

Edward A. Chow, M.D.

President

Cecilia Chung

Commissioner

Judith Karshmer, Ph.D., PMHCNS-BC

Commissioner

David Pating, M.D.

Commissioner

David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.

Commissioner

David B. Singer

Commissioner

Belle Taylor-McGhee

Commissioner

**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO**

**Edwin M. Lee, Mayor
Department of Public Health**



Barbara A. Garcia, M.P.A.
Director of Health

Mark Morewitz, M.S.W.
Executive Secretary

TEL (415) 554-2666

FAX (415) 554-2665

Web Site: <http://www.sfdph.org>

MINUTES

**JOINT MEETING BETWEEN THE HEALTH COMMISSION
AND COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

Tuesday, September 16, 2014, 4:00 p.m.

101 Grove Street, Room 300 San Francisco, CA 94102

I.) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D. , President
Commissioner Cecilia Chung
Commissioner Judith Karshmer, Ph.D, PMHCNS-BC
Commissioner David B. Singer
Commissioner Belle Taylor-McGhee

Excused: Commissioner David J. Sanchez Jr., Ph.D.

The following Commissioners from the Commission on the Status of Women Commissioners were also present: Nancy Kirshner-Rodriguez, Andrea Shorter, Amy Ackerman, Alicia Gamez, Mary Jung, and Julie Soo.

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm.

Commissioner Chow welcomed new Health Commissioner, David Pating, MD and the Commissioners of the Commission on the Status of Women. Nancy Kirshner-Rodriguez, Commission on the Status of Women President, thanked the Health Commission members for hosting the joint meeting.

II) New Business

A. Resolution Recognizing the Contributions of Roma Guy, MSW

Commissioner Comment/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow stated that he was pleased to recognize Ms. Guy, who served as a Health Commissioner and continues to do impactful work throughout the City.

Commissioner Taylor-McGhee stated that she supported the resolution and added that Ms. Guy has always had focused intently on women-centered services.

Commissioner Soo, Commissioner on the Status of Women, stated that Ms. Guy is tiny but a mighty leader.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution.
(Attachment A)

Action Taken: The Commission on the Status of Women unanimously approved the resolution.

B. Resolution Recognizing October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution.
(Attachment B)

Action Taken: The Commission on the Status of Women unanimously approved the resolution.

C. Resolution Recognizing the 2014 CEDAW Women's Human Rights Awardees

Action Taken: The Commission on the Status of Women unanimously approved the Commission on the Status of Women resolutions.

(Note: The Health Commission did not vote on resolutions in item C.)

D. Top Health Issues Affecting Women in San Francisco

The SFDPH provided an overview of data describing the top health issues affecting women in San Francisco.

Public Comment:

Sonia Melara, former Health Commissioner, stated that as much as is being done to prevent domestic violence. She also stated that SFDPH services visits are great opportunities to screen for domestic violence. She added that data shows a connection between domestic violence and physical/mental health. She encouraged a focus on prevention and education efforts.

Commissioner Comment/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chung stated that the White House released a report on the intersection of HIV, violence against women/girls, and health disparity; the report recommended trauma-informed care. Director Garcia stated that SFDPH has trained and will continue training its providers to be trauma-informed.

Commissioner Shorter, Commissioner on the Status of Women, stated that domestic violence happens in every zip code; she added that the public health care system is one place to address this issue through better screening.

Commissioner Soo, Commissioner on the Status of Women, thanked Commissioner Melara for her comments. She added that infant mortality is an area that needs more focus; even those African American women with higher income rates still have high rates of infant mortality.

Commissioner Taylor-McGhee stated that the term “Reproductive Justice” brings together reproductive rights, sexual health, socio-economic issues, and justice. She added that domestic violence can impact whether a women is on birth control or accesses health care.

Commissioner Shorter, Commission on the Status of Women, asked if there have been any successful programs working with health disparity and socio-economic issues of African American women in San Francisco. Director Garcia stated that the SFDPH is effectively working closely with the San Francisco Housing Authority on the Hope SF project in several housing projects. She added that this includes a workforce component.

