



City and County of San Francisco
Edwin M. Lee, Mayor

San Francisco Department of Public Health

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Director of Health

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of

May 19, 2015

A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco

<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

Addendum

Fiscal Year 15/16 State Budget

Governor Brown released an updated FY15/16 state budget proposal on May 14, 2015, which provides \$140.5 billion in funding for Health and Human Services, and largely retains allocations included in the Governor's January budget. While funding is included for proposals that could increase access to Medi-Cal or improve the care provided under Medi-Cal, the May Revision does not make significant adjustments to public health funding, and does not address the pending 1115 Waiver Renewal or Medi-Cal provider rates. In its current form, the budget is anticipated to have a neutral impact on SFDPH. The Legislature will hold related hearings over the next month, and a finalized budget is expected mid-June.

Health and Human Services highlights include:

- **\$67M for implementation of President's Obama's 2014 Immigration Executive Actions**, which would ultimately increase the number of undocumented Californians eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal using state-only funds. The Governor allocates \$62M in general fund for benefits and implementation in FY15/16, plus \$5M as grants to non-profit agencies to provide application assistance eligible immigrants. The cost of the program is expected to
- **\$228M for the provision of high-cost drugs for Hep-C treatment** through Medi-Cal, ADAP, State Hospitals, and Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
- Acceptance of **\$61.6M in non-state funds for implementation of the Health Homes Program**, which will provide incentives for care coordination for individuals with complex health needs.

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- **\$341M to support the Medi-Cal behavioral health expansion**, enhancing county and provider capacity to provide mental health and substance use services to Medi-Cal clients.
 - **\$381M in savings from two-year Federal CHIP Reauthorization**, which will increase the federal CHIP matching rate for former Healthy Families children now enrolled in Medi-Cal, from 65% to 88% starting in October.
 - **Creation of a California Earned Income Tax Credit**, modeled after the Federal version.

The DPH's Medical Respite Program is expanding with Mayor Lee's recent \$28.9 Million Supportive Services Proposal

The Fiscal Year 2015-16 and 2016-17 proposal includes \$6.6 million to create and provide ongoing support for 30 new medical respite beds for homeless patients with chronic medical needs. This expansion of the medical respite program will create a -safe, supported environment to address the medical needs of clients that cannot be adequately served in the existing homeless shelter system. It will provide a period for recovery and stability for individuals who might otherwise be on the street and using emergency services.

This expansion of medical respite is the next step in a series of approaches to develop solutions for the city's homeless population, and to provide needed mental health and medical services. This valuable intervention will lessen the burden on City services, getting homeless individuals the support they need earlier, helping to avoid crises and altercations that can cause harm and great expense.

Also included in the Mayor's \$28.9 Million proposal:

- \$14.5 million in General Fund over the next two years to bring five new Single Room Occupancy buildings into the City's supportive housing masterlease portfolio.
- \$1.8 million in new funding to increase on-site services at the new SRO units to increase staffing of case managers and other providers to better serve formerly homeless residents to ensure they stay housed.
- \$3 million for the continuation of the pilot Navigation Center. The Navigation Center located in the Mission District opened in March to provide comprehensive services and programs for the adult homeless population. Clients are expected to have a brief stay before moving on to housing or residential treatment. The Navigation Center is the City's pioneering approach to help homeless people reconnect with loved ones at home, move off the streets and into stable housing or residential treatment programs and get access to the services they need to stabilize their lives.

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Board of Supervisors Budget and Finance Committee

Supervisor Avalos sponsored a recent hearing at City Hall on staffing levels and systems at SFGH and DPH clinics in relationship to the ACA and the opening of the new hospital. I presented key elements of our participation in the ACA, and Ron Weigelt, our Human Resources Director reviewed the five commitments we made at a May 2014 Supervisors hearing, showing that we had accomplished each of the 2014 goals. These included hiring, implementation of LEAN process analysis, reduction of the use of temporary employees, development of the use of metrics to measure performance and partnering with City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Resources and the unions to assist in streamlining and expediting the hiring process. This was followed by a presentation by Deputy Director of CCSF Human Resources, Ted Yamasaki, who detailed our joint work on improving hiring. Director Weigelt then finished the presentation with a review of time to hire reductions (192 to 28 days), a reduction in our use of temporary staff (from a high of 81 FTEs to 64), and that we hired over 840 permanent staff from January 1, 2014 to May 11, 2015. He also reviewed our use of Registry and our hires in the Emergency Department (where we've had 49 hires) and Radiology (where we've processed 10 hires with plans for 8.5 more) as areas of particular interest. We concluded with a summary of our current activities in recruitment and other hiring improvements. The presentation was well received and was followed by the DPH budget hearing.

The Whistleblower Program, operated by the Controller's Office, receives complaints regarding the misuse of City funds, improper activities by City officers and employees, deficiencies in the quality and delivery of government services, and wasteful and inefficient City government practices. There are a number of ways to file a complaint. Go to www.sfcontroller.org and click on the Frequently Requested tab to access the Whistleblower complaint instructions in the drop down menu.