MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday March 5, 2019 4:00 p.m.
101 Grove Street, Room 300
San Francisco, CA 94102

1) Present: Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D., President
Commissioner Cecilia Chung
Commissioner Dan Bernal
Commissioner Laurie Green, MD
Commissioner Tessie Guillermo
Commissioner James Loyce, Jr., M.S., Vice President
Commissioner David J. Sanchez Jr., Ph.D.

The meeting was called to order at 4:03pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING of FEBRUARY 19, 2019

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the February 19, 2019 minutes.

3) DIRECTORS REPORT
Grant Colfax, Director of Health, gave the report. The full report can be viewed at:
http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp

HHS Finalizes Rule to Revise Regulations Governing Title X Family Planning Program
On February 22nd, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released a finalized rule revising the regulations governing the Title X family planning program. The rule keeps the key provisions included in HHS’s rule proposal introduced in 2018. Under the final rule, health care providers receiving Title X funds would not be allowed to perform abortions or refer patients to abortion services. These entities are already barred from using government funds for abortion, but can currently use other funding sources to subsidize these types of services. The rule also imposes new requirements for Title X funded providers that could further undermine family planning services. The rule is scheduled to take effect in 60 days following its publication in the Federal Registrar and is likely to encounter legal action.

The Title X family planning program is the sole federal program dedicated to funding family planning services. The program focuses on helping low income individuals affordably obtain health services such as cancer.
screenings, birth control, STD/STI screenings, pregnancy tests, and well-woman exams. In San Francisco, several health clinics receive Title X funding. In response to the proposed rule, San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a resolution (File No.170102) denouncing the rule and affirming San Francisco’s commitment to protect and maintain an individual’s choice to receive access to critical women’s health services. SFDPH also submitted formal comments to HHS opposing the rule in July 2018.

State Legislation Introduced to Address Hospital Balance Billing Practices
On February 25th, Assembly Member David Chiu and Senator Scott Wiener introduced a bill, AB 1611, to prohibit balance billing practices by hospitals. Under the legislation, hospitals would be prohibited from billing insured patients, regardless of their plan type, and charging them rates higher than their copay or deductible. The bill would also limit payments from insurance companies to hospitals to no greater than 150 percent of Medicare rates or the “average contracted rate” with insurance companies in the geographic area, whichever is higher. San Francisco Department of Public Health is supportive of efforts to increase patient protections and is continuing to analyze the bill. The legislation, if passed and signed by the governor, would take effect January 1st, 2020.

Passing of Public Defender Jeff Adachi
After hearing of the sad and sudden death of Chief Public Defender Jeff Adachi on February 22nd, Comprehensive Crisis Services (CCS) sent staff on Monday to be available, to provide grief counseling and support to the Public Defender’s Office. In addition to providing drop in support, CCS staff participated in the lunch hour remembrance, which about 75 Public Defender office staff attended. CCS presence was very much welcome and appreciated which was demonstrated by the many thanks given by staff from the Public Defender’s Office.
Jeff Adachi’s kind heartedness and tenacious spirit for Social Justice will truly be missed.

Mayor London Breed announces new funding to support homeless people suffering from behavioral health and substance use disorders
On February 27th, Mayor London N. Breed announced that the San Francisco Department of Public Health has received a $3 million grant to fund outreach and treatment efforts for homeless individuals suffering from behavioral health and substance use disorders. This funding will expand services for two years to further support the Healthy Streets Operation Center’s (HSOC) efforts to help those struggling on San Francisco’s streets, including case management, clinical services, and social worker engagement. HSOC is the City’s coordinated, multi-departmental effort to address homelessness and unhealthy street behaviors. The funding will go also towards increasing the City’s number of clinicians, social workers, and peer navigators; augmenting the Street Medicine Team and Harm Reduction Van to ensure there are coordinated and visible services; and extending hours of operations for programming and services to include more nights and weekends so there is greater coverage for those on the streets.
The grant to the Department of Public Health comes from the California Department of Health Care Services. The Department of Public Health will use the funding to support these services through the end of June 2020.

