

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
JULY 9, 2015
MINUTES**

APPROVED

2/11/16

COMMISSIONERS

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

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE

Dr. Jeffrey Gunzenhauser, Interim Medical Director**
Evelina Villa, Interim Public Health Commission Staff*
Sara Guizar, Public Health Commission Staff*

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION ADVISORS

Cynthia Harding, Interim Director*
Carrie Brumfield, Chief of Staff*

***Present **Excused ***Absent**

| TOPIC | DISCUSSION/FINDINGS | RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP |
|---|---|---|
| <u>I.</u> <u>Call to Order</u> | <p><i>The meeting was called to order at 10:10 am by Commission Vice Chair Shindy at the Central Public Health Center.</i></p> <p><i>Introduction of Commissioners and guests.</i></p> | <i>Information only.</i> |
| <u>II.</u> <u>Approval of Minutes</u> | <i>The approval of minutes was postponed until the next regularly scheduled meeting due to necessary Commissioner to approve minutes not present.</i> | |
| <u>III.</u> <u>Public Health Report</u> | <p><i>The Public Health Report was provided by Cynthia Harding, Interim DPH director</i></p> <p>Ms. Harding provided the Commission with the following public health report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Los Angeles County Celebrates Public Health Week- Ms. Harding discussed the department's activities that were conducted during the time period of April 6-12, 2015. There were three events that occurred: the Public Health Expo in Grand Park, the Community Health fair in Olvera</i> | |

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| | <p>Street, and the new weekend Community/Health Pet expo. Ms. Harding stated that these events were extremely successful and well attended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Final Report regarding the creation of a health agency in LA County-</i> Ms. Harding provided the Commissioners with the document's memo and Executive Summary. She stated that the entire final report is available online. • <i>DPH Brief on Knowledge/Attitudes on Immunization-</i> Ms. Harding discussed the brief that was created by the Department. • <i>Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) Update-</i> Ms. Harding updated the Commission regarding the outcomes the HFID recent negotiations. She stated that the division was successful in receiving additional money and staff, along with a reduced workload, which will be crucial for the program to implement a successful work plan to better address the staffing and funding challenges the division faced. Ms. Harding indicated that the contract was signed by DPH on June 30, and DPH is currently waiting for the signed contract to be returned by the State. • <i>Power Point Presentation regarding Implementation under the Affordable Care Act-</i> Ms. Harding discussed updates regarding: 1) Medi-Cal outreach enrollment grant; 2) Substance Abuse Prevention and Control program; 3) DPH's work in pursuing billing for services and moving towards electronic records; and 4) DPH's work through prevention public health fund to support chronic disease efforts. | |

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| <p><u>IV. Presentation: Housing and Health in Los Angeles County</u></p> | <p>Stephanie Caldwell, DPH's Chief of Staff, presented on Housing and Health in Los Angeles County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Caldwell indicated that housing remains one of the social determinants of health. • She indicated that the “new” frontier of public health requires addressing environmental influences. She stated that traditional public health practice is centered on shaping health behaviors and providing access to care for underserved communities. • She stated that housing is a priority for public health due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DPH Strategic Plan 2014-2017: Priority area 4: Health Equity ○ DPH Social Determinants of Health Briefs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social and economic factors affect health ▪ Housing and health in LA County ○ Healthy Housing Focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identified as community priority through the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) process ▪ Broadest existing DPH program engagement ▪ Collaboration and support opportunities with other County departments (DHS, DPSS, etc.) • Housing and Health in Los Angeles County Report focuses on three areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Unaffordable Housing ○ Housing instability ○ Quality housing • Programmatic Framework for Social Determinants- “ The 5 P's” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Program Inventory ○ Public Materials ○ Partnerships ○ Push ○ Presence on Web • Ms. Caldwell indicated that they is also a sixth “P” that should be included: Policy. | |

