



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

## San Francisco Department of Public Health

Barbara A. Garcia, MPA  
Director of Health

### **Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of March 1, 2016**

*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>

#### **Public Health Concerns Along Division Street**

The San Francisco Department of Public Health posted notices outlining public health concerns on Division Street on February 23, 2016. These notices provided 72 hours to vacate Division Street between South Van Ness Avenue and 11th Street on the east and west sides.

The Health Department's Homeless Outreach Team has been working for months with people living in tents on Division Street. Though we have been able to match many people to resources, we remain extremely concerned about the health and well-being of this population. Unfortunately, conditions where multiple tents are congregated have become unsafe, and people have been living without access to running water, bathrooms, trash disposal or safe heating or cooking facilities.

The Homeless Outreach Team continued their efforts throughout the week to encourage people to relocate to other locations, including the new shelter at Pier 80. We will provide an update at today's meeting.

#### **Stephanie Cushing named Director of Environmental Services**

Stephanie Cushing has been selected as the new Director of Environmental Services. Stephanie began work in Population Health in 1987. She was promoted several times before being selected in 2010 as a Principle Health Inspector. Among other duties, Stephanie has conducted food inspections, attended abatement hearings, and worked on aspects of the Hazardous Waste Program. Her initiative, resourcefulness, and untiring efforts have established her as a leader and a manager within the Population Health Division. Stephanie's start date is March 7, 2016. Please join us in welcoming Stephanie to her new role.

## **Chris Keh is Acting Tuberculosis (TB) Controller**

Dr. Chris Keh is serving as the acting TB controller for San Francisco following Dr. Julie Higashi's transition to a position with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Dr. Keh has been the Medical Director of the SFDPH Tuberculosis Clinic at Ward 94 since 2013. She is board certified in internal medicine and infectious disease. The TB section, located within the Population Health Division has continued its work toward the goal of eliminating TB in San Francisco in partnership with numerous local and statewide partners as well as with the CDC.

## **SF Health Network Ramps up Disaster Preparedness**

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ambulatory Care will be conducting a table top exercise at Chinatown Public Health Center and will follow up with a full site drill on March 22. The Chinatown Neighborhood Association, NICOS will be observers/participants in these exercises. The March 2<sup>nd</sup> event will focus on earthquake preparedness with the management team including Ben Lui, Medical Director; Lei-Chun Fung, Health Educator; Ron Lee, Dentist; Lily Lee, Chief Clerk; Linda Li, WIC Supervisor; Dr. Peter Ng, retired Pediatrician; Kit Chan, Nurse Manager; and Catherine Wong, Nutritionist. The March 22 event will be a medical surge drill with an emphasis on dealing with a large influx of patients injured from an earthquake and will involve all clinic staff.

FEMA has been encouraging a whole community approach to disaster preparedness involving community partners, consumers, and city government. On March 9, John Brown, director of Emergency Medical Services and Rosemary Lee, Emergency Management Coordinator for the SF Health Network will be leading a two-hour disaster training for clinicians at NEMS main office at 1520 Stockton Street. Future events are being planned for consortium clinic partners and specialty services including Mission Neighborhood Health Center, dialysis/surgery centers and long term care facilities.

## **CDPH Licensing Survey at Zuckerberg San Francisco General**

The California Department of Public Health Licensing Survey kicked off at Zuckerberg General on Monday, Feb 22 and continued through Friday, Feb 26. Surveyors were very complimentary of the new building, and frontline staff were knowledgeable about their clinical settings and confident while presenting the clinical scope of their units.

## **Joint Commission at Zuckerberg SF General to Recertify Stroke and TBI Program**

The Joint Commission is on campus Feb 29 and March 1 at Zuckerberg SF General to recertify their Stroke and Traumatic Brain Injury Programs. Currently, they are hold a high-performing stroke certification by the Joint Commission which means that they have 100 percent success in delivering t-PA (widely considered standard of care in acute ischemic stroke) to patients presenting within the eligible timeframe. The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program was created to optimize care for patients with serious brain injuries. This program creates a continuum of care; from life-saving efforts in the Emergency Department, Operating Rooms, and Intensive Care Unit, to maximizing the patient's day-to-day ability to function through rehabilitative care. Elements of the program include around-the-clock attending neurosurgeon coverage to respond to all major resuscitations, continuity of care, and neuro-psychologist consults. These efforts result in decreased length of stay in critical care and advances in recovery of patients in acute units.

## **Integrative Pain Management Program at Tom Waddell**

The Integrative Pain Management Program is a comprehensive, interdisciplinary, chronic pain management program that offers non-medication based treatments for Tom Waddell Urban Health Clinic primary care patients living with chronic pain, and who are prescribed opioids for their pain. The program runs 12 weeks, starting 2/24/16, and will have three cohorts running through November 30, 2016. The program will offer acupuncture, massage, medication education, physical movement groups, mindfulness/meditation, and nutrition/gardening groups, all centered around peer support. Joseph Pace, MD is the program sponsor, Barbara Wismer, MD is the program lead and Kris Leonoudakis-Watts is the program coordinator. The program is also working in collaboration with UCSF researchers Maria Chao, DrPH, MPA, Assistant Professor of Medicine and Emily Hurstak, MD, Clinical Research Fellow at UCSF, to evaluate the program over the 9 months, and is partially funded by the Mount Zion Health Fund grant. The program will be evaluated by looking at feasibility, acceptability, participant functionality, quality of life, and changes in opioid dosing.

