County of San Diego
HEALTH SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting | Zoom| CAC Rm 302

Tuesday, August 4, 2026, 3:00pm to 5:00pm
MEETING MINUTES

SEAT	DISTRICT	PRIMARY	ALTERNATE	ATTEND	PRESENTERS	HHSA SUPPORT
13			Abrams, Lauren (Alternate)		**Sayone Thihalolipavan,** MD, MPH, Public Health Officer, Public Health Services Administration, HHSA **Addrienne Yancey,** MPH, Interim Director, Public Health Services Administration, HHSA **Kristen Dimou,** MSPT, Branch Chief, Public Health Services Healthy Families and Communities Division, HHSA **Nora Bota**, MPH, Performance Improvement Manager Public Health Services Administration, HHSA **Jamie Beam,** Chief Operations Officer, Agency Executive Office, HHSA **Shelly Tregembo,** Chief, Agency Operations, Department of Strategy and Community Engagement, HHSA	Sayone Thihalolipavan, MD, MPH, Public Health Officer, Public Health Services Administration, HHSA Addrienne Yancey, MPH, Interim Director, Public Health Services Administration, HHSA Anuj Bhatia, DrPH, Deputy Director, Public Health Services Administration, HHSA Rhonda Freeman, MPH, Branch Chief, Public Health Services Healthy Families and Communities Division, HHSA Talq Tera, Information Technology Analyst, Public Health Services Administration, HHSA Joshua Beidler, Administrative Secretary II, Public Health Services Administration, HHSA Kathrina Fulgueras, Administrative Secretary III, Public Health Services Administration, HHSA
2	1		Afflalo, Dr. Suzanne (Alternate)	Z		
6	3	Alexander-Myers, Deanna				
12		Alexiou, Dimitrios				
8	4		Arroyo, Geysil (Vice-chair)			
20	2		Coda, Besma (Alternate)			
17		Dailey, Jack		IP		
4	2	Floyd, Victoria				
14		Franciscus, Joanne		IP		
13		Fraser, Tim		IP		
9	3		Galindez, Aida (Alternate)	IP		
18	3		Greene, Dorothy (Alternate)			
11		Hegyi, Paul		Z		
2	1	Ilango, Samhita				
14			Jacobs, Kris (Alternate)			
3	2	Jantz, Barry (Chair)		IP		
7	4	Lepanto, James		IP		
11			Ohmstede, Jennipher (Alternate)			
17			Perez, Alex (Alternate)			
16		Seldin, Dr. Harriet		IP		

SEAT	DISTRICT	PRIMARY	ALTERNATE	ATTEND	PRESENTERS	HHSA SUPPORT
	2	Sly, Kelsey		IP		
12			Sumek, Caryn (Alternate)	Z		
5	3	Walters, Todd				
16			Tellez, Dr. Patrick (Alternate)	IP		
		Clark Manson, Minola		IP		

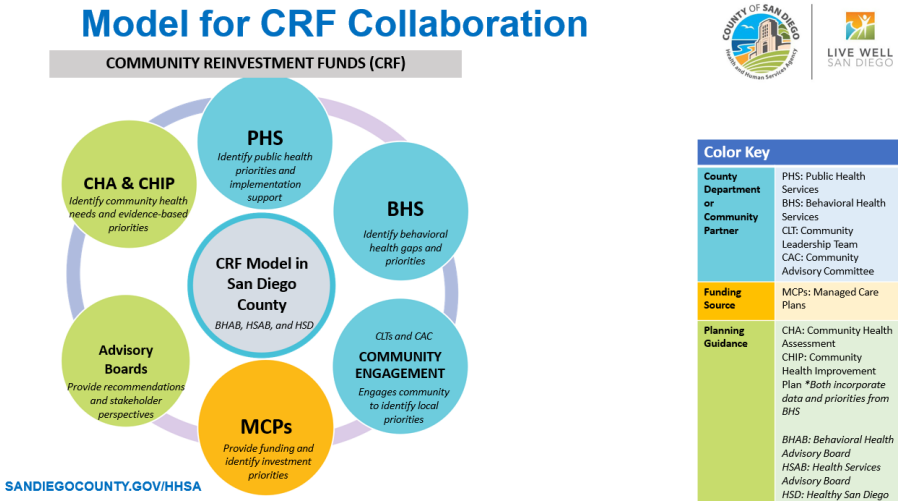
Attendance Key: **IP** = In person, **Z** = Zoom

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS	**A. Roll Call** a. **Barry Jantz** called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. b. **Roll Call:** All members in attendance indicated "here". **Board Members in person:** Barry Jantz, Dr. Harriet Seldin, James Lepanto, Joanne Franciscus, Kelsey Sly, Aida Galindez, Jack Dailey, Dr. Patrick Tellez, Minola Clark Manson, Tim Fraser **Board Members attending virtually:** Paul Hegyi, Caryn Sumek **B. Remarks from the Chairperson.** a. None. **C. Approval of Aug Agenda** a. The motion to approve the agenda was made by Harriet Seldin and seconded by Tim Frasier b. **Roll Call:** All other members in attendance voted Aye. **Board Members in person:** Barry Jantz, Dr. Harriet Seldin, James Lepanto, Joanne Franciscus, Kelsey Sly, Aida Galindez, Jack Dailey, Minola Clark Manson, Tim Fraser **Board Members attending virtually:** Paul Hegyi, Caryn Sumek **D. Approval of July Meeting Minutes** a. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Jack Dailey and seconded by Joanne Franciscus. **Roll Call:** All other members in attendance voted Aye. **Board Members in person:** Barry Jantz, Dr. Harriet Seldin, James Lepanto, Joanne Franciscus, Kelsey Sly, Aida Galindez, Jack Dailey, Minola Clark Manson, Tim Fraser **Board Members attending virtually:** Paul Hegyi, Caryn Sumek **E. HSAB Attendance Confirmation** a. One HSAB member is out due to just cause.
II. PUBLIC COMMENT	There was no public comment.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Community Reinvestment Funds, Sayone Thihalolipavan, MD, MPH, Public Health Officer. Nora Bota, MPH, Performance Improvement Manager, Public Health Services Departmental Administration Division

