



## San Francisco Department of Public Health

Barbara A. Garcia, MPA  
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco  
Mark Farrell  
Mayor

### **Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of March 20, 2018**

*A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco*  
<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

#### **State Update**

##### **State Bill Introduced to Reform California Conservatorship Laws**

State Senator Scott Wiener has proposed SB 1045, to reform California's conservatorship laws with the aim of better meeting the needs of individuals who suffer from chronic homelessness. Current conservatorship laws provide a procedure to appoint a conservator for people who are "gravely disabled" as result of a serious mental health disorder or an impairment by chronic alcoholism. SB 1045, which is supported by Mayor Mark Farrell, would expand conservatorships and provide another option to counties to address the needs of their most vulnerable residents. The bill allows counties to appoint a conservator for a person who is chronically homeless and incapable of caring for their own health and well-being due to serious mental illness or substance use disorder. SB 1045 requires that individuals who are conserved through this process are appropriately placed in supportive community housing, a licensed health care or psychiatric facility, community-based residential care settings, or in supportive housing that provides wraparound services.

##### **DPH Marks World TB Day by Honoring North East Medical Services**

The Health Department's Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program will celebrate World TB Day on March 22 by honoring North East Medical Services (NEMS) for their exemplary leadership in tuberculosis (TB) prevention. Following the ceremony, California Tuberculosis Controllers Association (CTCA) and Breathe California Golden Gate will lead a walk from NEMS to Vaillancourt Fountain near the San Francisco Ferry Building to raise TB awareness.

TB is one of the world's deadliest infectious diseases, responsible for more deaths each year than HIV/AIDS. In 2016, nearly 1.7 million people died of TB disease, even though it is preventable and curable.

Nearly 2.4 million Californians have TB infection, representing 20 percent of cases in the United States. San Francisco reported 107 new cases in 2017, an increase from 2016 (100 cases) and 2015 (96 cases), which was the lowest rate in city history. People born outside of the U.S. continue to experience higher TB rates compared to their U.S.-born counterparts, with the highest rates among Asians / Pacific Islanders and Hispanics born outside of the U.S.



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TB screening and treatment are essential to wipe out TB. If you have a risk factor for TB or are unsure, ask your health care provider about testing and treatment. A printable list of TB testing sites in San Francisco can be found [here](#).

SF City Hall will join the yearly global initiative “Light up the World for TB” and be lit red on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 in observance of World TB Day

### **DPH Gives State and Local Health Departments HIV Prevention Training**

Last month, the Center for Learning & Innovation (CLI) hosted 34 prevention program staff from 16 state and local health departments across the country at its first Public Health Detailing Institute—a new offering of CLI's national CDC-supported Capacity Building Assistance program in High Impact HIV Prevention ([getscba.org](http://getscba.org)).

In order to scale up highly effective HIV prevention strategies like antiretroviral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and RAPID initiation of antiretrovirals shortly after HIV diagnosis, clinical providers in the community need to be knowledgeable and prepared to prescribe them. Public Health Detailing is an evidence-based approach that engages trained detailers to visit provider offices and deliver key messages that aim to change provider behavior. The Population Health Division has gained significant experience with this strategy over the past two years. CLI partnered with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the National Resource Center for Academic Detailing (NaRCAD) to organize a highly interactive three-day agenda where Institute participants built skills in detailing as well as program development and evaluation with plans to implement their new programs in their jurisdictions in the next six months. For more details about the Institute and Public Health Detailing, visit <http://getscba.org/resources/>

### **DPH in the News**

POZ, Mar 15 2018, SF’s drive to treat people with HIV immediately see progress  
<https://www.poz.com/article/san-franciscos-drive-treat-people-hiv-immediately-sees-progress>

KTSF, Mar 14 2018, Chinese restaurants scored low on sanitary inspections  
<http://www.ktsf.com/chinese-restaurants-scored-low-on-sanitary-inspections/>

Selected coverage of the March 12 grand opening of the San Francisco Healing Center at St. Mary’s Hospital

SF Chronicle: <https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/For-mentally-ill-homeless-patients-new-center-12727229.php>

NBC Bay Area: <https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/San-Francisco-Adds-Dozens-of-Conservatorship-Beds-to-Help-Mentally-Ill-476013073.html>

Bay City News: <https://patch.com/california/san-francisco/san-francisco-adds-beds-homeless-mentally-ill>



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UCSF: <https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2018/03/409976/san-francisco-partnership-launches-mental-health-center>

SingTao: <https://www.singtaousa.com/sf/446-%E7%81%A3%E5%8D%80/530593-%E9%BA%A5%E6%B3%95%E6%81%A9%E5%87%BA%E5%B8%AD%E7%B2%BE%E7%A5%9E%E7%97%85%E6%B2%BB%E7%99%82%E4%B8%AD%E5%BF%83%E5%89%AA%E7%B6%B5/>

SF Examiner, Mar 12, 2018, SF Supe calls for more aggressive efforts to treat, suppress HIV  
<http://www.sfexaminer.com/sf-supe-calls-aggressive-efforts-treat-suppress-hiv/>

SF Chronicle, Mar 10 2018, Deaths of homeless people go uncounted in Oakland – and most places  
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Deaths-of-homeless-people-go-uncounted-in-Oakland-12743919.php>

SF Chronicle, Mar 10 2018, San Francisco Leaders see big benefits in sanctuary  
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/San-Francisco-leaders-see-big-benefits-in-12743933.php>

SF Chronicle, March 9 2018, Laura’s Law is helping many – but still only making a dent in SF  
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/news/article/Laura-s-Law-is-helping-many-but-still-only-12742813.php>

KGO, Mar 8 2018, New at-home kit promises to be the Amazon of STD testing  
<http://abc7news.com/health/new-at-home-kit-promises-to-be-the-amazon-of-std-testing/3192363/>

SF Chronicle, March 7 2018, Yelp’s food-safety alerts steer diners away from dirty restaurants, but also spark controversy  
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/restaurants/article/Yelp-s-food-safety-alerts-steer-diners-away-12736687.php>

SF Chronicle, March 6 2018, SF officials hope for judges’ help in getting troubled homeless off streets  
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/SF-officials-hope-for-judges-help-in-getting-12733426.php>

SF Chronicle, March 4 2018, For mentally ill homeless patients, new center offers 54 beds and a dose of hope  
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/For-mentally-ill-homeless-patients-new-center-12727229.php>