Commissioner Kirshner-Rodriguez, Commission on the Status of Women, asked if data from ACA enrollment, Healthy San Francisco, and the SFDPH clinics, can be used to provide useful information. Director Garcia stated that the SFDPH has conducted ongoing analysis of these data and have found that, unlike many cities across the country, there is not pent-up demand from people who have not accessed health care in many years; this is because Healthy San Francisco provided access to health care services since 2007.

Commissioner Chung stated that transgender women are often not represented in data and added that transgender women of color often have drastic health disparities. She also stated that the SFDPH is now collecting transgender data from its consumers which will be helpful for future efforts to target this population.

Commissioner Soo, Commission on the Status of Women, stated that childcare is an issue relevant to women’s access of services.

E. Women’s Health-Related Policy

Emily Murase, Ph.D, Executive Director of the Department on the Status of Women, presented an overview policy issues related to women and girls.

Commissioner Comment/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Kirshner-Rodriguez, Commission on the Status of Women, stated that San Francisco is not leading on the issue of human trafficking. She added that San Francisco should have shelters and safe houses for victims to go and local courts should be prosecuting perpetrators more severely. She also stated that the work of the Family Violence Council is an effective model and suggested the Health Commission review its reports.

Commissioner Singer requested that the Health Commission calendar an item on human-trafficking and best practices for a future meeting.

Commissioner Gamez, Commission on the Status of Women, stated that human trafficking screening should be part of medical provider appointments.

Commissioner Chung asked if the Family Violence Council has looked that San Francisco Unified School District data showing the high rates of dating violence experienced by Latino students. Commissioner Kirshner-Rodriguez stated that this issue was a topic of the Council.

Commissioner Pating stated that the intersection of the trauma of domestic violence disrupts each development stage of life; the related stress may impact health outcomes. He requested that the Health Commission hear more about how the San Francisco Health Network and the SFPDH Population Health Division are addressing issues of domestic violence and trauma in its programs.

Commissioner Chow stated that in the Asian communities, there may be a cultural obstacle to report incidents of domestic violence of any member of a family. He asked if the Family Violence Council has addressed this issue. Commissioner Kirshner-Rodriguez stated that the Commission on the Status of Women Justice and Courage Oversight Committee discussed this issue and found that isolation worsened the situation for many families.

Commissioner Karshmer thanked the Department on the Status of Women for the informative presentation and requested that the Health Commission have better access to the work of other San Francisco Commissions.

Public Comment:

Beverly Upton thanked the Commissioners for honoring Roma Guy and stated that many important issues related to women in San Francisco would not have gotten attention without Ms. Guy. She added that domestic violence screening is happening at the SFPDH health clinics.

F. Women's Services in the San Francisco Health Network

Department of Public Health Director Barbara Garcia introduced the following SFPDH staff who gave the presentation: Mary Hansell, MD, Director of Maternal, Child, Adolescent Health; Colleen Riley, MD, Medical Director of Laguna Honda Hospital; and Ellen James, MD, Medical Director of Maxine Hall Health Center.

Commissioner Comment/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow stated that he hopes the San Francisco Network will have more outcome data on women to get a better understanding of where there are gaps in service needs; he added that the Komen Foundation annual report is an example of excellent data that shows health outcomes.

Commissioner Soo, Commission on the Status of Women, stated that the data showing poverty in Asian families living in the Richmond is surprising. She also stated that Asian women have higher rates of fibrous breast tissue and more effective health education is necessary to help them understand how this impacts their choices in regard to breast exams and cancer screenings.

Commissioner Taylor-McGhee asked if the SFPDH clinics are trained on the Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC). Dr. James stated that three of the SFPDH health center staff have been trained; are using the LARC model; and have doubled the rates of long-term contraception in patients. She added that the the remaining clinics will be trained in the model.

Commissioner Chung thanked the presenters for the data and the vignettes and stated the stories would be good to use in publicity for the San Francisco Health Network. Roland Pickens, Director of the San Francisco Health network, stated that a marketing and branding campaign will soon be rolled out for the Network.

Commissioner Chung requested that Lyon-Martin data be included in any future Health Commission discussion on women's services and issues.

Commissioner Pating requested San Francisco Health Network data by zip code for future presentations.

