

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
 PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
 December 12, 2013
 MINUTES

APPROVED

COMMISSIONERS

Patrick Dowling, M.D., M.P.H., Chairperson*
 Jean G. Champommier, Ph.D., Vice-Chair*
 Waleed W. Shindy M.D., M.P.H.*
 Michelle Anne Bholat, M.D., M.P.H. **
 Crystal D. Crawford, J.D.*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE

Jonathan E. Fielding, Director of Public Health and Health Officer*
 Angela Haley, Secretary*
 Public Health Commission

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION ADVISOR

Cynthia Harding, Chief Deputy*
 Public Health

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION YOUTH ADVISOR

Vacant

*Present **Excused ***Absent

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
I. CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:16 a.m. by Chairperson Dowling at Central Public Health Center.	Information only.

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II. ANNOUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTIONS	<i>Introductions of Commissioners and guests were conducted.</i>	<i>Information only.</i>
III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	MOTION: APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 14, 2013 MINUTES	<i>Chairperson Dowling entertained a motion from Commissioner Shindy, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Champommier and carried unanimously.</i>

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<p>IV. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT</p>	<p><i>Dr. Jonathan Fielding provided the Commission with a Public Health Report and discussed public health activities since the last report on November 14, 2013.</i></p> <p>Mortality in Los Angeles County (LAC) 2010 Report</p> <p><i>Dr. Fielding discussed the Mortality in LAC 2010 Report – Leading Causes of Death and Premature Deaths with Trends for 2001-2010. Dr. Fielding informed the Commission that there has been a 19 percent decline in mortality, and obviously the reduction has been in cardiovascular, respiratory, and HIV. The mortality report is one of the most important documents that we use in the Department of Public Health. Alzheimer’s disease was an increasingly important cause of death, although it has limited impact on premature death. Also, we’ll double the number of people with Alzheimer’s disease over a period of 15 years.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Fielding indicated with the increase in overweight obesity, we’ll see a greater increase in Type II diabetes. The rate of obesity has peaked noticeably in 7th and 9th graders.</i></p>	

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<p>IV. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT CONTINUED</p>	<p><i>The Potential Costs and Benefits of Providing Free Public Transportation Passes to Students in LAC</i></p> <p><i>There has been increasing interest in LAC to identify reliable, safe, and affordable ways for students to get to school. In April 2013, the LAC Education Coordinating Council adopted a resolution to secure free transit passes for all students from preschool to college, regardless of income. The pass would give students access to public transportation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Because there is an established link between school attendance, academic success and short and long-term health outcomes, the LAC Department of Public Health (DPH) conducted a rapid assessment of the costs and benefits of the proposed transit program. To inform decision-making, DPH focused its assessment on the program's costs and benefits, identified as priorities by key stakeholders and decision-makers in the community. The Department of Public Health has an economist working for DPH to address this proposed program.</i></p> <p><i>Response to Auditor-Controller Audit on Drug Medi-Cal Program</i></p> <p><i>DPH responded to the Auditor-Controller's audit recommendations. The response details the DPH Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) program's implementation activities and time lines for recommended actions. SAPC continues to collaborate with the State Department of Health Care Services on recommended</i></p>	

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<p>IV. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT CONTINUED</p>	<p>activities that pertain to Statewide issues in the DMC program such as DMC provider certification, risk assessment models for "high risk" providers, and access to State DMC claims data.</p> <p>Ballot Initiative – June 2014</p> <p>Dr. Fielding discussed the ballot initiative of the proposed separate city public health department by a high profile AIDS healthcare organization. Both the city and county are trying to get the ballot initiative invalidated, at which time there will be a bench hearing before a judge on February 3, 2014. In addition, the AIDS healthcare organization, has presented a second proposed initiative with the city clerk's office, this one only requiring the city to form a citizens' commission to oversee health services that the city receives from the county. The city would also be required to study the feasibility of setting up its own agency.</p> <p>The city commission would be composed of 15 people appointed by City Council members. They would be tasked with reviewing county contracts, attending county meetings related to health policy, and formulating a health services plan each year. The council would be required to reevaluate each year whether to continue contracting with the county.</p> <p>Unfortunately, this has been a huge distraction, and DPH could possibly lose 900 employees.</p>	

