



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,

Aug 4, 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>

Mayor Lee Signs City's Balanced Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16 & 2016-17

“We are creating jobs, growing a thriving economy and increasing city services, while keeping our City safe, affordable and compassionate with these smart, strategic investments,” said Mayor Lee. “This fiscally-responsible, balanced budget makes historic investments in housing, transportation and education, increases City services including public safety, supports our continuing economic recovery, protects social services for residents most in need, and is affordable over the long term.

The City and County of San Francisco is a major employer, and the proposed budget for the next two fiscal years includes additional employees to: staff the new San Francisco General Hospital and implement the Electronic Health Record system at the Department of Public Health and Implement the Affordable Care Act at the Human Services Agency and the Department of Public Health;

The City budget also invests in systems of care that support the most vulnerable San Franciscans. This budget includes significant new resources dedicated to opening a new San Francisco General Hospital, adding 500 new units of supportive housing for people who are exiting homelessness through the innovative Navigation Center, and millions in new funds to support seniors and people with disabilities.

Modest Covered California Rate Increases for San Francisco in 2016

Covered California recently released prices for the 2016 plan year, and San Franciscans can expect an average rate increase of 3.4% across all metal tiers. This increase is lower than most of the other regions in Northern California, as well as the statewide average increase of 4.0%. Plan rates vary by a person's age and income. For example, a 40-year old San Franciscan not eligible for federal subsidies pays, on average, \$387/month for a Silver plan in 2015 and would pay \$393/month for a Silver plan in 2016. However, more than 82 percent of San Franciscans buying on Covered California are eligible for federal subsidies, which

reduce a 40-year old's average Silver premium to \$117/month in 2015 and \$129/month in 2016. Covered California is encouraging consumers to shop around, as switching to the lowest-cost plan in each tier could save them more than 7% in premium costs. The next Covered California open enrollment period is October 15th through December 7th, 2015; the website's Shop-and-Compare tool to plan for open enrollment is available now.

50th Anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid Celebration

On July 30, 1965, President Johnson signed legislation to establish Medicare for the elderly and Medicaid for low-income adults, children, pregnant women, and people with disabilities. For 50 years, Medicare and Medicaid have played a critical role in protecting the health and well-being of millions of families and improving our nation's economic security. These are life changing programs that keep Americans healthy.

On Thursday, July 30, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services held an event at San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Dr. Sandra Hernández, President and CEO of the California HealthCare Foundation, and a panel of distinguished experts discussed the striking ways in which Medicare and Medicaid have changed the face of American healthcare, and what the two mammoth federal healthcare programs may look like in the future. Opening remarks were made by San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee and Roland Pickens, Director of the Department of Public Health's San Francisco Health Network.

Speakers included David Saÿen, Regional Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; Melissa Stafford Jones, Regional Director, US Dept. of Health and Human Services; Alain Enthoven, Professor Emeritus of Economics, Stanford University; Dr. Andrew Bindman, Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology & Biostatistics, UCSF; Elaine Wong Eakin, Executive Director, California Health Advocates and our own Dr. Edgar Pierluissi, Medical Director, SFGH Acute Care for Elders Unit

Black/African American Health Initiative Project – Workforce Development Subcommittee

The SFDPH leadership has recognized the need to make changes in order to adequately address and make a significant impact on the health disparities among the Black and African American population in San Francisco. The project charter for the Black/African Health Initiative Project was signed on March 31, 2014. One of the subcommittees of this group is the Workforce Development subcommittee that is co-chaired by Dr. Toni Rucker and HR Director Ron Weigelt. The current charter of Workforce Development is to: promote interest in pursuing careers in public health and recruit Black and African American interested applicants, students and volunteers; develop strategies to retain, motivate and show value towards current African American staff; and support continuing education and learning opportunity pathways for existing African American staff.

In order to address those tasks the subcommittee has developed four workgroups focusing on these areas:

Employee demographics – this group is analyzing our workforce by classification and by work unit in order to determine areas where we lack diversity. The goal will be to increase diversity in work units and classifications where it is lacking.

Client population demographics – the focus of this workgroup is to identify research on the connection between matching client population ethnicity with health outcomes. The group also intends to make recommendations where increased diversity can increase client and or staff satisfaction.

Training – new employee orientation, cultural competency training, interview panel training, internship programs and a supervisor code of conduct are some of the many topics being discussed in this group.

Recruitment and Retention – this group has discussed job posting formats, interview panel composition, and many other aspects of recruitment and retention. Nepotism, cronyism, and other bias are also being looked at in order to identify counter measures in the selection process. The subcommittees are co-chaired by Rhonda Simmons and Ron Weigelt.

SFGH – Getting the New Hospital Building Ready for Patient Care

Getting our new hospital on the San Francisco General Hospital campus completed and ready for patient care remains one of our department's highest priorities. As the construction phase nears its end, our attention is turning toward ensuring the safe and effective delivery of patient services. The construction of the new acute care and trauma center is very near completion. Teams have been working diligently to attend to the last, critical items required for obtaining our California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) Certificate of Occupancy. When that is complete, our focus will shift to complying with California Department of Public Health (CDPH) licensing requirements, and to meeting our own standards of patient care. We are on track with the schedule presented to the commission at its July 7, 2015 meeting.

Our new hospital, with its nine floors, more than 200 patient care beds, 13 ORs and 58 emergency exam rooms, will have over 26,000 pieces of equipment, among the most sophisticated technology available. This technology, which will represent a huge step forward in our ability to deliver quality patient care is, for the most part, onsite, secured and ready for deployment. Our staff also has the critical task of testing equipment and systems, including IT systems, and training and orienting 5,400 employees. While we have been at this work for some months, our efforts will accelerate as we take control of the building and approach the date of our licensing survey.