Mayor London Breed announces completion of Hummingbird Place expansion of behavioral health and substance use stabilization beds
On February 21st, Mayor London Breed announced that 14 new beds are now operational at Hummingbird Place, a Navigation Center specifically tailored to serve clients with behavioral health and substance use issues. Hummingbird Place can now serve up to 29 overnight clients at a time, in addition to daytime clients. Hummingbird Place works closely with adults facing homelessness, mental health and substance use challenges and introduces clients to a multi-disciplinary system of care. In October, Mayor Breed announced the expansion at Hummingbird Place and directed the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) to expedite and expand a plan to add mental health beds at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital.
As a result of the recent Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) windfall appropriation, Mayor Breed now expects to be able to open an additional 86 new behavioral health stabilization beds, bringing the total to 100 new beds this year.

Electronic Health Record Update
In February, the Health Department’s (DPH) IT team began the process of identifying staff to serve as Super Users during the first wave of the Epic Electronic Health Record (EHR) implementation process. Super Users are key to the success of the EHR. Super Users ensure that staff feel supported by peers who understand the system and work environments within environments within DPH. To identify Super Users, the Epic team collaborated with DPH Human Resources and union partners to develop a process for managers to nominate candidates and for staff to volunteer. The selection process concludes in mid-March, and Super User kickoffs begin in April.

Stormy weather response
In response to the recent winter storms, the health department’s Public Health Emergency Preparedness & Response (PHEPR) team coordinated with City agencies including the Department of Emergency Management to prepare for the storm including disseminating information about expanded Main Library hours, reminding partners that 311 is a point of contact for unsheltered people, and supporting the Department of Homelessness & Supportive Housing and Human Services Agency with any medical needs sheltering. In addition, PHEPR sent multilingual alerts, tips, and information about weather guidance to critical partners which are composed predominantly of agencies who serve the most vulnerable populations.

Health Impacts of Family Insecurity brief
The SFDPH brief, *Health Impacts of Family Housing Insecurity*, was issued in February 2019 by the Children’s Environmental Health Promotion Program and the Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health Section, documenting the impact on birth outcomes, child health and life course development, and maternal stress. Housing security is the extent to which an individual’s customary access to reasonable quality housing is long lasting. Examples of housing insecurity include homelessness, high housing cost, overcrowding, frequent moves, being behind on rent and poor-quality housing. Food insecurity is also associated with housing insecurity.

This brief explains the factors and impacts of housing insecurity, describes how some San Franciscan families experience housing insecurity, and provides recommendations for DPH involvement. Primary findings from a literature search include (1) housing insecurity causes toxic stress, which derailed normal child growth and development and predisposes children to poor health outcomes in adulthood, and (2) housing insecurity of pregnant women is linked to preterm birth, which contributes to infant mortality and may influence lifelong health outcomes of that child. Overall, the contents of this brief concludes that family housing insecurity requires an urgent civic response.

A DPH and MEDA related project of PhotoVoice housing insecurity research by 8 Mission District women will soon be viewable at casah-sf.org.

Director of Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health retires
Mary Hansell, DrPH, RN is retiring her role as Director of Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) after a distinguished forty year career in nursing and public health. Under Mary’s leadership, MCAH has emerged as a leader in addressing some of the health department’s (DPH) most urgent concerns, including racism and inequities impacting our workforce, and disparities in women and children’s health in San Francisco. She has been a tireless advocate, and through her expertise in public health she has earned the deep respect of people across DPH, as well as other city leaders and our community partners. DPH thanks Mary for her exemplary service to the children and families of San Francisco. During the process of hiring a permanent Director of MCAH position, Joshua Nossiter, MBA will assume the role and responsibilities of Interim Director of MCAH, effective March 1st, 2019.
UCSF-led study shows holistic approach may ease suffering in vulnerable populations

On February 20th, *Journal of General Internal Medicine* published a study that tracked the impact of a program for low-income, at-risk patients with chronic pain at Tom Waddell Urban Health Clinic, a San Francisco Department of Public Health primary care clinic in San Francisco’s Tenderloin neighborhood. The clinic is the flagship health care site for the homeless population, and where UCSF medical students are trained and mentored.

