



DATE: April 28, 2022

TO: Southern Nevada District Board of Health Members

FROM: Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH, District Health Officer *FL*

SUBJECT: District Health Officer Report

Tobacco Control

Las Vegas Lights FC

In a win for Southern Nevada, the Las Vegas Lights FC home games at Cashman Field are now smoke-free. The Lights announced their decision on March 28, stating all tobacco products as well as e-cigarettes and vaping products would be included in the ban at games. The policy includes all areas within Cashman Field. In making the announcement, Lights FC Owner and CEO Brett Lashbrook stated he was proud to partner with the Southern Nevada Health District on this important initiative.

Las Vegas Aviators

On March 31, the Las Vegas Aviators® and Las Vegas Ballpark® announced they teamed up with the Health District to declare the Las Vegas Ballpark a smoke-free facility. The new policy took effect on the Aviators opening day, April 5, 2022. The new policy prohibits the use of all smoke and tobacco products, including cigarettes, chewing tobacco, e-cigarettes (including Juul) and all vapes on Ballpark property. Signs are posted at all entrances of Las Vegas Ballpark, and fans can expect to see educational messaging be shared throughout Aviators' games all year.

UNLV

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas recently announced it will join approximately 2,000 other universities across the country and become a smoke-free campus on Aug. 15, 2022. The UNLV School of Public Health collaborated with the Southern Nevada Health District, American Lung Association, American Cancer Society, Nevada Public Health Association and the Nevada Tobacco Prevention Coalition to develop a policy that will apply to all students, faculty, staff and visitors on UNLV property. This includes the Thomas and Mack Center, and all other buildings or facilities owned, operated, leased, occupied or controlled by UNLV in the state of Nevada.

The smoke-free and tobacco-free campus policy was approved by UNLV's University Policy Committee in September 2021 and will be in place for the Fall 2022 semester. The policy prohibits all forms of smoking, tobacco use, marijuana uses, and regulated nicotine product including, but not limited to:

- Cigarettes, cigars (commercially or self-rolled)
- Pipes, hookahs, water pipes
- Electronic cigarettes
- Vape pens

- Bidis (small, thin, hand-rolled cigarettes imported to the U.S. primarily from India and other Southeast Asian countries), Kreteks (clove cigarettes)
- Smokeless tobacco (e.g., snuff, snus, chew)
- Cannabis/marijuana in all forms

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

On April 13, the Health District reported 8,180 Clark County residents have died from COVID-19, an increase of 356. Of those deaths, 306 were the result of a reporting backlog and comprehensive data review by staff. The review included performing a data linkage between cases reported in the system and death certificate data. The breakdown of the backlog by date of death is included below:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2021	11	20	15	8	8	6	10	27	15	21	10	25	166
2022	66	56	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	130
Total	77	76	23	8	8	6	10	27	15	21	10	25	306

The Health District updates its COVID-19 dashboard and posts reports to its website each Wednesday. To access Health District COVID-19 data and information go to www.snhd.info/covid-data.

Self-test Kit Distribution

The Health District has distributed approximately 200,000 COVID-19 self-test kits to jurisdictional partners and community-based organizations serving minority and underserved populations to help reduce health disparities and improve access to testing.

COVID-19 Treatment

The antiviral medications Paxlovid and Molnupiravir are available at the Health District’s 280 S. Decatur Blvd. public health center. Paxlovid is available for people ages 65 and older and people ages 12 to 64 who are at risk for severe illness. People must test positive for COVID-19 and must have had onset of symptoms within the last five days. Molnupiravir has similar indications for use but can only be used by those 18 years of age and older and is not indicated for use during pregnancy. People can come to the Health District’s public health center to be evaluated and provided with the treatment if indicated. People can also speak to their health care provider, who can evaluate them, and if treatment is indicated, can provide a prescription, which can be filled at the 280 S. Decatur public health center. The treatments are free. For more information go to www.snhd.info/antivirals.

The Health District does not offer monoclonal antibodies at its clinic. To find a treatment center in Clark County, go to <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/find-covid-19-treatment/> or call (1-800) 401-0946.

Influenza Surveillance

In Clark County, for the season as of April 9, 2022, there have been 197 influenza-associated hospitalizations and seven influenza-associated deaths reported. The percentage of emergency department and urgent care clinic visits for influenza-like-illness (ILI) increased from 4.5% in week 13 to 4.9% in week 14. Approximately 38% of area emergency department and urgent care clinic visits for ILI were made by children 5-17 years of age, which was lower than week 13 (41%). Influenza A has been the dominant type circulating. Nationwide, seasonal influenza activity has increased. During week 14, 2.0% of patient visits reported through the U.S. outpatient ILI Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet) were due to respiratory illness that included ILI. This percentage was below the national baseline of 2.5%. Among the 55 states/jurisdictions, the respiratory illness activity level in Nevada was minimal. The Health

District will continue to update the public on flu activity and encourage flu vaccinations for everyone 6 months of age and older.

STD Awareness Week

STD Awareness week was April 10-16, and the Health District took the opportunity to remind the public of the importance of their sexual health and encourage individuals and health care providers to talk, test and treat to protect their health, the health of their partners, and patients. Throughout April, the Health District's mobile testing unit and Linkage to Action team provided education, resources, testing and services throughout Clark County. The Health District also offered Express Testing at its Sexual Health Clinics located at its main public health center and All Saints Episcopal Church, as well as at-home testing through the [Collect2Protect](#) program, which provides a convenient and private testing option. Community-based testing was also offered through the mobile testing unit at a Siegal Suites location to provide free rapid HIV and hepatitis C testing.

