

Health and Human Services Agency
Health Services Advisory Board (HSAB)
January 5, 2021, *3PM–5 PM* Virtual Meeting on Microsoft Teams, San Diego, CA

Public Health Officer's Report

I. Communicable Disease Issues

A. Infectious Disease Issues

1. Influenza

- For this 2020/2021 flu season week ending December 12, 2020, there have been 46 lab confirmed flu cases reported and no deaths. This compares to a previous three-year average for the same time of the year of 1,426. Among these cases, 63% or 29, are Flu A.
- The total number of influenza vaccinations registered this flu season to date is 1,070,094 through December 12, 2020.

2. Measles

- For calendar year 2020 to date, there have been no reported confirmed measles cases.

3. Mumps

- Mumps continues to circulate within San Diego County
- In 2020 so far, there have been 42 cases of mumps identified in San Diego County. This compares to 65 for the same period last year.

4. 2019 Novel Coronavirus

- As of December 17, 2020:
 - The current number of COVID-19 cases in the U.S. is over 16,756,581 and 306,427 deaths
 - California Cases
 - The current number of cases in CA is now 1,723,362 cases and 21,860 deaths.
 - San Diego Cases
 - San Diego County residents – 116,852 with 1,239 deaths
 - See the [COVID-19 Watch](#) latest publication on December 15, 2020 (also attached).

II. Board Actions

- A. On September 15, 2020, the BOS approved the receipt of \$20 million in funding for an Epidemiology & Lab Capacity (ELC) grant from CDC through CDPH. This is a two-year grant with a focus on enhancing communicable disease detection, surveillance, and diseases control.

III. Public Health Issues

- A. The following Health Observances are throughout the month of December:

- World AIDS Day 12/1/2020
- National Influenza Vaccination Week—December 6-12
- National Handwashing Awareness Week (December 7-13)
- Safe Toys and Celebrations Month

B. New Applications

1. California Department of Justice “Tobacco Grant Program 2020-2021”:

- a. HHSA submitted a grant for the California Department of Justice Grant Program on August 7, 2020.
 - i. This funding would support Tobacco Retail Licensing Program enforcement efforts.
 - ii. It would also help the Program deliver a focused digital media campaign to increase knowledge about the dangers of youth tobacco use.
- b. If funded, award notification will be in November 2020.

- i. If successful, the project will begin on or about January 1, 2021 (per the Department of Justice's Request for Proposal). HHS applied for 36 months of funding (January 2021 to December 2023).
 - ii. The funding amount requested was \$754,063.00 for 36 months.
 - iii. The funding amount requested per FY is: FY 2020-21 (\$65,143), FY 2021-22 (\$281,599), FY 2022-23 (\$284,842), and FY 2023-24 (\$122,479).
 - iv. This is a competitive grant application.
- 2. Kresge Emerging Leaders in Public Health Grant:**
- a. The last of the two Kresge city meetings are tentatively scheduled for early 2021 (City of Solana Beach and the City of Coronado).
 - b. Due to continued shift of priorities towards the COVID-19 response, the County of San Diego PHS is requesting an additional extension to the grant period. We are in the process of getting approval with a new grant end date of March 31, 2021.
 - c. **Contracting with public speaker, Reggie Caldwell, in developing a Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) training series for PHS Leaders and staff for the timeframe of January – March 2021.**
- 3. National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) Multi-state EHR-based Network for Disease Surveillance (MENDS)**
- HHS is participating in the MENDS project, to build real-time chronic disease surveillance capacity in participating jurisdictions as a first phase in the development of a national surveillance model.
 - A contract for \$50,000 was received on 11/16/2020 and is under review.
 - The project is sponsored by CDC and facilitated by the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) in partnership with the Public Health Informatics Institute (PHII).
 - The project will involve collaboration between HHS and San Diego Health Connect (SDHC) with each entity receiving separate funding to support participation

C. Funding

1. Local Oral Health Program (LOHP):

- **LOHP contractors continue to provide services virtually. To date for this fiscal year, 32 pediatric providers and 18 dental providers are participating in our program and providing important oral health messages. UCSD Dental Health Initiative/Share the Care and County staff are working with home visiting programs to train and support their staff.**
- **The San Diego Oral Health Coalition and the Oral Health Advisory Board continue to meet virtually.**