According to this study led by researchers at UCSF, the three-month program providing group support, acupuncture, mindfulness, massage and gentle exercise may offer safer, extra relief to patients on prescription opioids. After completion of the program, patients continued to have access to weekly groups offering the same services. Opioid prescription use remained consistent during the program and dipped slightly three months later.

The study compared 41 participants who had been on prescription drugs such as hydrocodone, oxycodone and methadone for at least three months with 20 other would-be participants who expressed interest in the program. The researchers found a 12 percent drop in pain intensity in the study participants, compared with no change in pain among the comparison group.

Co-Authors of the study include: Emily Hurstak, MD, MPH, MAS, of UCSF; Kristina Leonoudakis-Watts, Frank Sidders and Joseph Pace, MD, of the San Francisco Department of Public Health; and Hali Hammer, MD, of UCSF and the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

**Gene O'Connell’s UCSF Global Nursing Program**

In February, Gene O'Connell’s UCSF Global Nursing students from Tokyo Japan’s Soka University Bachelor of Science Nursing program visited ZSFG to interview ZSFG nursing staff on their Nursing Research topics. The six nursing students interviewed ZSFG nursing staff on their following research topics: strategies and preventive care for patient suicide in the U.S. hospitals, What roles do the U.S. nursing managers take for hospital job satisfaction, Pediatric nurse compassion fatigue - how do they cope and get support, What are the U.S. nursing practices to prepare pediatric patients for painful procedures, how do nurses provide safe environments for better patient outcomes if staff perceive heavy workloads, what kind of oncology nursing care is provided to patients with cancer fatigue? The ZSFG nursing staff were happy to be interviewed and share the ZSFG and U.S nursing care perspective on these topics.

**Tuberculosis nursing leadership recognition**

Rocio Agraz-Lara, MSN, RN, PHN from the Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic, Disease Prevention and Control Branch, Population Health Division, has been recognized with two prestigious awards in honor of her exemplary leadership in TB nursing. The first award is the Carol Pozsik TB Nurse Award granted by the National TB Controllers Association to honor exemplary care, service, dedication, or leadership in the field of TB prevention and control. The second award is the Brenda Ashkar award, which is given annually to a registered nurse working in a TB Program in California, and celebrates the values of leadership, flexibility, creativity and “doing whatever it takes” to improve the health of their community.

**DPH in the News (Feb 15 – Feb 27)**

BAR, Feb 27 2019, SF health officials embrace non-daily PrEP dosing regimen


SF Chronicle, Feb 26 2019, Open forum: SF must address cause of health disparities


SF Chronicle, Feb 26 2019, SF gets $3 state million grant for mental health, drug abuse services for homeless

Epeak, Feb 25 2019, CA lawmakers roll out plan to end surprise emergency room bills

SF Chronicle, Feb 24 2019, Chiu, Wiener take on SF General’s big bills — legislation to ban billing practice

SF Examiner, Feb 24 2019, Controversial ZSFGH billing practice that left privately-insured owing thousands could be banned

SF Gate, Feb 21 2019, SF supervisors ask city’s General Hospital why its bills are so big

SF Examiner, Feb 21 2019, ZSFGH could cap out-of-pocket payments for privately insured patients after outcry over billing practices

BAR, Feb 20 2019, SF health chief’s on the job

Press Democrat, Feb 19 2019, Sexually transmitted disease spikes in Sonoma County, with homeless people at high risk

SF Chronicle, Feb 15 2019, SF General pauses exorbitant bills, but canceling all old ones would be better
ZUCKERBERG SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL
HOSPITAL & TRAUMA CENTER