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| | <p>Commissioner Bholat asked Ms. Caldwell to discuss the federally qualified St. John's work with DPH; she asked what the return on investment has looked like.</p> <p>Ms. Caldwell indicated that DPH's Environmental Health (EH) works with St. Johns and other partners to interface with community members to determine certain housing problems. Then, the partner usually contacts EH's division to inquire if there is an upcoming/pending investigation. She also stated that housing advocates assist DPH with identifying additional units that may become concerning within a housing complex.</p> <p>Commissioner Bholat asked if money is being charged to do the household inspections. She also asked what type of training do the individuals who conduct the inspections have.</p> <p>Ms. Harding indicated that there are set fees that are charged for EH inspectors. She indicated that EH staff conducts the inspections and that St. John's has its own community health workers.</p> <p>Commissioner Bholat asked who are the community health workers and how are they trained.</p> <p>Ms. Harding indicated that the community health workers undergo comprehensive training programs to be ambassadors for the communities. She stated that in the past, things advocacy and DPH were not working as well together as they could, but now, DPH is working with the City Attorney's office staff, organizations like St. Johns, etc. to identify health hazards, which is much more effective.</p> <p>Commissioner Bholat commended DPH for the great work its doing in housing.</p> | |

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| | <p>Commissioner Dowling inquired about inspections of subsidized housing and if permission is needed.</p> <p>Ms. Harding indicated that this would be a great partnership to collaborate and further think about with DHS. She stated that DPH does have the right to do these actions, but that the Health Officer order would need to be looked at more in depth, to see if it is related to preventing disease.</p> <p>Ms. Caldwell indicated that DPH is a prevention entity and that she is working towards systematically thinking about big picture solutions and when it comes to housing, she stated that DHS plays a large role, but that DPH's role is more focused on the prevention support and guidance.</p> <p>Commission Chair Crawford inquired about the Housing Report and asked if she could receive copies to place in the hands of community health workers.</p> <p>Commissioner Bholat indicated she would also like copies. She also requested supplements/tips for asthma coalition.</p> <p>Commissioner Dowling also requested copies of the report.</p> <p>Ms. Caldwell indicated that she would follow up and provide the Commissioners with the requested documents.</p> <p>Commission Vice Chair Shindy asked Ms. Caldwell what the biggest challenge has been working with other Departments. He asked if the other departments have been receptive.</p> | |

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| | <p>Ms. Caldwell indicated that the meetings that have been held so far has been informational and have identified opportunities for collaboration. She stated that as discussion occur, she has been able to connect other departments with the right point of contact within DPH. She stated that DPH's role is not to become a developer but to know what other department's criteria is for housing, so that DPH can best assist County residents looking for information regarding affordable housing.</p> | |
| <p><u>V. Public Comment</u></p> | <p>Marc Trotz- County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services (DHS), Director, Housing for Health</p> <p>Mr. Trotz indicated that he is delighted to work with the DPH housing team. He stated that DHS is on the end of creating housing and targeting its efforts towards homeless and high utilizers of health care services. He stated that DHS is working with DPH's SAPC division and homeless work on Skid Row and desires to be coordinated in that way.</p> | |

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| <p><u>VI.</u> <u>New Business</u></p> | <p>Commissioner Bholat asked for a future agenda item to be focused on food delivery groups.</p> <p>Ms. Harding indicated that if some time could be given, the presentation could be combined with other current Environmental Health issues, such as: working with restaurants on what to do with excess food and potentially partnering with food banks.</p> <p>It was agreed that a future presentation to the Commission would include a presentation regarding: catering, restaurant grading, looking at restaurant's excess foods/food banks; and food trucks.</p> <p>Additionally, the idea of moving the Public Health Commission meetings to 10:30 AM will be discussed at a future meeting.</p> | |
| <p><u>VII.</u> <u>Adjournment</u></p> | <p>A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice Commission Chair Shindy. It was seconded by Commissioner Dowling. All Commissioners were in favor.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 11:09 AM.</p> | |