2. Tobacco Control Resource Program (TCRP):

- A Board Letter and recommendations for a Tobacco Retail Licensing program was heard on **for a 3rd reading on 12/8/20 and passed on a 4 to 1 vote.**
- On direction of the Board, TCRP staff are coordinating with HHS and County communications to promote a vaping public awareness campaign.
- The TCRP media contractor, Civilian, will implement a targeted public awareness campaign June-September 2020. The purpose of the campaign is to promote tobacco-free priorities, including reducing exposure to secondhand smoke in outdoor dining areas and limiting youth and young adult smoking initiation through tobacco retailer licensure. The campaign will focus on Port of San Diego, Poway, San Marcos, Santee, and the unincorporated area of San Diego County.
- On 7/17/20, the CDPH California Tobacco Control Program announced a 6-month extension of the 2017-2021 Local Lead Agency (LLA) Plans originally scheduled to end on 6/30/21. The extension is for the period 7/1/21-12/31/21. The extension acknowledges concerns from local programs regarding COVID-19 and ensures adequate time to complete the Communities of Excellence (CX) needs assessment with full community member participation that will inform the development of a comprehensive tobacco control plan for the next funding period. TCRP will submit the 6-month extension SOW and budget plan during the LLA Open Revision Period which occurs 9/1/20-10/31/20.

3. EISB Funding:

- On Tuesday, July 21, 2020, the County was notified by CDPH of a nearly \$900,000 additional funding amount to support enhanced flu and COVID-19 immunization efforts.
- On August 12, 2020, the County was notified by CDPH of \$20,000,000 funding through the CDC Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity (ELC) grant funding. These are for this current and next fiscal years.

On September 15, 2020, the Board of Supervisors approved the receipt of this funding to support enhanced surveillance, investigation, response, prevention and partner coordination/engagement efforts.

- **On October 21, 2020, the CDPH formally notified the Counties of additional funding supplements to the existing Immunization Action Plan Annual Grant funding. This will be in the additional amount of \$1,064,731 and comes with specific requirements about COVID-19 vaccine planning and implementation.**

4. STD Funding:

- The CDPH STD Control Branch (STDCB) received a \$5 million one-time increase in funding spendable in FY16-17, FY17-18, and FY18-19. HSHB received \$427,649 of that amount.
- San Diego received notice of funding award for STD services in the amount of \$1,045,125 for the period of July 1, 2019-July 30, 2024. This represents an annual decrease of \$228,024 per year. CDPH has directed most of the funding to health jurisdictions experiencing high rates of congenital syphilis and syphilis among women of childbearing age.
- HSHB is receiving \$775,254 in STD funding from CDPH State Local Assistance Funds for the time period of 7/1/2019 – 6/30/2022 for STD prevention and control activities. Fifty percent of the funding will be contracted out to local community providers.

5. CalFresh Healthy Living (Formerly known as NEOP or Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention, through the SNAP-ED Program):

- Single Source contract for Champion Childcare Provider Program with the YMCA of San Diego County effective date: 10/21/19.
 - Funded at \$100,000 annually through 9/30/22.
- Single Source contract for Physical Activity and Nutrition Education with San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) effective date: 8/7/20.
 - Funded at \$200,000 annually through 9/30/22.
- Contract 562520 for Healthy Cities, Healthy Residents--SafeRoutes to Healthy Places with Vista Community Clinic effective date: 7/8/20.
 - Funded at \$88,000 annually through 9/30/22.
- Contract 562520 for Healthy Cities, Healthy Residents--Safe Routes to Healthy Places with Vista Community Clinic effective date: 7/8/20.
 - Funded at \$88,000 annually through 9/30/22.
- Contract 563031 for Active Living Planning and Policy Services for City of Vista Project with Alta Planning + Design Inc. effective date: 8/6/20.
 - Funded at \$148,368 for initial term and \$99,800 annually through 9/30/20

6. Perinatal Equity Initiative:

- Mental Health America of San Diego was selected as the contractor for the PEI Fatherhood Parenting Program. Services for African-American fathers will begin in August 2020.
- To commemorate Black Breastfeeding week, MCFHS in collaboration with the San Diego County Breastfeeding Coalition hosted a free screening of the documentary film, Chocolate Milk, which promotes breastfeeding in the African-American community, on August 26th.
- The next PEI Community Advisory Board meeting will be held on September 11, 2020 via Microsoft Teams.
- The PEI public awareness campaign developed by Civilian is scheduled to kick-off in October 2020. The campaign will educate the community on how systemic racism negatively impacts African-American maternal and infant mortality.
- The PEI public awareness campaign developed by Civilian went live on September 14, 2020.