February 2019
Governing Body Report - Credentialing Summary
(2/21/19 MEC)

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**Current Statistics – as of 8/1/18**

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<td><strong>TOTAL MEMBERS</strong></td>
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Reappointments 3 37
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  Reappointment Denials: 0 0
Resigned/Retired 1 11
Disciplinary Actions 0 0
Restriction/Limitation-Privileges 0 0
Deceased 0 0
Changes in Privileges
  Additions 0 0
  Voluntary Relinquishments 0 0
  Proctorship Completed 1 3
  Proctorship Extension 0 0

Current Statistics – as of 07/31/2018
Active Medical Staff 34
As-Needed Medical Staff 16
External Consultant Medical Staff 45
Courtesy Medical Staff 2
Affiliated Health Practitioners 14
TOTAL MEMBERS 111

Applications in Process 0
Applications Withdrawn this month 0

Commissioner Comments:
Dr. Colfax asked Dr. Tomas Aragon, Health Officer, to give an update on the recent measles case in San Francisco. Dr. Aragon stated that an adult was exposed to measles on an international flight. He also stated that there have been recent Measles outbreaks in New York state and New Jersey. The SFDPH Health Advisory was sent out to medical providers with information regarding the recent case in San Francisco and giving information about Measles.

Commissioner Comments:
Commissioner Chow asked Dr. Aragon for possible reasons why there have been Measles outbreaks in New York and New Jersey. Dr. Aragon stated that these states have laws regarding personal exemption for vaccines; he noted that California passed a law to remove personal exemptions but does still allow medical exemptions.

Commissioner Chow asked for a brief update on ZSFG billing practices. Dr. Colfax stated that the SFDPH will be distributing its recommendations in 30 days. State legislation has been introduced to prohibit balanced billing for patients and would require that out-of-network hospitals bill insurance companies amounts no greater
than in-network costs. He added that the SFDPH is monitoring this legislative process and are in communication with the Mayor and Board of Supervisors on this important issue.

Public Comment:
Karl Kramer, San Francisco Living Wage Coalition, stated that the Minimum Compensation Ordinance passed last year requires a higher minimum wage with an annual cost of living increase. He noted that the Human Services Network is in opposition to implementing this ordinance because they do not have a good relationship with their contractors. He added that the Coalition is going to each Department to let them know it is their responsibility to implement this ordinance.

Aiden Quinn, San Francisco Living Wage Coalition, stated that non-profits must submit a proposal for how they will comply with the ordinance on an annual basis. He asked what steps are being taken by the SFDPH to ensure their contractors are in compliance.

4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT
Marina Padilla Millan, Kaiser employee and UCSF student, asked that the Health Commission and SFDPH support MediCare for all.

5) FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
Commissioner Chung, Chair, stated that committee recommended that the full Health Commission approve the March Contracts Report and a new contract request with CSI Companies Inc. She noted that the Committee also discussed a SF City Option update and gave feedback on the draft DPH FY2017-18 Annual Report.

6) CONSENT CALENDAR

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the following item:

- MARCH 2019 CONTRACTS REPORT
- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW CONTRACT WITH THE CSI COMPANIES, INC. DBA CSI HEALTHCARE IT (CSI) TO PROVIDE RESOURCE CAPACITY AND EXPERTISE TO DELIVER CLASSROOM TRAINING, CERTIFIED EPIC TRAINERS, AND OVERALL TRAINING MANAGEMENT OF ALL CSI PROVIDED RESOURCES FOR UPCOMING TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD PROJECT. THE TOTAL PROPOSED CONTRACT AMOUNT IS $8,877,973 WHICH INCLUDES A 12% CONTINGENCY FOR THE INITIAL TERM OF MARCH 1, 2019 TO AUGUST 31, 2020. THE CONTRACT HAS AN OPTION TO EXTEND THE INITIAL TERM FOR A MAXIMUM OF 18 ADDITIONAL MONTHS IF THERE IS A CONTINUED NEED FOR THE SERVICES. THE FULL TERM OF THE CONTRACT INCLUDING OPTIONS IS FROM MARCH 1, 2019 TO FEBRUARY 28, 2022 (36 MONTHS).