Community Reinvestment Funds,
Sayone Thihalolipavan, MD, MPH, Public Health Officer
Nora Bota, MPH, Performance Improvement Manager,
Public Health Services Departmental Administration Division



Question and Answer:

Barry Jantz: As you know, the Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties (HASDIC) does a 3-year cycle Community Health Needs Assessment in which many of the providers, not just the managed care plans, many of the providers are involved and set at the table. Is this completely separate of that process or does it tie in?
Nora Bota: We are very aware and have always been a partner with HASDIC on needs assessment. It still is going to be separate, but this time, instead of managed care plans, HASDIC and the County having separate assessments, the part of DHS requirement is that the Managed Care Plans provide us funding, and this is separate funding request to work with the Health Department and lead together the needs assessment for them, but HASDIC still does their own for the hospitals. I don't have the slide displayed here, but I have a timeline that shows until 2032 how we're going to go about the next two iterations of HASDIC, the county MCP Community Planning Cycle, and working in conjunction. It starts in 2028, and then every 3 years after, each entity that I talked about has an assessment every 3 years, and then, the following 6 months later, they have a plan. So, we're all moving the needle together for the community towards shared vision and goals.

Tim Fraser: How are community reinvestment dollars that the Managed Care Plans are now giving to the County, but Managed Care Plans also, when providers meet their quality standards, they get paid for performance, and then they get a piece of it? Are these two separate buckets of money? Or is some of that money that used to go to the providers now having to come to the County?
Nora Bota: This is a new process, it's the first year, and honestly, all the health departments and people in my role that I've talked to across the state, everyone's confused. Something I want to address, though, is that these funds are not guaranteed to any entity. It's not required that they come to us. Community reinvestment funds are designated by the Managed Care Plans. They have the discretion to decide who it goes to, but there are requirements from the state. There are five categories on population health, and they must decide how they're going to reinvest it in terms of one of the five. Then they submit their proposal to the state, and the state approves or doesn't approve. I just want to make sure it's clear, there's nothing saying that the funding is going to the County. The funding cannot go towards anything that Managed Care Plans have already been contracted to do. It can't go towards an initiative that they proposed that's already funded by Medi-Cal funds. There are different sources of funding. Part of the higher-level policy guide that was put out two years ago for all health departments, Managed Care Plans, behavioral services is called Community Investments. There's another part of funding that started two years ago that's related to Population Health Needs Assessments. That funding is to pay administrative costs for the County Health Department to put together the CHA and the CHIP. My team for Public Health Services, that's what we do; it pays for the cost of our services to put together community-wide needs assessment and plan for the Health Department, Behavioral Health Services, and Managed Care Plans.
Jamie Beam: It is completely separate from the incentive funds that plans have in the contracts with their providers.

Dr. Harriet Seldin: Is this going to the Healthy San Diego Advisory Board?
Nora Bota: Jamie Beam, Dr. Tuteur and Heather Summers work in conjunction and really lead that effort with Healthy San Diego, and last year, Kimberly Giardina, our former HHSA DCAO, presented to them with information about this. And then, in addition, I went ahead and presented with Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan and Dr. Ankita Kadakia last month, similar slides. This is a new initiative. I just want to make sure you do see yourselves on this collaboration model.

Barry Jantz: I'm guessing post-audit every year. Net profits will be reviewed, and so what kind of dollars are we talking about right now?
Nora Bota: Right now, the total of the three managed care plans combined, all of it is over $17 million. Per the policy guide, this first year is based on 2 years prior. So, this is revenue and quality metrics based on 2024, because this is 2026.
That was before a lot of federal changes happened, and so with that, this is Medi-Cal funding, and we know there's a decrease in Medi-Cal recipients. So, there's probably going to be a decrease in funding, if there's anything available in future years.
Dr. Sayone Thihalolipavan: After the last meeting, Jack Dailey shared a website, where that information was publicly available through a Public Records Act request, but wanted to say that we're hearing from some of the plans that there's been some changes in that dollar amount based on confirming their accounting, so to speak, and went back and forth with the state, so that $17 million, will change slightly. We can't say what the exact amount is, because we haven't heard about all three plans yet, but we're expecting some of that to change.

	Minola Clark Manson: Is there a timeline for spending the money? **Nora Bota:** They're supposed to disperse it even that first year, and it's for a 3-year period. There are specific guidelines. **Minola Clark Manson:** The delay makes me think of a lot of healthcare metrics where you don't know how you did for a little while. When do the managed care plans become aware of the quality performance? **Nora Bota:** I'll have to get back to you. Part of this process is also we have a data use agreement. I don't know if we get the data based on 2 years prior or the year before. We just got their data to put in our chart. We'll have to get back to you on that, but that's probably one of the reasons why there's a two-year lag, is to make sure they fully get the metrics. **Gustavo Barraza:** For this year, since it was the first year, it's the two years prior, but moving forward, it's one calendar year prior. So, for example, in 2027, we'll be receiving 2026 data. But for this first year, it's two years prior.
IV. CONSENT ITEMS	
A. **Authorize Acceptance of the Black Infant Health and the Perinatal Equity Initiative Allocations from the California Department of Public Health,** Rhonda Freeman, MPH, Branch Chief, Public Services Healthy Families and Communities Division	**Authorize Acceptance of Black Infant Health and the Perinatal Equity Initiative Allocations from the California Department of Public Health,** Rhonda Freeman, MPH, Branch Chief, Public Services Healthy Families and Communities Division
B. Authorize Acceptance of California Department of Transportation Funding for Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Award, Rhonda Freeman, MPH, Branch Chief, Public Health Services Healthy Families and Communities Division	**Authorize Acceptance of California Department of Transportation Funding for Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Award,** Rhonda Freeman, MPH, Branch Chief, Public Health Services Healthy Families and Communities Division
C. Accept Maternal and Child Health Grant and Home Visiting Innovation Award, Thomas Coleman, MD, MS, Medical Director, Public Health Services Healthy Families and Communities Division	**Accept Maternal and Child Health Grant and Home Visiting Innovation Award,** Thomas Coleman, MD, MS, Medical Director, Public Health Services Healthy Families and Communities Division