<https://blacklegacynow.com/>

- The campaign will educate the community on how systemic racism negatively impacts African-American maternal and infant mortality.
- The Request for Quotation for PEI's Implicit Bias Educational Training Program was on BuyNet from October 26, 2020 through November 23, 2020. Proposals will be reviewed in the coming weeks.
- **A contractor for the PEI Implicit Bias Educational Training (IBET) has been selected and program is moving forward with the procurement process with a potential 1/1/2021 start date.**
- **PEI is planning a media conference in January 2021 to increase awareness of inequities in infant and maternal health outcomes for African Americans and to the PEI program.**

7. San Diego Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (SD REACH):

- Contract amendment for REACH project year 1 executed with Circulate San Diego (existing CalFresh contractor) to develop plans for Active Transportation planning to be led by the City of San Diego through the end of the 5-year CDC grant (Sept. 31, 2023).
- Contract 563034 for Active Transportation Project with Circulate San Diego -year RFQ for Active Transportation services effective date 8/7/20.
 - Funded at \$120,000 for initial term and \$60,000 annually through 8/31/23.
- **Contract amendment for Cardiovascular and Diabetes Prevention and Management Project with University of California – San Diego (contract number 559701) to add REACH specific Community Health Worker scope of work. Effective date on 8/14/2020**
- **Potential funding at \$105,000 for period from 1/15/2021 (tentatively) to 6/30/2021**
- **Funded at \$60,000 for period from 8/14/2020 to 9/29/2020 with carryover from 9/30/2020-12/30/2020. Pending Contract amendment for Child Obesity Prevention Services Project with University of California – San Diego (contract number 560830) to implement a media campaign to increase participation in a REACH related**

8. CDC Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Grant Supplemental Funding:

- a. HHSa submitted a grant application for supplemental funding to support flu vaccination coverage. Project began September 30, 2020 and will run through September 29, 2021 and will involve a collaborative effort between EISB, Office of Strategy and Innovation, and MCFHS/CDHE.
- b. A media contract Brown Communications **was established on November 17th, 2020** through an existing County- wide service contract and funded at \$140,000 to develop the REACH: Fight the Flu campaign
- c. The first phase of the campaign launched digital and radio ads on 12/6/20 during National Influenza Vaccine Awareness Week will run through 12/20/20.
- d. The second phase of the campaign will include digital, television, radio, and billboard ads and will run from 12/21/20 to 3/31/21.

IV. Public Health Initiatives

A. Major Initiative Updates and Highlights

1. Getting to Zero

- Dr. Tilghman continues to try to engage HASDIC to get on an upcoming meeting agenda. The Medical Advisory Committee members also have requested a "champion" for routine HIV testing in the Board of Supervisors. The next meeting is not currently scheduled due to COVID-19.
- The HIV, STD and Hepatitis Branch has been awarded \$9,693,670 in Ending the HIV Epidemic funding for HIV prevention for the time period 8/1/2020-7/31/2025. This complements the \$5,000,000 awarded earlier this year for Ending the HIV Epidemic funding for HIV care and treatment for 3/1/2020-2/28/2025. Procurements necessary to administer the services in each of the grants are under development.

2. Hepatitis C Initiative – Approved by the Board of Supervisors in November of 2018.

- The initiative is on track and continues to be a collective impact approach with American Liver Foundation providing a coordination role along with the participation and leadership of multiple other stakeholders.
- Meetings for all committees have initiated and on track (Steering; Research and Surveillance; Access, Testing, and Treatment; and Consumer).

