. Contacts log in daily to report whether they are experiencing signs or symptoms of COVID-19. If anyone reports signs or symptoms, the Health District is alerted and can arrange for testing. The Health District notifies people through email or text message. The email address used by the Health District for notifications is do-not-reply@snhd.org. Text messages will come from (702) 718-7075. To ensure confidentiality, patients are asked to verify their identity on the Health District's secure portal prior to being given information about their test results.

The Health District is completing training and onboarding activities for additional contract tracers to support the expected increase in cases due to expanded testing.

Staff is also supporting the Wynn call center with training for its staff about social services available through Clark County. The call center is for people who participated in a community collection site and tested negative. The Health District will continue to support the call center as needed.

Additional activities include planning for the non-congregate shelter (NCS) and collaborating with businesses and other agencies to support the Roadmap to Recovery reopening plans. The Environmental Health Division has developed guidance documents for businesses, safety plans for the reopening and resumption of Health District services are in process, and plans are being developed for antibody testing.

A COVID-19 Dashboard, demographic information, ZIP code maps and case counts per ZIP code, as well as city maps, are posted on the Health District's website at www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/coronavirus.

2019-2020 Influenza Season Update

Influenza activity in the United States remains low. During week 19 (May 3, 2020 – May 9, 2020), influenza-like illness (ILI) activity was minimal in Nevada. In Clark County, 1,395 influenza-associated hospitalizations and 54 influenza-related deaths, including one pediatric death, were reported to the Health District since the beginning of the current influenza season. The proportion of emergency department and urgent care clinic visits for ILI was 1.9 percent in week 19, which was lower than week 18 (2.1 percent). Approximately 52.6 percent of area emergency department and urgent care clinic visits for ILI were made by adults 18-44 years of age. Influenza A has become the dominant type circulating.

The Southern Nevada Health District's Office of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance began its 2019-2020 influenza season surveillance activities on Oct. 1, 2019, and concluded May 16, 2020. Weekly surveillance reports are available on the Health District website at www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/news-info/statistics-surveillance-reports/influenza-surveillance/.

Community Health Assessment

The Southern Nevada Health District is seeking participation by members of the public for the 2020 Community Health Assessment (CHA), which identifies community-wide, health-related needs and strengths, as well as available resources to address and improve health outcomes. For information about the CHA or about how to participate, contact Dontia Yates, a health educator in the Health District's Office of Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance, at yates@snhd.org.

The CHA process involves community partners and members, stakeholders, and public health system partners who provide their input through surveys and open discussions. Following the collection of health-related data from multiple community sources, health priorities are identified and plans developed to address them.

The findings of the CHA include a community health profile, community decision-making information, prioritization of health problems, and the development and implementation of a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The Health District's previous CHA is available on its website: Southern Nevada Community Health Assessment May 2016.