	Approval of Consent Items a. The motion to approve the consent items was made by Tim Fraser and seconded by James Lepanto. **Roll Call:** All members in attendance voted Aye. **Board Members in person:** Barry Jantz, Dr. Harriet Seldin, James Lepanto, Joanne Franciscus, Kelsey Sly, Aida Galindez, Jack Dailey, Minola Clark Manson, Tim Fraser **Board Members attending virtually:** Paul Hegyi, Caryn Sumek
V. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL **A. Authorize Certification Statement for California Children's Services Program,** Kristen Dimou, MSPT, Branch Chief, Public Health Services Healthy Families and Communities Division	**Authorize Certification Statement for California Children's Services Program,** Kristen Dimou, MSPT, Branch Chief, Public Health Services Healthy Families and Communities Division **CALIFORNIA CHILDREN'S SERVICES (CCS) PROGRAM** **County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency** **Public Health Services** August 4, 2026 Health Services Advisory Board Meeting **California Children's Services (CCS) Program** **CCS Case Management Program** • Provide family-centered care coordination for CCS-eligible clients with a quality of workforce, team collaboration, and strong community partnerships. • Average clients served FY25-26: 14,340 **CCS Medical Therapy Program** • To maximize functional independence of children with physical disabilities through family-centered care at the medical therapy units. • Average clients served FY25-26: 1,560  

CCS Program Eligibility

- **Medical**
  - California Code of Regulations, Title 22
- **Financial**
  - $40,000 or less; or out of pocket medical expenses expected to be more than 20% of adjusted gross income
  - Eligible for Medi-Cal
- **Residential**
  - Resident of California
  - Proof of residence in county of service
- **Medical Therapy Program**
  - No financial requirements for occupational/physical therapy services
  - Only residential requirement is must be eligible to be enrolled in a public school



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California Children's Services (CCS) Program

Funding Sources

- State General Fund
- Federal Title XIX (19)
- Federal Title XXI (21)
- Health Realignment

Authority

- California Government Code Sections 7570-7585
- California Health & Safety Code Sections 123800-123995 (Robert W. Crown California Children's Services Act
- California Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 14094-14094.3
- California Insurance Code Sections 12690.62, 12693.64, and 12693.66
- California Code of Regulations, Title 22 Social Security, Division 2, Subdivision 7. California Children's Services

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CCS Program Accomplishments FY25-26

1. **Medical Services Management:** Manage CCS eligible medical services care for 14,340 children with medical conditions (e.g., cystic fibrosis, hemophilia, cerebral palsy, heart disease, cancer, traumatic injuries, and infectious diseases producing major complications.)
2. **Care Coordination:** Assist 14,340 CCS families in navigating complete specialty care networks and medical services.
3. **School-Based Rehabilitation:** Provide direct physical and occupational therapy in partnership with local schools to 1,560 children with physical disabilities and complex, special health care needs.
4. **Expedited Hospital Determination:** Accelerate eligibility reviews at regional hospitals including Rady Children's Hospital, University of California San Diego, Sharp, and Kaiser.
5. **State Collaboration:** Partner with the DHCS to improve the state authorization system and expediate provider service approvals.





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CCS Program Performance Measures

(From DHCS CCS Monitoring & Oversight Initiative)

- County activities that DHCS monitors and reviews:
  - Annual Medical Review/Family Participation
  - Authorized Annual Special Care Center
  - Medical, Financial and Residentially Eligibility review timeframes
  - Medical Home
  - Medical Therapy Program (MTP) Chart Audits
  - Directory of Medical Therapy Unit (MTU) locations and approval letters
  - Resolution of Grievances and Appeals
  - Service Authorization Request (SAR) processing timeframes
  - Transition Planning at Ages 17 and 20

CCS Program challenges



- Challenges
  - Training and retention of experienced staff
  - Complexity of cases adds to challenge of timeliness and comprehensive care coordination required of staff to manage a high-volume caseload
  - Planning for clients with complex health care needs as they transition to adult services
  - Adequate funding



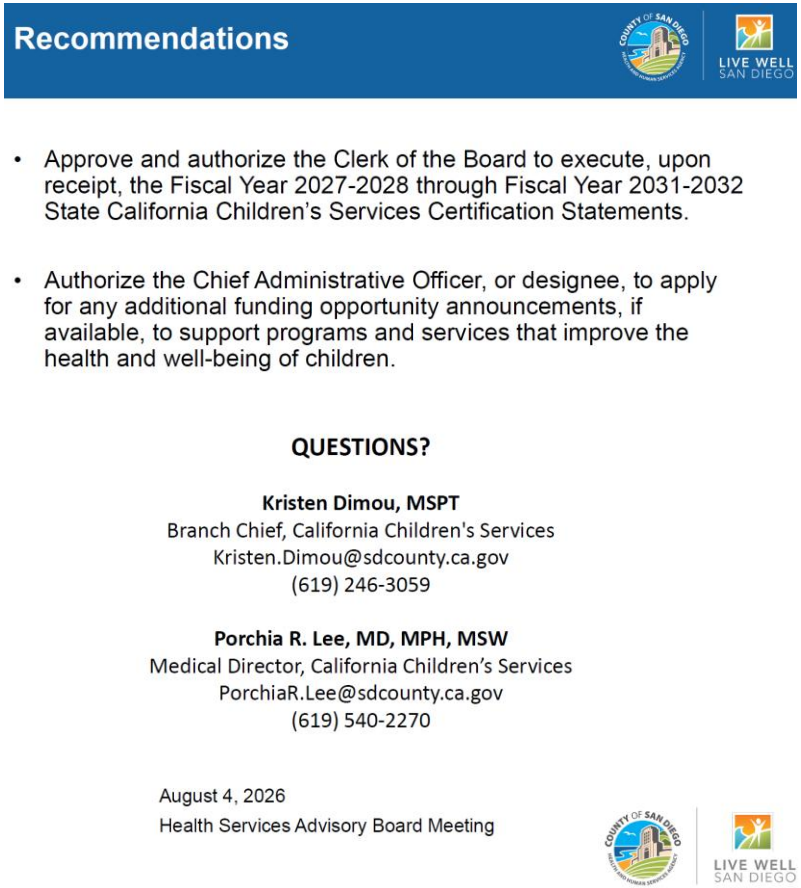
- Solutions
  - Work with Public Health Services Administration and Agency's Human Resources to retain experienced and competent workforce, and provide succession planning
  - Increase collaboration/leverage resources with community partners regarding transition to adulthood services through joint meetings, sharing resources
  - Monitor high-cost cases and ensure no lapse in Medi-Cal renewal

