



City and County of San Francisco  
London Breed  
Mayor

## San Francisco Department of Public Health

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### Office of Policy and Planning

#### 2020 SFDPH STATE LEGISLATIVE PLAN

San Francisco Department of Public Health's (SFDPH) 2020 State Legislative Plan organizes legislative issue areas based on their intersection with the department's two divisions, the San Francisco Health Network and Population Health. While issue areas are categorized under one SFDPH division, most issues impact both San Francisco Health Network and Population Health (e.g. Health Equity).

##### A. San Francisco Health Network Issue Areas

- 1) **Medi-Cal and Health Reform**
  - a) Medi-Cal Healthier California for All
  - b) Eligibility
  - c) Services
  - d) Equitable Value-Based Payment Models
  - e) Provider Reimbursement Rates
  - f) Federally Qualified Health Centers
- 2) **Behavioral Health- Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders**
  - a) Parity Gap
  - b) Integration
  - c) Opioid-Use Disorder
  - d) MHSA
  - e) Adolescent Services
  - f) IMD Exclusion Waivers
- 3) **Homelessness and Supportive Housing**
- 4) **Restorative Justice, Jail Health, and Violence Prevention**
- 5) **Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health**
- 6) **Family Planning and Contraception**
- 7) **Long-term Care**
  - a) Assisted Living Waiver Program
  - b) Residential Care Facilities
- 8) **Palliative Care**
- 9) **Hospitals and County Health Funding**
- 10) **Workforce Development**
- 11) **Health Information and Technology**

##### B. Population Health Issue Areas

- 1) **Population Health & Prevention**
- 2) **Health Equity**
- 3) **Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion**
- 4) **Tobacco Control**
- 5) **Emergency Medical Services**
- 6) **Public Health Preparedness**
- 7) **Cannabis**
- 8) **Transportation and Vision Zero**
- 9) **Food Security**
- 10) **Healthy Housing**
- 11) **Climate Change and Justice**
- 12) **Immigration**
- 13) **Massage**

**A. San Francisco Health Network**

- 1) **Medi-Cal and Health Care Reform:** SFDPH is committed to increasing access to health care for all San Franciscans and will support state legislation that combats any actions on a federal level to roll back the significant coverage gains that have been made in California. SFDPH will monitor and take positions as needed on proposals focused on health care coverage expansion and affordability, Covered California eligibility and financing, and other Medi-Cal related issues.
  - a) **Medi-Cal Healthier California for All:** Monitor and take positions as needed on Medi-Cal Healthier California for All, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) multi-year initiative for waiver renewals focused on the Medi-Cal delivery system and program and payment reform. The initiative will build upon various pilots under the current 1115 and 1915 waivers including, but not limited to Public Hospital Redesign and Incentives in Medi-Cal (PRIME), Whole Person Care (WPC), Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS), and Dental Transformation Initiative (DTI). The initiative may also test full integration of physical health, behavioral health, and oral health under one contracted entity. Monitor proposals that: ensure adequate funding for public hospitals and health systems; protect the use of county funds as non-federal share for public providers; ensure accountability and coordination between health plans and the county; ensure continuity of WPC systems and services.
  - b) **Eligibility:** Support proposals that protect the coverage gains from ACA's Medi-Cal expansion. Support proposals to increase enrollment and remove barriers for incarcerated individuals and extend Medi-Cal eligibility to pre-adjudicated adolescents. Support proposals that expand health care services for undocumented residents.
  - c) **Services:** Support proposals that address the health needs for populations with complex, chronic conditions in the least restrictive settings and use case management approaches, including increased access to and funding for comprehensive home and community-based services. Support proposals that enable individuals to easily determine their eligibility for, and enroll in, other social services (e.g. WIC) once qualified for Medi-Cal. Support funding for special services for refugees (e.g. patient navigators and translators) to improve health care access. Support proposals that decrease fragmentation in the Medi-Cal delivery system and promote patient-centered care and access to services (e.g. integration of physical, behavioral, and oral health).
  - d) **Value-Based Payment Models:** Monitor and take positions as needed on proposals to change value-based and other alternative payment models. Support proposals that advocate for locally-based socio-economic adjustments to payment models to ensure adequate funding for public hospitals and health systems that serve high-risk populations.
  - e) **Provider Reimbursement Rates:** Support proposals to increase Medi-Cal provider rates. Proposals could include supplementing county Medi-Cal expenditures through increased federal financial participation. Support funding for medical education programs.
  - f) **Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs):** Support stabilizing funding levels for FQHCs to ensure their continued viability, ability to invest in access and prevention, and ability to meet increasing demand. Support expansion of state pilot programs testing capitated payment mechanisms for FQHCs. Monitor proposed changes to services rendered outside the FQHCs eligible for the Prospective Payment System (PPS) rate.