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<p>IV. PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT CONTINUED</p>	<p>Vice-Chairperson Champommier stated he has noticed that it has been a significant change in the department since the last time he was on the Commission. It's a pleasure to see the creative enthusiasm and pleasure that exists in all of the programs that have presented. Vice-Chairperson Champommier commented Dr. Fielding on all of the staff within DPH on a great job that their doing for the healthcare of the community.</p> <p>Dr. Fielding commented on the importance of interrelationship of having social services and health services and how important it is within the department. Dr. Fielding indicated that DPH works closely with other agencies and partnerships (community resilience project, city coalition, and etc.), to strengthen healthcare in the community. Dr. Fielding indicated the lack of our funding for a portion of public health responsibility to fund activities, is the number one priority for DPH.</p> <p>Chairperson Dowling stated that the quality of the programs reporting is excellent. Also, indicated that he's on the Board at Drew University, and hopefully DPH can do something jointly with the Drew University and MLK Hospital. Dr. Fielding indicated that DPH will work with both Drew University and MLK Hospital on joint issues that affect both public health and health services.</p>	<p>Dr. Fielding thanked the Commission for all of their work and for being public health ambassadors.</p>

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<p>V. HEALTH EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION (HEA)</p>	<p>Jackie Valenzuela, Director, Health Education Administration (HEA), provided an update of activities within HEA. Ms. Valenzuela discussed HEA's three programmatic Focus Areas: Quality Health Communications, Empowered Health Education Workforce, and Strong Partnerships.</p> <p>Quality Health Communications</p> <p>Evaluate and continuously improve the quality of DPH health communications.</p> <p>Health Education Quality Committee 2012-2013 Fiscal Year in Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted the first ever systematic review of DPH health education materials using the Health Education Materials Review Form. • Launched a print materials training that described how to improve our scores on the Materials Review Form. • Built a web-based library that is currently being populated with DPH materials that comply with DPH quality standards. • Had an opportunity to reach up to 7,978 participants. • Mostly worked with agencies that serve seniors and disabled adults; health professionals; and businesses. 	

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<p>V. HEA REPORT CONTINUED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased return rates for speaker and requestor evaluations b approximately 50% from FY 2011-2012. • Collaboratively developed bilingual toolkits for community and executive audiences that included presentations, handouts, and procedures, totaling 23 items. • Conducted an internal time study to track HEA staff time spent on translation and review services. The study showed we fulfilled 30 translation requests, totaling 194 staff hours, with an average turnaround time of 3 business days. <p>Print Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Templates available on intranet • Inventory available on DPH website • Quality assurance process and tools <p>Empowered Health Education Workforce</p> <p>Assure the health education workforce has the knowledge, skills, and confidence necessary to support the DPH strategic plan.</p>	

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<p>V.HEA REPORT CONTINUED</p>	<p>Poor health literacy is a stronger predictor of a person's health than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Income • Employment status • Education level • Race <p>Persons most likely to face low health literacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older adults • Racial/ethnic minorities • People with less than a high school diploma • People with low income • Non-native English speakers • People with compromised health <p>Plain Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication audiences understand the first time they read or hear it because they can find what they need, understand what they find, and act on that understanding. • Earned the National Association of County and City Health Officials' Promising Practice designation 	

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<p>V.HEA REPORT CONTINUED</p>	<p>FY 2013-2014 Empowered Workforce Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 1: Plain Language: Increase DPH participation; and offer train-the-trainer sessions • Goal 2: Public Health Education Collaborative: Improve no-show rate • Goal 3: Health Education Practice Conference: Continue collaboration with external partners <p>Strong Partnerships</p> <p><i>Establish strong partnerships with key stakeholders to support the DPH strategic plan.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Worksite Wellness</i> • <i>Interns and Volunteers</i> • <i>[HEALTHED] Listserv</i> <p>Worksite Wellness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Stairwell Posters Posted at DPH Worksites</i> • <i>Earned the American Heart Association's Fit-Friendly Worksite Gold Award Recognition</i> 	

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<p>V.HEA REPORT CONTINUED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness Committee • Employee newsletter • DPH website and intranet • Evidence-based practice <p>Interns and Volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HEA serves as internship site for graduate-level Public Health students. • Worksite wellness • Evaluation • Health communications <p>Commissioner Shindy congratulated Ms. Valenzuela and staff on the data innovative idea, and for coming to DPH's aid in a crisis, such as, the meningitis outbreak.</p> <p>The Commission thanked Ms. Valenzuela for a comprehensive presentation.</p>	

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VI. ELECTION OF OFFICERS	<p> MOTION: COMMISSIONER SHINDY NOMINATED VICE-CHAIRPERSON CHAMPOMMIER AS CHAIRPERSON AND COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD AS VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR 2014 </p> <p> <i>Vice-Chairperson Champommier entertained the motion by Commissioner Shindy, and seconded by Chairperson Dowling, and the Commission voted unanimously in favor by a show of hands.</i> </p> <p> <i>The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.</i> </p>	