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California Children's Services (CCS) Program Certification

Required by the California Department of Health Care Services
Fiscal Year 2027-2028 through 2031-2032

This certification acknowledges County compliance with all regulatory requirements and allows the County to receive State and Federal reimbursements for services ($24,504,715 for July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028 and similar amounts for future fiscal years).



Question and Answer:

Barry Jantz: What happens in the determination reviews? If a hospital is not included in your list, what does that look like?
Kristen Dimou: We handle overall eligibility reviews as well as service requests. When a doctor refers a child for specialized surgery or equipment, our case management team reviews the request, connects the child with the appropriate provider, and ensures they can attend their appointments without any barriers. We have HR access. Others, we have to connect with the providers, and then they'll fax us medical records.
Barry Jantz: Is anything going on at the federal level that would suggest there's a legislative move in any way to change any of those laws that would reduce funding?
Kristen Dimou: The only issue is the changes in Medicaid, Medi-Cal, the changes in the UIS population and satisfactory immigration status and having to go through more requirements for Medi-Cal renewal in some cases. So, I mentioned in my

presentation that if cases lose Medi-Cal and they move into one of those other statuses, there is more of a County share cost to paying for services for those kids. But there's a lot of exemptions in those new requirements that I think our population will be able to apply for. We're trying to work with our clients, make sure they understand what some of the exemptions are, and try and support them in maintaining their Medi-Cal eligibility.

James Lepanto: I saw the number of 14,000. Is that a cumulative of how many children and families we have served, or is that annually?
Kristen Dimou: That's an average over the fiscal year. Cases fall on and off. We do a monthly caseload count, and then that's the average. 14,000, is correct, yes.
James Lepanto: Do we see it increasing as far as the number of clients that we're serving?
Kristen Dimou: It's reduced over time. During the COVID pandemic, there was a requirement to maintain eligibility for cases and to not close cases. Since then, we've seen a reduction. I think we're finally at more of a steady state, and our pre-COVID numbers for caseload were around 14,000, so I think it's been pretty steady.

Minola Clark Manson: It said you're having issues with training and retaining experienced staff. And the solution I see is only having HR do some more work. But HR is going to do the same work they've always done, because that's their job. Have you done anything to go beyond what Human Resources is doing, like connecting with schools and colleges, having apprenticeships, working with Workforce Partnership?
Kristen Dimou: Our team collaborates with HR on both standard and unique staffing approaches. To support work-life balance for pediatric OT and PT staff, we've created part-time positions, which is uncommon for the County. For nursing staff, remote case-management capabilities have expanded recruitment across San Diego, including rural areas, by eliminating the need to commute. On the therapy side, we maintain MOAs with universities, accept students for clinical rotations, and bring in volunteers who need hours for OT/PT graduate programs. These students and volunteers gain hands-on experience, support clinic operations, and often become strong future hires, creating a mutually beneficial pipeline for recruitment.

Kelsey Sly: How are the six schools listed for therapy program chosen?
Kristen Dimou: We work collaboratively with those schools' special education manager, we identify sites, and the school is actually required to provide the clinic space and some budget and supplies and items in those areas.

Approval of Item

a. The motion to approve the consent item recommendations was made by Jack Dailey and seconded by Tim Fraser.
   Roll Call: All members in attendance voted Aye.
   Board Members in person: Barry Jantz, Dr. Harriet Seldin, James Lepanto, Joanne Franciscus, Kelsey Sly, Aida Galindez, Jack Dailey, Minola Clark Manson, Tim Fraser
   Board Members attending virtually: Paul Hegyi, Caryn Sumek, Dr. Suzanne Afflalo

Health Services Advisory Board Vote on Continuation of SB 707 Implementation

B. Health Services Advisory Board Vote on Continuation of SB 707 Implementation	**Approval of Item** a. The motion to approve authorization to request to continue SB 707 implementation was made by Tim Fraser and seconded by Minola Clark Manson. **Roll Call:** All members in attendance voted Aye. **Board Members in person:** Barry Jantz, Dr. Harriet Seldin, James Lepanto, Joanne Franciscus, Kelsey Sly, Aida Galindez, Jack Dailey, Minola Clark Manson, Tim Fraser **Board Members attending virtually:** Paul Hegyi, Caryn Sumek, Dr. Suzanne Afflalo The Public Health Services Department will issue its memo to the Clerk of the Board, as done previously, providing updates on meeting operations, quorum expectations, and the continued in-person attendance of most advisory board members under SB707. The department will also notify the Clerk of the Board that these conditions are expected to remain stable with the Board of Supervisors' renewal and approval.
VI. REPORTS **A. Youth Engagement**	**Youth Engagement** Awaiting the scheduled meeting with Supervisor Anderson.
B. Meetings with Supervisor Offices	**Meetings with Supervisor Offices** Dr. Kristen Nolan, who has succeeded Michael Kennedy, will be contacted by Geysil Arroyo and James Lepanto to schedule a meeting. Dr. Suzanne Afflalo will also have a brief meet-and-greet with Dr. Nolan at a health fair on 8/5/26.
C. HR1 Updates **• Safety Net Bridge** **• CMS Reform** Jamie Beam, Chief Operations Officer, HHSA, Agency Executive Office. Shelly Tregembo, Chief, Agency Operations, Department of Strategy and Communications	**HR1 Updates** Jamie Beam, Chief Operations Officer, HHSA, Agency Executive Office Shelly Tregembo, Chief, Agency Operations, Department of Strategy and Community Engagement **• Safety Net Bridge** **• CMS Reform** The Behavioral Health Transformation and Social Safety Net Ad Hoc Subcommittee is expected to reconvene in August and review the initial analysis and recommendations in early September. We anticipate that the earliest Board date when these would go before the full Board would be on October 27th.