Pop-up Produce Markets

The Health District's Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion continues to partner with the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) and the Veggie Buck Truck to schedule pop-up produce markets at the Bonneville Transit Center (BTC). Patrons pay about a dollar for a pound of fresh fruit or vegetables. The partnership is an effort to increase access to low-cost, healthy fresh fruit and vegetables. For more information, call the Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion at (702) 759-1270 or visit the [Get Healthy Clark County Farmers Markets](#) page.

The remaining schedule for this season's pop-up produce markets is:

Bonneville Transit Center (BTC), 12:30 p.m. 101 E. Bonneville Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89101 Market will be open while supplies last	Southern Nevada Health District, 9 a.m. 280 S. Decatur Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89107 Market will be open while supplies last
Wednesday, May 4	Wednesday, May 11
Wednesday, June 1	Wednesday, June 8
Wednesday, September 7	Wednesday, September 14
Wednesday, October 5	Wednesday, Oct. 12
Wednesday, November 2	Wednesday, November 9

Nutrition education and resources will be available at the Southern Nevada Health District pop-up produce markets. The BTC is typically accessed by about 9,000 customers each day. The markets are open to everyone. Customers can use their Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits at the pop-up markets. People who use SNAP will be eligible for Double Up Food Bucks and earn a coupon they can apply to future produce purchases at participating locations. The Double Up Food Bucks program doubles the value of SNAP benefits, helping people to bring even more healthy food into their homes. Customers can use cash, debit, or credit cards.

For a list of local farmers markets, including those that accept EBT, SNAP and debit or credit cards, visit the [Get Healthy Clark County Farmers Markets](#) page.

Community Meetings

Week ending 03/27:

Weekly:

- Attended the White House IGA Weekly Briefing

Bi-weekly (every two weeks):

- Participated in a meeting with representatives from DHHS on COVID-19

Monthly:

- Participated in the individual Southern Nevada District Board of Health Agenda Review meetings with Commissioner Kirkpatrick, Councilwoman Diaz, Councilman Adams, Councilman Black, Councilman Knudsen, Councilwoman Romero, Bobbette Bond, Councilwoman Dutkowski
- Participated in the Southern Nevada District Board of Health Finance Committee meeting
- Participated in the Southern Nevada Community Health Center Finance & Audit Committee meeting
- Participated in the FQHC CEO Monthly call
- Participated in the Southern Nevada District Board of Health meeting
- Participated in the Southern Nevada Community Health Center Governing Board meeting

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Participated in a meeting with Anna Dobbin regarding the County Health Ranking registration and marketing
- Participated in webinar on the 2022 County Health Rankings Release

Week ending 03/20:

Weekly:

- Participated in the CDC COVID-19 All State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Update call
- Attended the White House IGA Weekly Briefing

Monthly:

- Participated in the Clark County Medical Society Board of Trustees meeting

Quarterly:

- Participated in the Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC)

Media/Interviews/Panelist/Presenter:

- Interview with Telemundo on COVID-19 and a lookback of two years

Professional Development/Conferences:

- Attended the NVPCA Board of Directors Retreat

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Participated in a meeting with Shirley Wong regarding research projects at SNHD
- Participated in a meeting with Dr. Marc Kahn, Dean of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV, and Shawn Gerstenberger, Dean of the School of Public Health, regarding the SNPPL
- Participated in a meeting with Senator Fabian Donate, representatives from local health agencies and representatives from Clark County regarding Senate Bill 209 COVID-19 Study

- Participated in a follow-up meeting with Dr. Marc Kahn, Dean of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV, and Shawn Gerstenberger, Dean of the School of Public Health, regarding the SNPHL

Week ending 03/13:

Weekly:

- Participated in the CDC COVID-19 Surveillance Framework call
- Attended the White House IGA Weekly Briefing

Monthly:

- Participated in the BCHC Member meeting

Quarterly:

- Participated in the Nevada State EMS Advisory Committee meeting
- NVPCA Finance Committee meeting

Media/Interviews/Panelist/Presenter:

- Interview with The Nevada Independent on COVID-19 and a lookback of two years

Professional Development/Conferences:

- Attended the “2021 CEFOI Faculty-Led Session 5a: Creating Great Governance – CEO Breakout” webinar facilitated by NACHC
- Attended the “Acute Pain Management in the Individual with Opioid Use Disorder” webinar facilitated by the American Society of Pain Management Nursing

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Participated in a Legislative Update call with representatives from Argentum Partners
- Participated in a meeting with representatives from the Governor’s Office regarding COVID-19
- Participated in a meeting with representatives of HCI Advertising
- Participated in a meeting with Roxana Valenton regarding the HRSA On-site Operational Visit
- Participated in a meeting with Dr. Stephanie Woodard on potential collaborations
- Participated in a meeting with Julia Peek and Jeffery Haag regarding the Southern Nevada Public Health Lab

Week ending 03/06:

Quarterly:

- Participated in the Nevada State Board of Health meeting

Media/Interviews/Panelist/Presenter:

- Presenter at the Health & Wellness webinar on COVID-19 facilitated by the African Diaspora of Las Vegas

Professional Development/Conferences:

- Attended the “NACHC Information Session: RegLantern for Elevate 2022 Participants” webinar facilitated by NACHC

Ad-hoc Meetings:

- Attended a tour at the Republic Services Facilities with Councilman Scott Black

- Attended an ad hoc Member Call with Big Cities Health Coalition regarding planning for the next step in COVID-19
- Attended a NACHC Cohort Meeting
- Attend an HHS IEA Stakeholder Briefing: Structuring the Implementation of the Strategy to Address our National Mental Health Crisis
- Attended the CDC COVID-19 Related Response Strategies 3 on the COVID-19 Notification Systems