

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION  
July 11, 2019**

**APPROVED**

**COMMISSIONERS**

**Crystal D. Crawford, J.D., Chairperson \***  
Patrick T. Dowling, M.D., M.P.H. **Vice-Chair \*\***  
Kelly Colopy, M.P.P. \*\*  
Alina Dorian, Ph.D. \*  
Jean G. Champommier, Ph.D.\*

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH REPRESENTATIVES**

Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director of Public Health \*\*  
Dr. Muntu Davis, Health Officer \*

Gabriela Mendoza, Interim Liaison\*  
Dawna Treece, Liaison\*\*\*

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION ADVISOR**

Megan McClaire, Chief of Staff \*

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

<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION/FINDINGS</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP</b>
<b><u>I. Call to Order</u></b>	<i>The meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m. by Chair Crawford, at the Central Public Health Center.</i>	<i>Information only.</i>
<b><u>II. Announcements and Introductions</u></b>	<i>Department of Public Health received the “Local Health Department of the Year” award for extra large health department in recognition of its efforts to implement equity efforts. It highlighted our Exide Hep A response and Just Culture efforts.</i>  <i>Introduction of Commissioners, DPH staff, and guests was conducted.</i>	<i>Megan</i>  <i>Information only.</i>
<b><u>III. Public Health Report</u></b>	Ms. Megan McClaire, Chief of Staff, provided the Commission with the Public Health (PH) Report, and discussed Department of Public Health (DPH) activities since the last report on March 14, 2019.  <b>Measles Exposure Advisory</b> DPH have confirmed twelve cases of measles as of Tuesday, July 9, 2019. DPH will continue working with providers and elevating the need for immunizations and protection.  <b>Addressing Gaps and Disparities to Help Reduce STD Rates in Los Angeles County</b> The quarterly report provides updated on the action plan. Key priorities within the plan are early identification of cases through testing with particular focus on at-risk populations; or interrupt its disease transmission by getting treatment for those cases and treating their partners; and increasing	<i>DPH will continue to monitor the situation and will keep PHC posted on any updates.</i>

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awareness among residents; and creating effective policies with health care providers around proper screening and treatment.

**Report Back on Efforts to Prevent Additional Measles Cases in Los Angeles County**

This report back was highlighted to the Board on our efforts to prevent additional measles cases in the County

**Reducing Both Food Waste and Food Insecurity in Los Angeles County**

DPH, along with Public Works, LACOE and LAUSD, is working to identify opportunities to prevent food waste and address food insecurities among children within schools. DPH is leading the efforts to enhance food distribution and capture food that might otherwise go to waste. DPH will report back to the Board on progress of this project June 2020.

**CDC Site Visit**

Director Redfield from CDC will be coming to Los Angeles with an HIV/AIDS prevention team. DPH has been asked to connect with Southern Californian health departments to coordinate efforts around HIV and AIDS prevention, given the increase in STD rates. The Federal Health Officers are following up and providing increase funding. The site visit will include the Pasadena Health Department, Orange County, San Bernardino and San Diego. There will be a press event and a meeting with community-based partners to better strategize around that work. Our Health Officer, Dr. Davis, and Mario Perez, DHSP Director, have been the leads in planning with the visit.

**Homeless Encampments**

There has been an increased sanitary focus on the conditions on Skid Row. Environmental Health (EV) is addressing issues around trash pick-up while working closely with the city to figure out other solutions. EH, along with Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), to inspect various encampments that are in LA and in uninhabited areas in other cities to identify if there are certain aspect that we could be citing or managing (such as, illegal dumping from businesses). Dr. Davis, Angelo Bellomo, and Liza Frias, the new Environmental Health Director, are building jurisdictional authority, while also recognizing that we need to create healthy and safe conditions for all our residents.