As of July 30th, we have done 120 presentations and over 5,800 people have gotten the presentation on CalFresh, and we've been getting Medi-Cal information out into the community. You can request a presentation for your organizations, or others that you work with at www.Livewellsd.org/benefits. You'll see the food access button and the 2-1-1 Work Ready Hub there too.

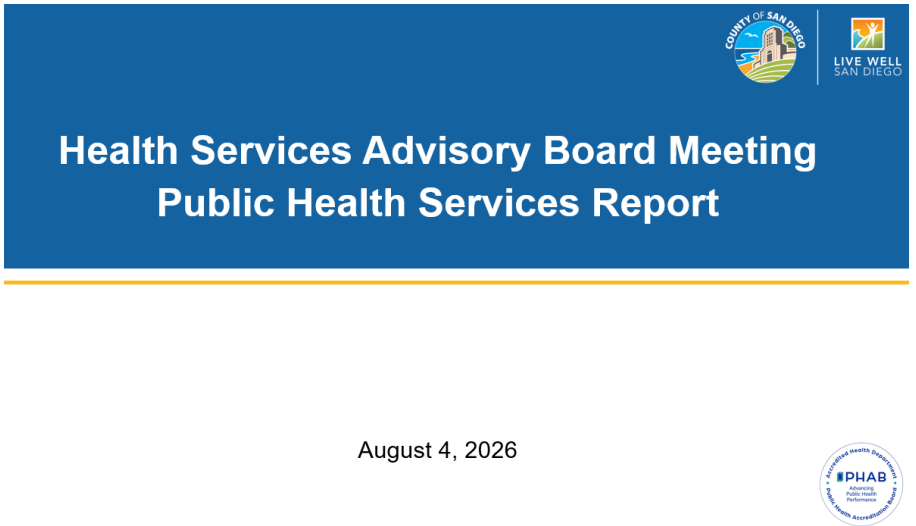
Public Meetings: Learn More About Benefits Updates

August 13	**All-Sector Telebriefing** Stay informed about important updates to CalFresh and upcoming changes to Medi-Cal. This session will cover who may be affected, who remains eligible, the steps individuals and organizations should take to prepare, and available resources to help support those impacted. **11:00am - 12:00pm | Virtual** **Register and Submit Your Questions**
August 19	**Linda Vista Town Council Meeting** Join for an upcoming presentation on CalFresh and Medi-Cal updates at the August Linda Vista Town Council meeting. Community members are invited to learn more about potential impacts, available resources, and how to stay informed about benefits and support services. **6:30pm | 6545 Alcala Knolls Drive San Diego CA 92111**
Ongoing	**Community Leadership Team Meetings** Attend a Regional Community Leadership Team meeting to learn how you can get involved, collaborate with partners to help educate and mobilize communities, develop and address priority needs, identify resources and plan actions to improve the regions' health and well-being.

Question and Answer:

Tim Fraser: Given the timing that you're going on October 28th, but there's a significant amount of potential funding coming from a local ballot initiative that could change recommendations from staff if that ballot initiative were to pass, it would close to double, maybe, your funding, or more. Would staff or others be wanting to push the report to the Board back until you get the results of the election so that you could make a more informed decision on benefits and eligibility?
Jamie Beam: We'll look at some things that we might be able to bring forward first, anticipating that there'll be multiple dates, because I definitely think there's an interest in the major reforms coming after we know the results of the ballot measure. What's driving that October date is that it also happens that our Board policy that governs CMS sunsets on 12/31 and requires two readings, so we'll need to make some, at least, initial changes or some action related to that Board policy prior to knowing the results of the ballot initiative.

James Lepanto: Is there somewhere on the website that links organizations accepting volunteers, or where you can volunteer?
Shelly Tregembo: One of our main partners in the volunteer efforts is Hands On San Diego and you can link through it. There is a $35 fee to register with hands-on. If you put in HR1 as your code, then there's no fee.

	Dr. Harriett Seldin: Have people been signing up on this volunteer portal? **Shelly Tregembo:** Hands On San Diego mentioned 6 people had gone in and used the code to access opportunities. **Minola Clark Manson:** Is there training for the people, or is there a need for training for the people who are getting the volunteers? **Shelly Tregembo:** It is on the Hands- on San Diego System that can be printed. It's an informal process, and I'll follow up on it.
V. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES LEADERSHIP REPORT **Sayone Thihalolipavan, MD, MPH,** Public Health Officer, PHS **Addrienne Yancey**, **MPH**, Interim Director, PHS	**Public Health Officer Update** Sayone Thihalolipavan, M.D., M.P.H., Public Health Officer, PHS 

Public Health Officer Update

Sayone Thihalolipavan, M.D., M.P.H.
Public Health Officer
Public Health Services

Wastewater Summary Table

	Target	Last detected	Encina	Point Loma	South Bay
SDPHL	SARS-CoV-2	-	↗	↑	↑
	Influenza A	-	↑	→	→
	Influenza B	-	↘	↘	→
	RSV	-	↘	↘	↘
WastewaterSCAN	Norovirus	-		↘	
	Rotavirus	-		↘	
	EVD68	1/12/2026		○	
	H5 Influenza	2/17/2025		○	
	Hepatitis A	6/1/2026		○	
	HMPV	-		○	
	MPOX Clade II	8/19/2024		○	
	MPOX Clade IB	Never Detected		○	
	Measles	Never Detected		○	
	WNV	Never Detected		○	