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## 2) Behavioral Health- Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders

- a) **Parity Gaps:** Support proposals that ensure parity in the health system between physical health and behavioral health services (e.g. ensuring emergency Medi-Cal includes SUD services, private plan coverage of methadone). Support proposals for same day billing at FQHCs.
  - b) **Integration:** Support proposals that enhance integration of mental health, substance use treatment, primary care, and social services to create seamless care and support for patients. This may include supporting capacity to appropriately share data across systems in order to improve coordination and efficiency of care and supporting payment reforms.
  - c) **Opioid-Use Disorder Prevention and Treatment:** Support proposals that fund opioid surveillance, expand emergency treatment resources, and increase capacity to provide long-term prevention and treatment services. Support proposals that enable qualified members of a patient's medical care team (in addition to primary care physicians) to access the CURES database to monitor drug prescriptions. Support proposals that allow for the continued expansion of medical assisted treatment and preventive harm reduction programs such as naloxone distribution. Support harm reduction services and monitor proposal for supervised consumption sites that aim to reduce the chance for HIV and Hepatitis C transmission and prevent overdose deaths.
  - d) **Mental Health Services Act (MHSA, Prop 63):** Advocate for additional MHSA funds for capital expenditures, housing supports, creation of permanent funding streams for crisis services currently funded by MHSA grants. Monitor and take positions as needed on implementation of the 2016 No Place like Home Initiative, especially as it relates to funding for support service planning for residents in newly developed housing. Support the removal of justice-involved population exclusions within the MHSA.
  - e) **Adolescent Services:** Support proposals for funding adolescent behavioral health services. Support proposals that promote care and payment models that better integrate behavioral health in pediatric primary care settings.
  - f) **Institute for Mental Disease (IMD) Exclusion Waivers:** Support proposals for California to apply, implement, and maintain the IMD waivers allowing Medicaid to cover up to 30 days of mental health or substance use treatment at IMD facilities.
- 3) **Homelessness and Supportive Housing:** Support proposals that enhance local entities' ability to provide safe and healthy housing and integrated services for homeless and at-risk populations, including persons with serious mental illness and substance use disorders, persons with complex medical conditions, veterans, seniors, pregnant women and other birthing people, children, transitional-aged youth, and their families. Housing should include increased access to behavioral and chronic healthcare services.
- 4) **Restorative Justice, Jail Health, and Violence Prevention:** Support proposals to increase diversion from jail and limit incarceration when rehabilitation or other means are available and advocate for innovative healthcare models for behavioral health for the incarcerated. Support proposals that provide funding for re-entry and transition programs that serve formerly incarcerated individuals. Support proposals that allows jails and prisons to treat opioid addictions with medical assisted therapy. Support proposals that allow for presumptive Medi-Cal eligibility of individuals upon release from custody. Support proposals to fund treatment for Hepatitis C treatment and PrEP. Support proposals that fund and strengthen violence prevention efforts, including those that address street

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violence, gun violence, intimate partner violence, and violence against women through coordinated and data driven approaches.