*Comm. Crawford* noted the lack of cell phone service in the Skid Row area, on Skid Row but others who work or pass through the area. The cell phone

*Megan to get details on the community-based meetings for the Commissioners.*

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	<p>blockage is a tremendous barrier to people who are trying to get off of Skid Row. If these persons are searching for employment, the blockage causes a challenge for them to get a call back from a prospective employer. Comm. Crawford talked with some of the homeless activists in the community and they are really upset about this although it's probably a crime prevention strategy. The blockage is thwarting the ability to communicate, in particular, those who are trying to better themselves and get off Skid Row. It is a big concern regarding health-wealth connections and possibly violation of free speech.</p> <p>Although DPH has not explored that, in particular, as it pertains to homelessness, there have been conversations with the Center of Health Equity around Internet Divide. Currently, there is a Board motion around Homelessness Prevention and conducting a landscape analysis on where to do additional screening to know where people are at-risk of eviction or homelessness. Also engaging in work around the ad hoc committee. A report was recently released around Black Homelessness and noting the very disproportionate burden of black individuals that are on our streets compared to the overall populations. There have been a set of policy recommendations that have been brought up around equitable contracting, working identify policy systems, and what systems and supports are available.</p>	<p><i>Megan to send report on Black Homelessness to Commission</i></p>
<p><b><u>IV. Presentation: Office for Advancement of Early Care and Education</u></b></p>	<p>Robert Gilchick, Medical Director, Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Programs and Debra Colman, Director Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Programs</p> <p><b>PRESENTATION OVERVIEW</b></p> <p>The Office of Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE) is a new program at LAC DPH, housed in the Health Promotion Bureau. The presentation highlights the current program, functions, primary challenges since taking over the OAECE, and how this program intersects with other DPH programs and opportunities.</p> <p><b>The ECE Dilemma</b></p> <p>Access to quality, trustworthy and reliable childcare is a huge issue for many LA County families. There is growing evidence that demonstrate the positive effects of an early learning experience including higher education attainment, decreases chance of involvement in criminal activities/justice system, and can lead to higher employment status and higher earnings.</p>	

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According to a LA County Health survey 31.6% (168,000) said they find it very or somewhat difficult to find Child Care on a Regular Basis. According to Advancement Project California: 51% of infants/toddlers in LA County are eligible for State-subsidized ECE programs. Out of the 51%, only 6% that are eligible are actually enrolled or receiving state subsidies. Other challenges include finding quality programs for children, which differs by geography, and developing and retaining the current and future workforce.

**OAECE Transition**

This office started as an advisory board in Department of Human Resource (DHR) that focused on the needs of County employees but was moved to the CEO where the focus was broaden to all LA County. OAECE was originally called the Office of Childcare that was established in 2000 in the CEO. In 2016, CEO reorganized the office and divesting from service delivery and focused on administrative services and was then offered to DPH. On July 1, 2018 the office moved to DPH along with 5 staff and additional positions that were vacant for 3 years. Some are partially budgeted and some not budgeted at all. Priority was to find a new director, and Debra Colman has joined the DPH team from First 5LA.

**Key OAECE Functions are:**

Convening the Child Care Planning Committee and the Policy RoundTable for Child Care and Development. Engaging in workforce development initiatives, such as Investing the Early Educator Stipend Program and California Transition Kindergarten Stipend program; managing of 13 County operated or contracted childcare centers.

**OAECE as convener**

The Childcare Planning Committee was established as a mandate from California Department of Education and funded by a federal block grant. It established that every county would have a local childcare development planning council. The committee consists of 50 members, with at least one appointed for each district. The essential charge of the committee is to develop a needs assessment every five years and develop a countywide plan in response to the needs assessment to improve childcare services and systems. Every year they develop the Local Funding Priorities, which matches zip codes throughout the county of eligible children and funded slots that are available to rank how big the need is. ECE will allocate appropriate funding based on the data.

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**OAECE and Workforce Development**

Currently they have two programs but will soon be one: Investing in Early Education Stipend Program and California Transitional Kindergarten Stipend Program.

*Investing in Early Education Stipend Program*

This is specifically for staff who worked in state-subsidized center-based programs. The concept is to incentivize their continued education and professional development, which could possibly make them eligible for better earnings, and encourage them to stay in their field and become leaders themselves.