Current Level
Low
Moderate
High
Very High
Not calculated

Current Trend
Sporadic detecti..
Decrease
Plateau
Increase
Strong Increase
Not calculated

Last Update:
7/30/2026 10:20:47 PM

Wastewater Surveillance Dashboard

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HEALTH

The Heat is On All Around the County: Here's How to Stay Safe



Photo credit: Shutterstock

By Tom Christensen, County of San Diego Communications Office
Jul. 22, 2026 | 4:16 PM

- Extreme heat can cause body temperatures to soar. And that can cause heatstroke, exhaustion, dizziness, nausea, confusion, headache and even death. People who are particularly at risk are children, older adults, people with chronic medical conditions, someone who is pregnant, and outdoor workers.
- Cool Zones and Indoor Relief — Places to Stay Cool: The County's Cool Zones, including the County's 33 branch libraries, community centers and other locations, offer people safe, air-conditioned sanctuaries from the heat. Here is a complete list of County Cool Zone sites, their hours and locations.

To see more resources and tips, visit the County News Center:

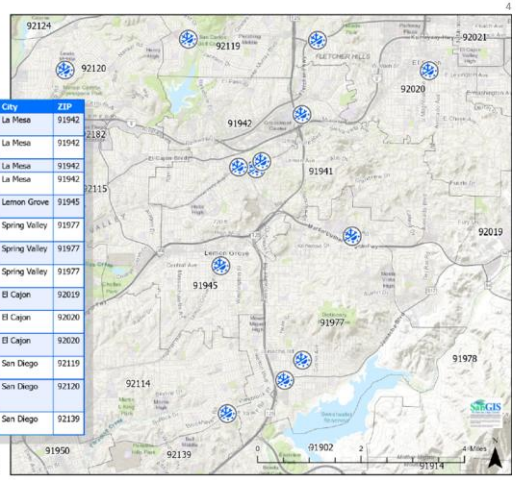
The Heat is On All Around the County: Here's How to Stay Safe | News | San Diego County News Center

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Cool Zones Near Lemon Grove

For more information, visit:
Cool Zones

Organization	City	ZIP
Christian Science Reading Room	La Mesa	91942
City of La Mesa: Adult Enrichment Center	La Mesa	91942
Grossmont Healthcare District	La Mesa	91942
San Diego County Library: La Mesa Branch	La Mesa	91942
San Diego County Library: Lemon Grove Branch	Lemon Grove	91945
San Diego County Library: Casa de Oro Branch	Spring Valley	91977
San Diego County Library: Spring Valley Branch	Spring Valley	91977
County of San Diego: Spring Valley Community Center	Spring Valley	91977
San Diego County Library: Rancho San Diego Branch	El Cajon	92019
San Diego County Library: Fletcher Hills Branch	El Cajon	92020
San Diego County Library: El Cajon Branch	El Cajon	92020
San Diego Public Library: San Carlos Branch	San Diego	92119
San Diego Public Library: Allied Gardens/Benjamin Branch	San Diego	92120
San Diego Public Library: Skyline Hills Branch	San Diego	92139



SanGIS, Bureau of Land Management, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METI/NASA, EPA, USDA
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HEALTH

Rabid Bat Startles Patrons at Vista Restaurant



By Cassie N. Saunders, County of San Diego Communications Office
Jul. 23, 2026 | 9:38 AM

- County public health officials looking for anyone who may have come into contact with a bat Sunday, July 19 at the Yellow Deli Restaurant in Vista.
- No direct skin contact with the bat by an individual has been reported at this time.
- If you or someone in your family or group had direct contact with this bat or you know of someone who may have touched the bat, County Public Health Services urges you to call your health care provider as soon as possible. Only those who have direct contact with the bat, such as touching or holding the animal, are at risk for rabies.
- This is the 22nd bat to test positive for rabies in San Diego County this year. In 2025, 21 bats tested positive.

Rabid Bat Startles Patrons at Vista Restaurant | News | San Diego County News Center

6

HEALTH

Salmonella Outbreak Linked to Ramona Deli



Courtesy: CDC

By Cassie N. Saunders, County of San Diego Communications Office
Jul. 28, 2026 | 4:27 PM

- The County is investigating an outbreak of Salmonella linked to Ramona Family Naturals Market.
- Investigators believe the outbreak is connected to mayonnaise made with raw, unpasteurized eggs.
- In general, the public should avoid consuming raw eggs because they carry risk of Salmonella. This strain is not linked to the Salmonella outbreak linked to shell eggs in the Midwest.
- People who ate food purchased at Ramona Family Naturals Market or its deli and develop symptoms should contact their healthcare provider.
- Anyone who is still ill or has recovered after dining at Ramona Family Naturals Market can report their illness to County Department of Environmental Health Quality by calling (858) 505-6814, completing this form (desktop or laptop device) or emailing it to fhdepi@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Salmonella Outbreak Linked to Ramona Deli | News | San Diego County News Center

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HEALTH

Early CalFresh Renewals Help Prevent Gaps in Benefits



By Cassie N. Saunders, County of San Diego Communications Office
Jul. 28, 2026 | 12:40 PM

- The County of San Diego is urging CalFresh recipients to check their BenefitsCal accounts for their renewal date, watch their mail for a renewal packet, and return it as early as possible to avoid interruptions in benefits.
- Over the last year, about one-third of CalFresh beneficiaries either missed their renewal deadline or submitted incomplete paperwork.
- How to Stay on Track
  - Check the renewal date in their BenefitsCal account online
  - Here's a video that shows you how.
  - Update your contact information online, by phone or in person so you don't miss important notices.
  - When your renewal packet arrives in the mail, complete it and return it early—online, in the mail or in person.
- Early submission helps prevent gaps in benefits and gives County staff time to follow up if additional information is needed.