7) 2016 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY BOND UPDATE
Mark Primeau, SFDPH Capital Projects, Terry Saltz, ZSFG Capital Projects, and Joe Chen, Department of Public Works Project Manager, presented the item.

Items 7 and 8 were presented together; comments are consolidated in this item.

Commissioner Comments:
Commissioner Chow asked for more information about plans for parking on the ZSFG campus. Mr. Bade stated that UCSF will provide 160 parking spaces at its Mission Bay campus; a free shuttle service will also be offered. Mr. Saltz stated that ZSFG has leased 134 parking spaces one mile from the campus. Parking for the emergency room will remain in the parking structure. When construction is completed, the ZSFG parking garage will focus on providing parking for patients.
Commissioner Guillermo asked if the bond sale has been scheduled. Mr. Primeau stated that the second bond sale is anticipated to be implemented in September. He noted that because the project is not spending as much as anticipated, there is no foreseen problems with this bond sale schedule. He also stated that the bond sale will likely be combined with other CCSF Departments’ bond sales to save costs.

Commissioner Bernal asked if the project will need any additional approval from the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Primeau stated that the Board of Supervisors will not need to approve additional construction.

Commissioner Chow asked if the delays in project timelines will increase the cost of the project. Mr. Primeau stated that because the project uses only one contractor, costs can be contained. He added that the project team meets with the SFDPH CFO and ZSFG CEO every two weeks to review the project budget projections.

Commissioner Sanchez congratulated the team for the great work to improve quality and access to care for patients.

Commissioner Chung noted that it is almost 30 years since San Francisco’s last big earthquake; the Health Commission has not been given an update for plans to renovate 101 Grove Street. Commissioner Chow noted that there are plans to move SFDPH administration to the ZSFG campus and requested that this be included in the upcoming DPH Capital Projects update and/or the next Public Bond update later in the year.

8) UCSF RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC BUILDING AT ZSFG UPDATE
Michael Bade, UCSF Associate Vice Chancellor, presented the item.

Items 7 and 8 were presented together; comments are consolidated in item #7.

9) RESOLUTION: “INCARCERATION IS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE”
Naveena Bobba MD, Deputy Director of Health, and Lisa Pratt MD, Jail Health Services Director, presented the item.

Public Comment:
Kate Monico Klein, San Francisco Taxpayers for Public Safety, recommended an amendment to resolution which identifies cis/trans-women as a population warranting resources apart from the other jail populations. She also presented and submitted the following comment, attributed to Elise Riley, Ph.D, UCSF/ZSGH:

The community-based San Francisco research my colleagues and I have conducted with low-income women over the past decade found that homelessness was the strongest correlate of incarceration. More recently we found that homelessness and violence were the strongest predictors of disease progression in HIV-infected low-income women. These studies are consistent with dozens of others conducted across the country and they all consistently point to jail and prison time as being tightly linked to violence, trauma, substance use, mental health and overall physical health.

These issues are inextricably linked, they are pervasive, and collectively they are a public health problem that disproportionately effects our most vulnerable low-income citizens. I applaud the SFDPH for officially acknowledging the connections between incarceration and health. Only conditions that are named receive the attention they deserve, and that attention leads to new ideas toward improving policies, guidelines and systems. Thank you for elevating this important issue.

Roma Guy, San Francisco Taxpayers for Public Safety, thanked the Health Commission for considering the resolution. She urged the Commission to recognize that since the 1940’s, the San Francisco County Jail population has been over 50% African American. She submitted the following suggested language for the resolution:
“Further Resolved, that the Health Commission strengthen the intervention and whole person care of the services continuum in the Roadmap including treatment placement and housing collaborations need to match the adopted policy of Jail Replacement Project priorities and other identified priorities. Further, the Roadmap shall include an ACTION Plan including current 2019 budget measurable objectives, identified investments and timeline; and, including a process of engaging community stakeholders, related community providers, some of whom contract with DPH, and community-based agencies including SF criminal justice involved individuals and advocates of jail replacement reforms.”