## **Expanding Access to Hepatitis C Treatment**

The San Francisco Health Network (SFHN) has launched an exciting new initiative to expand access to hepatitis C treatment in our primary care clinics. New developments in the field of hepatitis C make medications for treatment more effective with fewer side effects, so that hepatitis C cure in the primary care setting is a real possibility for patients with uncomplicated infection. As part of this new initiative, a four hour training was held on January 26th for San Francisco Health Network staff, including 84 primary care providers, nurses and pharmacists. Response from training participants was enthusiastic and staff are excited to use these new skills to improve the health of SFHN patients. To further support the SFHN clinics with questions around hepatitis C care and treatment, a new "Primary Care-Based Hepatitis C Treatment" eReferral opened on February 1. This initiative is a collaboration between the Population Health and SFHN Primary Care departments. The SFHN is proud to expand treatment options for this chronic disease in the primary care setting.

## **Zuckerberg San Francisco General Receives Outpatient Palliative Care Grant**

Zuckerberg SF General (ZSFG) will be the recipient of a \$150,000, 2-year grant from the California Health Care Foundation which will allow an expansion of their palliative care program to include outpatient services. This grant will support the addition of a part time social worker (from 0.5 to 1.0 FTE) and the addition of a part-time physician, so that truly interdisciplinary care can be provided for patients. ZSFG is one of only nine recipients of this grant, most of whom already have existing outpatient palliative care services.

## **Welcome New Cohort of Year Up Interns**

Year-Up is a national internship program which provides a pipeline of talent by matching entry-level needs with young adults from urban communities who are motivated, energetic and trained. Please welcome our next round of Year Up Interns: Emmanuel Castro-Marquez, Liset Ortiz Juan Cardenas and Michael Trong will be working at 1380 Howard, Eduardo Cuevas, Derald Adriano and Carlos Sarmiento will be working at ZSFG, Justin Fujimoto Jose Lyndon Santos and

Maryama Alhark will be working at 101 New Montgomery, and Martha Santos who is working as Bill Kim's assistant at 101 Grove.

## **Black History Month Celebrations**

The San Francisco Black Infant Health Program, part of Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health, held an exhibit of photos and stories reflecting the lives and views of Black Mothers in the community in San Francisco at City Hall on Weds, Feb 24<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 7:30pm. The event was free and was open to the public.

Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) celebrated Black History Month on February 19th. Roland Pickens, Director of the SF Health Network and Interim Chief Executive Officer at ZSFG, made opening remarks to welcome the group of more than 100 staff members in attendance to honor and reflect on the many accomplishments of African Americans in U.S. history. Attendees enjoyed soul food prepared by Food and Nutrition staff.

To honor contributions being made here at the San Francisco Health Network and at ZSFG, Roland shared activities of the Black/African American Health Initiative (BAAHI). This group, made up of representatives from all over the Department of Public Health was launched in 2014 and is responsible for identifying issues and strategies within our system to address disparities both in the African American community at large and within Department of Public Health staff.

The San Francisco Health Network and ZSFG would like to emphasize the importance of celebrating the diversity of staff and patients. We recognize the significant and positive impact diversity has on the services we provide to the community.

## **Heroes & Hearts Event**

On Thursday, Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, 1,000 people gathered at AT&T Park to celebrate the essential role Zuckerberg San Francisco General plays at the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation's annual Heroes & Hearts luncheon. Proceeds from the fundraising luncheon are used to fund the Hearts Grants Program, which provides grants to innovative programs and initiatives at the hospital that result in improved patient care and have the potential to develop sustainable funding.

Four amazing individuals were honored at the luncheon:

- Jim Larson, Certified Ophthalmic Assistant has been dedicated to eye and vision care at Zuckerberg San Francisco General since the 1980s. During the HIV/AIDS epidemic, Jim was a stabilizing force of compassionate care at the epicenter of the Cytomegalovirus retinitis outbreak that caused blindness for many patients. Jim was also the leader and driving force behind the hospital's eye care outreach program, the Eye Van, bringing vision services to patients throughout the city who are unable to travel to Zuckerberg San Francisco General for care.
- Terry Saltz, Rebuild Director at Zuckerberg San Francisco General, is responsible for ensuring the successful construction completion of the beautiful new Acute Care and Trauma Center and the upcoming patient move-in and official opening this spring. As a staff member for over 30 years and in his current role since 2008, Terry has overseen the design and construction of the new Acute Care and Trauma Center and has ensured that doctors, nurses, and staff have necessary and critical equipment to save lives – managing a

budget that represents the largest single procurement plan ever executed by the City of San Francisco.

- Dr. Clement Yeh began working at Zuckerberg San Francisco General in 2002 as a resident in the Emergency Department after attending Stanford University. After working on various projects to improve the 911 systems, Dr. Yeh became the Medical Director for the Department of Emergency Management 911 Communications Center and in 2012, began serving as the San Francisco Fire Department Medical Director. As part of extending and improving the safety net of emergency care in the City, he has been involved in the HEART project partnership (Homeless Emergency Assessment & Response Team) between the SFFD and the Department of Public Health that dedicates emergency and public health experts to respond to 911 calls from people in the community who often depend on the emergency response system for their non-emergency medical, social and mental health needs.
- Officer Raphael Rockwell is a 15-year veteran of San Francisco Police Department, a member of SFPD's Youth and Community Engagement Unit and is a driving force behind many of the department's outreach programs. Officer Rockwell assisted Police Chief Greg Suhr with the implementation of Future Graduates, a program that has helped over 1,300 teenage students obtain paid internships with private technology firms and City agencies.