V. Board Letter Forecast

July 2020			
1. Provide COVID-19 Update	7/7/20	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
August 2020			
2. Provide COVID-19 Update	8/4/20	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
September 2020			
3. Provide COVID-19 Update with Acceptance of CDC Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Enhancing Detection Funding	9/15/20	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
4. Authorize Mutual Aid Agreement Regions I, VI	9/15/20	PHPR	Rob Sills
5. Accept Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) Supplemental Funding	9/29/20	MCFHS	Adrienne Yancey
6. Provide COVID-19 Update	9/29/20	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
October 2020			
7. Provide COVID-19 Update	10/13/20	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
8. Present Tobacco Retailers License Program Recommendations: 1 st Reading	10/27/20	MCFHS	Adrienne Yancey/ Alison Sipler
9. Provide COVID-19 Update	10/27/20	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
10. Accept CDPH Ending the HIV Epidemic Funding	10/27/20	HSHB	Patrick Loose/ L. Brookshire
November 2020			
11. Provide COVID-19 Update	11/17/20	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
12. Present Tobacco Retailers License Program Recommendations: 2 nd Reading	11/17/20	MCFHS	Adrienne Yancey/ Alison Sipler
13. Renewal of San Diego Health Information Exchange Contract	11/17/20	HSA IT	(PHS is concurrence)
December 2020			
14. Provide COVID-19 Update	12/8/20	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
15. Present Tobacco Retailers License Program Recommendations: 2 nd Reading (additional BOS changes from 11/17/20)	12/8/20	MCFHS	Adrienne Yancey/ Alison Sipler
16. Present Tuberculosis Elimination Initiative Recommendations	Board Memo	TBRHB	Dr. Kadakia
January 2021			
17. Provide COVID-19 Update	1/12/21	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
18. Provide COVID-19 Update	1/26/21	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten

19. Provide Harm Reduction Recommendations	1/26/21	BHS	(PHS is concurrence)
February 2021			
20. Provide COVID-19 Update	2/9/21	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
21. Contract Extension Authority for Public Health Information System (PHIS) with Netsmart Technologies, Inc.	2/9/21	ADMIN	Karen Ventimiglia
March 2021			
22. Provide COVID-19 Update	3/2/21	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
23. Provide COVID-19 Update	3/16/21	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
24. Provide Update for Eliminate Hep C Initiative	3/16/21 or MEMO	ADMIN	Dr. Wooten
25. Accept Ryan White Part A annual funding award	TBD	HSHB	Patrick Loose/Lauren Brookshire
May 2021			
26. Accept Safe Routes to School- Active Transportation Grant	5/4/21	MCFHS	Adrienne Yancey
27. Accept Perinatal Equity Initiative Program Funding and Seek Authority to Amend Civilian, Inc. Contract	5/4/21	MCFHS	Adrienne Yancey
TBD:			
28. Accept State Oral Health Funding to Contract with City of Escondido			
29. Provide Kratom Ordinance Recommendations			

VI. Announcements

A. Personnel

1. New Hires:

- As of 12/17/2020, there are 511 staff working as COVID-19 case investigators, 81 outbreak investigators and 348 persons working as contact tracers.
- Administrative Analyst II position in the HIV, STD and Hepatitis Branch filled by Lourdes Pereria, effective 11/20/2020.
- Dr. Daniel Libraty, a new Assistant Medical Director within EISB started on 12/18/2020.
- Community Health Program Specialist position in the Maternal, Child, and Family Health Services (MCFHS) branch filled by KellyAnne Rodriguez effective 11/6/20.

VII. Site Visits/Audits

Timeframe	Description	Auditor
Visit: TBD Report: TBD	Health Resources and Services Administration site visit for Ryan White Part A to cover programmatic and fiscal review. Postponed until further notice due to COVID-19.	Health Resources and Services Administration
Visit: TBD Report: TBD	California Department of Public Health annual site visit for Ryan White Part B to cover programmatic and fiscal review.	California Department of Public Health
Visit: TBD Report: TBD	Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Cooperative Agreement Annual Site Visit	CDC
Visit: 11/5/20 Report: TBD	Annual State Audit of grant funded Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program	California Department of Public Health

VIII. Recognitions and Awards

- A. On Thursday, September 24, 2020, The San Diego Foundation, in collaboration with Alliance Healthcare Foundation, The David C. Copley Foundation and San Diego Gas & Electric, recognized Dr. Wooten with the Dr. Wilma Wooten Courage Scholarship. The scholarship supports the education pillar of the Black Community Investment Fund and will provide scholarships to San Diegans who are pursuing a degree in health sciences and come from communities underrepresented in higher education, especially students who are the first in their families to attend college.

Submitted by Wilma J. Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., Public Health Officer and Director, January 5, 2021.