Michelle Loya Talamante commended the Commission for considering this resolution, which confirms that incarceration is a public health crisis that impacts marginalized communities in the city. Instead of locking up more people, we need to expand mental health support, conflict mediation remedies, prevention, diversion, and jail reform. She added that transitional age youth are 12% of San Francisco’s population but are 26% of those incarcerated.

Daniel Madrigal, health educator at a public health institute, stated that San Francisco should be a leader in choosing health instead of incarceration. The City should be lifting up alternatives to incarceration. He supported the resolution but is against renovating or opening a new jail, including a mental health jail.

Commissioner Comments:
Commissioner Chung stated that she supports the tenants of the suggested revised language and suggested that resolution address the impact of children separated from their incarcerated parent.

Commissioner Guillermo asked if other counties have passed similar resolutions. If not, it is important to note that San Francisco could be breaking new ground within the United States. She recommends that the SFDPH widely distribute the resolution when it is approved on 3/19. Dr. Pratt stated that the resolution reflects how the SFDPH addresses the impacted population; she noted that the SFPDH is a national model for Jail health care. She added that the resolution reaffirms that people with behavioral health and medical issues are better treated in community programs.

Commissioner Chung requested that a “Whereas” statement be added to define incarceration.

Commissioner Bernal thanked Roma Guy, who brought this initiative to the Health Commission, and all those who made public comment.

Commissioner Bernal asked collaboration within CCSF departments could better reflect accurate data on African Americans incarcerated in the San Francisco jail. Dr. Bobba stated that the City’s MacCarthur grant project will lead to more effective and accurate data. Dr. Pratt stated that the Sheriff’s Department will be getting a new data system around the time that EPIC is implemented in the Jail.

Commissioner Loyce thanked Roma Guy, Dr. Pratt and Dr. Bobba for their work on the resolution. He noted that he served on the Jail Replacement Project and the group was often frustrated with the question of which data to use since CCSF Departments all have different data systems. He added that he would like the Sheriff to work collaboratively with the SFDPH.

Commissioner Chung and Commissioner Loyce stated that jails are not an ideal working environment for employees. She added that she will not be present for the vote but supports the resolution.

Commissioner Chow requested that the resolution “Further Resolved” statement should include improved data on the relevant populations. He also suggested language reflecting that jails are not healing environments. He asked for clarification of the term “roadmap” in the resolution. He requested that the Sheriff be invited to the March 19, 2019 meeting to comment on the resolution.
Dr. Colfax thanked Ms. Guy and the SFPDH staff who have worked to strengthen the resolution. He noted that the resolution describes equity issues related to incarceration that need to be addressed. He also stated that the final report should include budget projections for initiatives described in the recommendations.

10) **SFDPH ANNUAL GIFT REPORT FY2017-18**
Anne Okubo, Deputy Financial Officer, presented the item.

**Commissioner Comments:**
Commissioner Chow thanked all the donors, including foundations, that made contributions the SFDPH programs.

**Action Taken:** The Health Commission unanimously approved the SFDPH Annual Gift Report FY2017-18.

11) **OTHER BUSINESS:**
This item was not discussed.

12) **JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**
Commissioner Chow, ZSFG JCC Chair, stated that at the February 26, 2019 meeting, the Committee discussed the following reports in open session: Regulatory Affairs Report, CEO Report, Human Resources Report, and Medical Staff Report. The Committee approved Addiction Medicine in Pediatrics privileges and Addiction Medicine Privilege in Psychiatry. During closed session, the Committee approved the Credentials and PIPS minute report.

13) **ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting was adjourned at 6:06pm.