Commissioner Chow thanked all the Commissioners and the Departments' staff for a productive meeting. Commissioner Kirshner-Rodriguez, Commission on the Status of Women, stated that the meeting helped forge paths for future collaboration.

II) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Reuben David Goodman stated that Mariner House violated his admission agreement. He added that the board and care has been vital to his wellness and recovery.

Roberta Guise thanked the Commissioners for an insightful meeting. She added that the STEM science camp for girls was a success this year and plans are already underway for next year. She also stated that October 19 is the 69th anniversary of the creation of the United Nations.

III) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.

**HEALTH COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 14-16**

Resolution Recognizing the Life & Legacy of Roma Guy

WHEREAS Roma Guy has touched an immeasurable number of individuals over the course of her career through her tireless advocacy for the marginalized and oppressed, service on over 14 boards, and commissions of agencies that champion a woman's rights to health and safety; and,

WHEREAS Ms. Guy was a founding member of several community-based women's and girls' programs and organizations where she made significant strides to empower vulnerable women and survivors of gender-based violence, including The Women's Foundation of California, The Women's Building, San Francisco Women Against Rape, and La Casa de las Madres; and,

WHEREAS Ms. Guy previously served on the San Francisco Health Commission, and taught at the San Francisco State University College of Health and Human Services in the Department of Health Education where she was Clinical Faculty for the Masters in Public Health program; and,

WHEREAS Ms. Guy is currently Chair of the Health Priority Committee for the California Women's Agenda, a member of the Board of Directors for California Health Access Coalition, and a member of TechSoup Global Community Advisory Committee which focuses its efforts on preventing domestic violence, and its Human Trafficking Subcommittee; and,

WHEREAS A member of the LGBT community, Ms. Guy is an Advisory Board member of the first national Lesbian Health & Research Center, which is housed at the School of Nursing at the University of California, San Francisco, with the goal to improve the health and well-being of lesbians, bisexual women, transgender people, and their families; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women and San Francisco Health Commission express their deepest appreciation to Roma Guy for her legacy of service to the City and County and the women and girls of San Francisco.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting on September 16, 2014 adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz
Health Commission Secretary

**HEALTH COMMISSION
RESOLUTION NO. 14-15**

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the annual incidence of breast cancer in San Francisco is 118.4 women per 100,000, and the mortality rate is 17.7 women per 100,000; and,

WHEREAS, there is a continuing gap in treatment outcomes for underserved populations diagnosed with breast cancer; and,

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Department of Public Health is committed to promoting the health of all San Franciscans through public health interventions and provision of health services; and,

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Department of Public Health's Breast and Cervical Cancer Services (BCCS), a public health intervention, is designed to expand services to underserved populations of women; to coordinate breast and cervical cancer screening services within the San Francisco public health system; and to collaborate with other existing programs providing breast and cervical cancer screening, education and advocacy services; and,

WHEREAS, Services are provided at San Francisco General Hospital's (SFGH) 5M Breast Education and Referral Clinic (BERC), 3M Breast Clinic, Tom Waddell's Women's Clinic, SAGE Clinic, San Francisco County Jails and Curry Senior Services; and,

WHEREAS, BCCS staff assist women in finding services convenient and appropriate to age, health status and income level; and,

WHEREAS, BCCS collaborates with community residents and community based private and public organizations to respond to breast and cervical cancer and general well being issues of the community served;

WHEREAS, the Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Center (ACBCC) at San Francisco General Hospital, which serves all San Franciscans and is the "safety net" for all uninsured and underinsured women in the City, provides state-of-art mammography, biopsies and over 11,000 breast imaging studies annually; and,

WHEREAS, BCCS and ACBCC staff collaborate to assist women with breast and cervical cancer screening, diagnostic and treatment services, follow-up appointments, education, outreach and referrals, all of which are available in Cantonese, Mandarin and Spanish as well as English;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the San Francisco Health Commission and the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women recognize the San Francisco Department of Public Health's excellent programs and work in encouraging screening and providing sensitive, appropriate, timely, and supportive care and celebrates those efforts during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, October 2014.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting on September 16, 2014 adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz
Health Commission Secretary