- 5) **Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health:** Support proposals to reduce inequities in maternal, infant, and child health, and to maximize the health and quality of life for all women, infants, adolescents, and their families in San Francisco.
- a) **Women and other birthing people, Children, Adolescents, and Families:** Support proposals that maintain or improve counties' ability to address the health and prevention needs of women and other birthing people, children, adolescents, and families, including proposals aimed at addressing childhood healthy eating and active living , expanding health education for youth, increasing access to doulas (e.g. Medi-Cal coverage for services), and supporting sexual and reproductive health of adolescents and women and other birthing people. Support Medi-Cal policies to improve intercountry transfers for pregnant people to reduce delays and interruption in care. Support proposals that address racial and ethnic inequities.
  - b) **California Children's Services Program:** Monitor and take positions as needed on proposals to change the California Children's Services program, and support proposals that maintain flexibility for counties to administer the benefit according to local needs.
  - c) **Child Health and Disability Prevention Program:** Monitor and take positions as needed on proposals to change the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program.
  - d) **Children in Foster Care:** Support proposals that decreases health disparities among children in foster care, including ensuring coordinated health care services for children in out-of-home foster care or on probation in the juvenile justice system, particularly by adequately funding the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care.
  - e) **Parental Leave:** Support proposals to expand paid parental leave at all business throughout the state in order to enable working families, including undocumented workers, to care for their children and maintain a healthy and productive life.
- 6) **Family Planning and Contraception:** Support proposals that ensure all people's access to comprehensive, low cost, readily accessible, unbiased, and noncoercive sexual and reproductive health services, including family planning, emergency contraception and abortion services. Support proposals that combat federal restrictions on reproductive health funding and services. Attention should be paid to proposals that 1) ensure range of options available; and 2) ensure access to accurate, unbiased information about reproductive and sexual health for youth and adults.
- 7) **Long-Term Care:** Support proposals that expands access to community-based services as an alternative to inpatient care, including funding to increase public health nursing home visitation and pilot programs to develop residential care facilities as an alternative to psychiatric hospital and long-term care. Support funding to help younger adults that live with long-term disabilities outside inpatient care.
- a) **Assisted Living Waiver Program (ALWP):** Support proposals to expand access to ALWP and increase the number of spaces available in the program to align the current need.
  - b) **Residential Care Facilities:** Support proposals that provide funding to stabilize and prevent the loss of residential care facilities.

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- 8) **Palliative Care:** Support proposals that increase awareness of, provide funding for, and promote access to palliative care in all settings especially for persons of color. Monitor and take appropriate positions on the development of palliative care standards for Medi-Cal managed care plans. Monitor implementation of the End of Life Option Act.
  - 9) **Hospitals and County Health Funding:** Oppose proposals to reduce funding to public hospitals (e.g. removal of 340B program) and monitor and adopt positions as appropriate on issues impacting hospital operations, including proposals related to staffing ratios, charity care, workers' compensation, disease reporting, or reporting of quality or performance indicators. Monitor and adopt positions as appropriate on proposals that modifies the current Realignment funding system. Support proposals for additional resources for alternative care programs, such as child and adolescent psychiatric hospitals and crisis residential, hospital diversion, and partial hospitalization programs, in order to reduce the burden on public hospitals. Support funding to automate and report data to prevent decreases in rate adjustments by CMS.
  - 10) **Workforce Development:** Support proposals to expand the use of nurse practitioners and other qualified medical professionals to the fullest extent of their training. Support proposals to increase the supply and diversity of primary care and behavioral health providers, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, and peers, to address their current shortages. Support proposals to evaluate the allocation of differing types of health professionals in the workforce to assure access to high quality care. Support proposals to create culturally competent workforce that is concordant with client population facing greatest health disparities.
  - 11) **Health Information and Technology:** Support proposals that improve methods of sharing health care data to enhance service provision while maintaining a balance with reasonable levels of patient privacy protection. Specifically, support proposals that allows for better information sharing while balancing the privacy rights for people seeking treatment for substance use issues. Support proposals for the integration of telemedicine into service provision, as well as new payment and service models that allow telemedicine expansion.