*California Transitional Kindergarten (TK) Stipend Program*

Although this will come to an end in September 2019, this is specific to improving the childcare development knowledge and skills of the teachers who are in the TK classroom. A bill was passed in 2014 requiring a certain number of child development courses be completed. There are a lot of people working in California state pre-school that have the training but do not have teaching credentials. The incentive was to complete specific early child development units.

**OAECE as Technical Advisor**

The County has 14 contracted centers (13 centers are on County property or county leased property). The County's responsibility is to make sure the site is maintained and the provider provides quality services to their children. OAECE director sits on the advisory board for county operated employee centers for Department of Health Services, Department of Public Social Services, and Public Works. Other County centers that are shared by multiple departments are managed by CEO but will soon be under DPH's responsibility by July 2020.

**Other OAECE activities**

OAECE supports the Quality Start LA, a quality rating and improvement system. This is a volunteer program, which 20% of childcare centers (700+) and 5% (230) childcare in-home are participating in this program participated.

The Quality Continuum framework is the only rating standard used across the state. One of the challenges is that the rating is very costly. More

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	<p>strategic planning is underway to explore how more quality improvement programs can be provided to everyone with emphasis on more coaching, training programs, and mentorships.</p> <p>The Comprehensive Financial Landscape Analysis will soon be completed to better identify and leverage the many different funding streams from federal, state and local funding sources. Report will be finalized next week.</p> <p>A County Child Care Facilities motion was sent to the CEO planning unit to look for properties that are vacant and can be utilized to expand child care access. The old General County Hospital and Civil Brand institute (old women's jail), and the former Torrance Health Center are under consideration. Other sites are being explored like faith-based organizations, school districts and other local government facilities.</p> <p><b>Collaborative Opportunities</b> The Help Me Grow Initiative works to improve access and referrals for development and screening. ECE is expanding their early home visiting portfolio to include Nurse Family Partnership and Healthy Family America. Also, the Office has increased their investments in different national models for early health and education.</p> <p><b>Strategic Planning</b> The program, with the help of First 5LA, have introduced and combined the Office of Childcare Planning Committee (CCPC) and the Policy Roundtable. These committees were once siloed in their activities despite overlapping membership. Now, there is one shared plan for OAECE, CCPC and the Policy Roundtable. This improved access, enhanced quality, grew the workforce and improved community engagement to identify solutions.</p> <p><b>Challenges</b> Although a new Director has been appointed, more budgeted positions are needed. There are a few key positions that are not budgeted to do the full scope of the work to be expected. We may not be able to achieve all of the goals. There are however some potential resources to tap into such as expansion of LPC contract, expansion of AB212 Program, and utilization of unspent funds from the Dependent Care Spending Account. Any funds that are not used by the end of the year is to be used for quality enhancement of the employee childcare facilities. We have found that 95% of employees are using community programs, which is leaving approximately \$1 million</p>	
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	<p>unspent. OAECE is planning to draft a motion to change the rules around the use of the unspent funds to support administrative needs and other related activities.</p> <p><b>QUESTIONS &amp; COMMENTS</b> The governor had recently signed a bill that connects to early childhood education and another one on workforce development. It will be going through quality and improvement systems in every county. This bill is just under \$200 million and will cover the next four years.</p>	
<b><u>V.</u></b> <b><u>New Business</u></b>		
<b><u>VI.</u></b> <b><u>Unfinished Business</u></b>	<p>Sunset Review Questionnaire</p>	<p>The Public Health Commission should complete the Sunset Review by the end of July.</p>
<b><u>VII.</u></b> <b><u>Public Comment</u></b>	<p>A member of the public shared her experienced with technology and the impact on the younger generation.</p> <p>The Commission thanked the member of the public for the feedback.</p>	
<b><u>VIII.</u></b> <b><u>Adjournment</u></b>	<p><b>MOTION: ADJOURN THE MEETING</b></p> <p><i>The PHC meeting adjourned approximately at 11:50 a.m.</i></p>	<p><i>Commission Chair Crawford called a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with Commissioner Dorian and seconded by Commissioner Champommier. All in favor.</i></p>

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