San Francisco Department of Public Health



Barbara A. Garcia, MPA
Director of Health

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of December 1, 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 Announces Milestone in the City's work in Support of Vision Zero

As part of the City's commitment to Vision Zero, the SFMTA developed a list of 24 expedited Vision Zero projects in February 2014 to improve safety on San Francisco's streets and sidewalks.

Just this year the SFMTA has moved quickly to:

- remove obstructions to improve visibility for all road users, particularly children walking or people in wheelchairs, at 119 intersections
- install painted safety zones at 27 intersections, reducing turning speeds and improve visibility
- painted high-visibility continental crosswalks at 123 intersections
- Modified traffic signal timing at 41 intersections to give people walking a head start

A study by the Department of Public Health found recently that as part of the Vision Zero effort, the City's Safe Streets SF program, which combined enforcement with educational marketing campaign, was successful in increasing by 3.2 percent the number of vehicles yielding for pedestrians.

Zuckerberg San Francisco General to receive 2015 Quality Leaders Award at CAPH Annual Conference

Zuckerberg San Francisco General will be given the 2015 California Association of Public Hospital's Quality Leaders Award in the category of "Data-Driven Organization" for their entry, "Improving Specialty Care Access in a Safety Net System: Assessment, Engagement, and Innovation." CAPH noted that the application stood apart because it addressed a significant health care challenge and meaningfully impacted patients' experience and quality of care.

Congratulations to Lukejohn Day, Alice Chen, Iman Nazeeri-Simmons, Rosaly Ferrer, and Todd May. The award will be presented on Thursday at the annual CAPH conference.

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center celebrates the grand opening of the Orthotics and Prosthetics Center

At the Oct. 15 ceremony, Theodore Miclau, MD, vice chairman of orthopaedic surgery at UC San Francisco, explained that the first organized Orthotics and Prosthetics center at SFGH began in the basement of the hospital 22 years ago, where it remained until this October.

The center has treated several thousand high-risk patients annually in recent years, and supplies more than 4,000 braces to patients each year.

According to a 2013 study, patients who receive amputations require an average of 2.2 procedures and stay in the hospital for more than 30 days. Some of these stays are due to prosthetic wear, while others are because patients lack adequate access to quality care. While these patients may have been treated elsewhere in the past, the new center now offers a state-of-the-art facility for their care.

The new center is funded by two Heroes and Hearts grants from the SF General Foundation and a grant from the George H. Sandy Foundation.

Director of Equity and Community Wellness Announced

The Behavioral Health division is pleased to announce that Rhea Bailey MPH has been named the Director of Equity and Community Wellness Programs for Children, Youth and Families. Ms. Bailey will be responsible for the implementation of key Mayoral and Department of Public Health antipoverty, wellness and equity initiatives serving children, youth, families and adults. Ms. Bailey will oversee the implementation of Wellness Centers at the four HOPE SF housing development sites including Potrero, Sunnydale, Hunters View and Alice Griffith.

HOPE SF is the nation's first large-scale public housing revitalization project to prioritize current residents while also investing in high-quality, sustainable housing and broad scale community development. HOPE SF will replace substandard housing with new housing while enabling residents to remain in their neighborhoods during the redevelopment. HOPE SF will serve as a stabilizing force in some of San Francisco's poorest neighborhoods, intended to help African-Americans and families of all colors to remain in the city.

The impact of institutional racism has contributed to impacted communities and impeded trust in the capacity for the delivery system to provide necessary services. Wellness centers embedded in each community are intended to provide nursing services to link residents to effective preventive care as well as manage and reduce the impact of chronic disease. Ms. Bailey will oversee the development and oversight of the implementation of the wellness centers at Hope SF Sites.