## **B. Population Health Issue Areas**

- 1) **Population Health & Prevention:** Support proposals to increase funding for fully integrated core public health activities, including epidemiology, disease surveillance, communicable disease control and prevention, immunizations, public health laboratory services, environmental health, occupational health, tobacco control, healthy eating and active living, chronic disease prevention and management, violence and injury prevention, and prevention of health care associated infections.
- 2) **Health Equity:** Support proposals to create dedicated funding streams for preventive services and activities that improve community health outcomes and address health inequities. Support proposals that enable systems and providers to reduce health inequities (i.e. support infrastructure for the collection, analysis, and use of race, language, and ethnicity and disability data in planning efforts to reduce or eliminate disparities). Increase opportunities to include health implications into cross-sector policies outside the health arena to promote health, equity and sustainability.
- 3) **Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion:** Support proposals to increase funding and policies that fully integrate and address population-based efforts for chronic disease prevention and health promotion, including efforts to reduce cancer, diabetes, obesity, oral health, heart disease and stroke. Support efforts to increase funding for community health, nutrition and physical activity services.

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- 4) **Emergency Medical Services:** Support proposals to adequately fund and enhance Emergency Medical Services (EMS) response systems and EMS disaster preparedness initiatives. Support proposals that authorize a local EMS agency to approve transport appropriate individuals to alternative destinations, including sobering centers and other behavioral health centers.
  - 5) **Public Health Preparedness:** Support efforts to adequately fund public health preparedness, including increased funding on preparing and responding to emerging infectious diseases, increased funding on preparing health care systems for disasters and stabilized funding for public health planning and response. Support proposals that ensure emergency programs and planning are inclusive of the needs of vulnerable populations, including those with access and functional needs, people with disabilities, those unable to be self-sufficient for 72-hours following an emergency, as well as other groups disproportionately impacted in emergencies.
  - 6) **Tobacco/Nicotine control:** Support proposals to increase taxes on tobacco products at the state and local levels and monitor state tobacco laws and regulations to ensure are consistent with often-more stringent local laws. Monitor and take positions as needed on issues related to vaping and electronic cigarettes.
  - 7) **Cannabis:** Monitor and take positions as appropriate on proposals related to medical and adult use cannabis with an emphasis on supporting safe access and minimizing youth exposure. Support funding for public health surveillance, research and monitor changes in drug use patterns associated with cannabis use. Support state laws and regulations that will align enforcement of health and safety standards to Hemp-derived consumption products. Monitor and take positions as needed on issues related to vaping.
  - 8) **Transportation and Vision Zero:** Support proposals that help achieve the City's Vision Zero goal as stated in the [Mayor's Vision Zero SF 2019 Action Strategy](#) (i.e. automated speed enforcement, speed limit setting for safety, congestion pricing policy, local regulation of transportation network companies) and expand opportunities to develop safe, high-quality environments for biking and walking. Emerging issues also include Autonomous Vehicles and Automated Driving Systems, E-Scooters, E-Bikes, and other emerging mobility issues with implications for health, safety and equity.
  - 9) **Food Security:** Support proposals to enhance local entities' ability to provide healthy food for vulnerable residents.
  - 10) **Healthy Housing:** Support healthy, safe and high-quality housing, particularly for low-income people.
  - 11) **Climate Change and Justice:** Support proposals that aim to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change and address climate justice issues, including efforts to increase ability for vulnerable communities to respond to climate-related hazards and other natural disasters.
  - 12) **Immigration:** Support proposals that promote health and well-being, support family unity, remove barriers and protects access to health services, and foster civic engagement and support integration among immigrant communities.
  - 13) **Massage:** Support proposals that help eliminate Illegitimate Massage Businesses (IMB) operating in San Francisco to aid in the prevention of human trafficking, unsafe working conditions, and labor law violations, including wage theft. Support proposals that would increase funding streams to help massage practitioners subjected to human trafficking and wage theft in IMB (e.g. increasing repeat violation penalty fees to fund workforce development resources for massage practitioners).