Early CalFresh Renewals Help Prevent Gaps in Benefits | News | San Diego County News Center

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San Diego County Air Pollution Control District

Air Improvement Relief Effort (AIRE) Program Relaunch

The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD) is now accepting applications for the Air Improvement Relief Effort (AIRE) program.

- Eligible households can now receive **up to three air purifiers and replacement filters for FREE**, while supplies last.
- Returning participants can request **up to two (2) additional purifiers/replacement filters and new applicants can request up to three (3)**.
- Apply online at **https://www.sdapcd.org/aire**
- Approved households will receive air purifier(s) by mail, from the manufacturer to applicant's listed address.

Most households in the City of San Diego communities of Otay Mesa West, San Ysidro, Egger Highlands, Nestor, and Tijuana River Valley, and the City of Imperial Beach are eligible.

Questions? Email filters@sdapcd.org or call (858) 586 2779

Due to limited quantities, some eligible households may not receive air purifiers.



Households within the program area are encouraged to **apply by 09/01/2026**. If number of applications submitted exceeds available supply, the application portal may close at an earlier date.

If you applied on or before May 15, 2026, and have previously received an air purifier through the program, you must still live within the program eligibility area and reapply to request additional air purifiers.

RED RIBBON AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN!

Nominations may be submitted by a community-based organization, educational institution, law enforcement agency, or individual if they meet the criteria for the following awards:

- **Frank Goldsmith Lifetime Achievement Award**: (1) Community involvement in prevention. (2) Exemplify a healthy drug-free lifestyle. (3) Recognized leader in the field of prevention for at least seven years.
- **The Enrique "Kiki" Camarena Law Enforcement Award**: (1) Work in the field of any law enforcement for a minimum of three years. (2) Work in community prevention efforts such as mentoring, developing drug-free programs, helping youth at risk, creating community-based law enforcement and community partnerships, and supporting community prevention efforts.
- **Excellence in Prevention Advocacy Award**: (1) Must have been advocating for prevention policy or norm change (population level, environmental) for three years. (2) Demonstrated excellence in civic and community advocacy, and promotion of alcohol, tobacco, or drug policy change to improve the public health of our communities.
- **Outstanding Prevention Program Award**: (1) Program implemented for a minimum of three years.
- **Deb Nixon Education Award**: (1) Must have been working in the field of education for a minimum of three years. (2) Demonstrated outstanding innovation and impact through work in youth prevention efforts, such as mentoring, developing and maintaining youth coalitions, creating youth-oriented drug-free programs, helping at-risk youth, etc.
- **Justice System Community Excellence Award**: (1) Going above and beyond in providing legal counsel, advocating for victims, promoting public safety and equity, providing mentoring and leadership with compassion, and upholding the rule of law. (2) Promotes and upholds these standards under the umbrella of public safety, victim advocacy, substance use prevention and/or harm reduction. (3) Must have demonstrated these qualities for a minimum of three years.

Please submit all nominations to SD.Community.Outreach@dea.gov by **Friday, August 14, 2026, at 5:00 PM**.

2026 RED RIBBON DS NOMINATION

Upcoming E-Bike Safety Classes and Helmet Fittings

- In response to the rise in e-bike injuries, the Chair's office has registration pages open for 3-hour bike courses, on Saturdays, at 5 different YMCAs.
- The classes will provide in-person safety training for young riders and families.
- San Diego Bike Coalition certified instructors will be leading the courses and Scripps Trauma Prevention will be fitting free e-bike rated helmets for all participants.
- The courses will be for 40 youth ages 12-16 each.

DATES

Carlsbad: 6/27, 1PM-4PM
Magdalena Ecke Family YMCA
Gymnastics Center
2261 Cosmos Ct, Carlsbad, CA 92011

Rancho Penasquitos: 7/25, 1PM-4PM
Rancho Family YMCA
9410 Fairgrove Ln,
San Diego, CA 92129

Encinitas: 8/22, 1PM-4PM
Magdalena Ecke Family YMCA
200 Saxony Rd, Encinitas, CA 92024

Point Loma: 7/11, 1PM-4PM
T. Claude & Gladys B. Ryan YMCA
4390 Valeta St, San Diego, CA 92107

La Jolla: 8/8, 1PM-4PM
Dan McKinney Family YMCA
8355 Cliffridge Ave, La Jolla, CA 92037

*Due to limited space and high demand, registration is limited to **one child per family**.*

LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO

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Public Health Director Update
Adrienne Yancey, Interim Director, PHS

Public Health Director Update

Adrienne Collins Yancey, MPH
Interim Public Health Director
Public Health Services

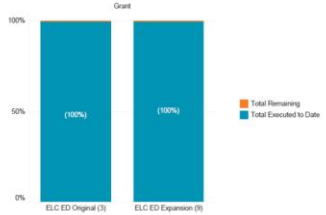
Public Health Services

BOARD LETTER FORECAST	
Board Meeting Date	**Subject**
August 18, 2026	Authorize acceptance of funding from California Department of Public Health for the Black Infant Health Program and the Perinatal Equity Initiative
August 18, 2026	Authorize acceptance of funding from the CDC for Strengthening US Public Health Infrastructure and Workforce via the Public Health Infrastructure Grant
August 18, 2026	Authorize acceptance of funding from California Department of Public Health for the Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Program and the California Home Visiting Program Innovation 3.0 Funding Award
September 15, 2026	Authorize Certification Statements for California Children's Services Programs
September 15, 2026	Authorize Acceptance of California Department of Transportation Funding for Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Award

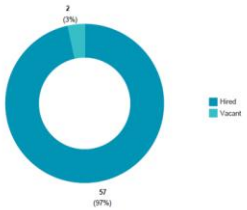
Confidential: Subject to the deliberative process.

ELC Grant

Contracting



Hiring



Budget as of (07/30/2026)

Grant	Branch	Start Date	End Date	Total Funding	Amount Expended	Percent Expended	Time Elapsed	Time Elapsed vs. Percent Expended
ELC ED Original	Grants Admin	5/18/2020	7/31/2026	$20,177,680	$20,167,018	100%	99%	
ELC ED Expansion	Grants Admin	1/15/2021	7/31/2026	$123,774,567	$123,245,342	100%	99%	

Variance in Time Elapsed vs. Percent Expended
Less than 11% | 11% to 20% | Greater than 20%

ELC ED Original Year 5: 5/18/2025 - 7/31/2026
ELC ED Expansion Year 4: 1/15/2025 - 7/31/2026

*ELC Original: - As of 7/01/23, All pending 16 positions moved to ELC Expansion
*ELC Original: -$2,712,167 - 12 positions moved to Future of Public Health (FoPH)
*ELC Expansion: -$6,730,068 - 65 positions moved to FoPH

Updated: 07/30/2026

Free Food Distribution Partnership

- In partnership with the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank and Feeding San Diego, the County of San Diego is expanding free food distributions at six community locations. There are no income or residence requirements to receive food.
- Please note that the schedule is subject to change and currently tentative. For more available food distribution sites please visit 211's Food Assistance Resources.
- See the most current dates and times at: Access Fresh Food Near You | Live Well San Diego



Location	Dates	Time
South Region Live Well Center at Chula Vista 690 Oxford St, Chula Vista, CA 91911	• Saturday 8/8/26 • Saturday 9/12/26 • Saturday 10/10/26 • Saturday 11/14/26 • Saturday 12/12/26	9am - 12pm
El Cajon Family Resource Center 220 S 1st St, El Cajon, CA 92019	• Saturday 8/15/26 • Saturday 9/19/26 • Saturday 10/17/26 • Saturday 11/21/26 • Saturday 12/19/26	9am - 12pm
North Central Live Well Center 5055 Ruffin Rd, San Diego, CA 92123	• Saturday 9/5/26 • Saturday 10/3/26 • Saturday 11/7/26 • Saturday 12/5/26	9am - 12pm
North Coastal Live Well Center 3708 Ocean Ranch Blvd, Oceanside, CA 92056	• Saturday 9/26/26 • Saturday 10/24/26 • Saturday 11/28/26 • Saturday 12/26/26	9am - 12pm
Spring Valley Library 836 Kempton St, Spring Valley, CA 91977	• Friday 8/28/26 • Friday 9/11/26 • Friday 9/25/26 • Friday 10/9/26 • Friday 10/23/26 • Friday 11/13/26 • Friday 12/11/26	5pm - 7pm
Spring Valley Community Center 8735 Jamacha Blvd, Spring Valley, CA 91977	• Friday 8/21/26 • Friday 9/4/26 • Friday 9/18/26 • Friday 10/2/26 • Friday 10/16/26 • Friday 11/6/26 • Friday 11/20/26 • Friday 12/4/26 • Friday 12/18/26	TBD

Highlight: Featured Heroes





Instagram – County of San Diego HHSA

Facebook – County of San Diego HHSA

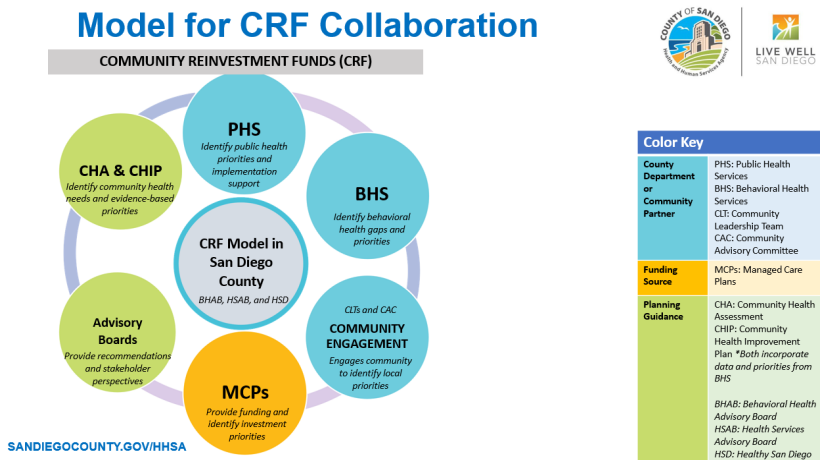
Posted to social media on Thursday, July 23, 2026

"Not All Heroes Wear Capes. Some find you homes, secure your vital services, help seniors live better or build confidence among youth, and others track or investigate diseases to protect public health. Our team serves in different ways, always going to "infinity and beyond" for the community!"

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Thank you to Donna Durckel, GCO, with LEUG, and our County Comms graphic designer Raquel Mendoza for creating and posting these messages!

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VI. ROUNDTABLE	**Barry Jantz:** The meeting with Dr. Hernandez is currently in progress as we are working to schedule a discussion on Youth Engagement. **Dr. Suzanne Afflaflo:** Health Fair and Free Sports Physical, August 05, 2026, 10 – 3PM, YMCA **Dr. Anuj Bhatia:** The County is beginning its annual process of gathering input for the 2027 Legislative Program document. We are requesting input from HSAB and informing the Advisory Board that the Public Health Services Department will be submitting feedback to EDGA on behalf of HSAB. We are requesting a timeline for any feedback from the board by the 26th of August. That feedback will go from any HSAB member to Barry Jantz for final approval, and then, to myself, and then our staff will send that to EDGA, on behalf of the HSAB.
VII. PUBLIC COMMENT	None.
VIII. ADJOURN	Meeting adjourned at 4:53 PM.
Next Meeting	**HSAB Monthly Meeting:** Tuesday, September 22, 2026 **CAC:** 1600 Pacific Hwy San Diego, CA 92101, Room 302, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm