

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
February 13, 2020**

APPROVED

COMMISSIONERS

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

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH REPRESENTATIVES

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

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION ADVISORS

Megan McClaire, Chief of Staff *
 Dawna Treece, PH Commission Liaison*
***Present **Excused ***Absent**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION/ FOLLOW-UP
<u>I. Call to Order</u>	<i>The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Vice-Chair Colopy, at the Esteban B. Torres High School Library.</i>	<i>Information only.</i>
<u>II. Announcements and Introductions</u>	The Commissioners, Department of Public Health staff, and guests introduced themselves. January meeting minutes	<i>Information only.</i> <i>Motion to approve and was seconded by Commissioners Dorian and Champommier</i>
<u>III. Public Health Report</u>	Ms. Megan McClaire, Chief of Staff, provided the Commission with the Public Health report and updates since the last meeting on January 9, 2020. Influenza Activity Increases in L.A. County The Department of Public Health (Public Health) reminds residents it is not too late to get immunized to prevent getting the flu. Public Health will continue to disseminate messaging to health care providers and residents and encourage good hygiene to help prevent the spread of the disease. Public Health Responds to Jet Fuel Release Last month, Public Health responded to an incident where an airplane that released jet fuel while in flight on January 14, 2020 over the Cudahy area, with residue landing on homes and onto one school.	

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
February 13, 2020**

Public Health released a statement to provide guidance if people came into contact with the fuel. There are ongoing investigations by multiple authorities to figure out why this happened, and those authorities continue to respond to the public concerns.

Novel Coronavirus

Public Health formally activated the Incident Command System in response to the Novel Coronavirus rates in L.A. County. Although the news coming out of China is unsettling, there has been only one case reported, in LAC, of a person from the Wuhan Province traveling through LAX. The person was properly isolated, screened, and is receiving care for the virus. There has been no known human-to-human transmission. There are only 14 cases across the country, making it low-risk for transmission.

Public Health also wants the public to be aware of a false statement that had been circulated previously, with several government logos (including the Department's) about a positive case in the County. For up-to-date information, residents should go directly to Public Health's website. It's important to let people know that the virus is low-risk and the best way to stay safe is to cover your coughs, wash your hands and to stay home when sick. Public Health will continue to provide updates and work with local health care providers as the situation evolves.

New Measles Cases

Public Health confirmed five new cases of measles in LAC. This outbreak included a family of four County residents, who were exposed to an unimmunized, international visitor infected with measles. Measles is highly contagious and can cause severe illness. Public Health interviews all persons with measles in the County to identify who may have come in contact with them, in order to try to prevent further spread of measles. Public Health continues to stress the importance of immunization. The family visited various locations, which were listed in the report.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
February 13, 2020**

Lead-Based Paint Hazard Remediation Program

On January 10th, a Lead-Based Paint Hazard Remediation update was sent to the Board describing the outreach efforts. Public Health has partnered with Fraser Communications, an independent firm, to develop and implement a media communications campaign to increase awareness about lead exposure and its symptoms, as well as implement a targeted outreach program. Public Health is working closely with the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs and other departments to make, as needed, revisions to the application process to ensure a simplified and accessible process for targeted residents and to make it easy for them to use these services.

Center for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) Prevention and Control

A memo was sent to the Board regarding the launch to enhance STD control efforts throughout the County. LAC is experiencing an increased rate of STD infection, particularly among women of color, youth, gay individuals and others. The STD Center will consist of a small team within Division of HIV and STD Programs that will focus on three responsibilities.

A STD Strategist will establish a STD management Council, create an STD Prevention Council, and revise the STD Action Plan. The effectiveness of the STD Center will be evaluated along the way and will be reassessed periodically to ensure effectiveness.

Community Near Cogen Landfill

Public HealthP in coordination with Department of Public Works and other departments, reviewed data to determine potential human health risks to residents living in the community surrounding the Eastern Hills Landfills. Historical records and environmental data have been collected and reviewed. Although the landfills contain a mixture of waste, it was determined that there were no active risks present, but fumes and other odors could possibly lead to something. Public Health and Public Works will continue to monitor the situation and inform the Board and residents of any significant developments.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
February 13, 2020**

	<p>Alternatives to Incarceration (ATI) In February 2019, the Board passed a motion which brought together community advocates, service providers, County departments, and other stakeholders to develop a road map for diverting people from jail to care. With the goal of providing care first and jail as a last resort, the group recently discussed the revamp of the Men’s Central Jail and how to prevent men from getting into jail. The group discussed goals and alternatives, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase access to treatment services• Support and deliver pre-trial release and diversion opportunities.• Expand community based systems of care• Identify how we address justice reform <p>There are 27 recommendations that will be submitted and voted at a board meeting next month.</p> <p>Pomona Wellness Complex On Wednesday February 12th, officials from the County of Los Angeles, including Supervisor Solis, Barbara Ferrer, Michelle Gibson from the Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) Division, and Tri-City Mental Health Services celebrated the opening of the Pomona Wellness Community. The complex offers community members an expanded set of health resources, including physical fitness and nutrition classes, substance use referrals and overdose prevention training, violence prevention workshops, and stress reduction activities. All activities are free and open to the community.</p>	<p>Commission to highlight recommendations surrounding alternatives to incarceration memo in their districts</p>
--	---	--

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
February 13, 2020**

<p><u>IV. Site Visit: Student Wellness Center</u></p>	<p>PRESENTATION OVERVIEW Ellen Sanchez, Manager, and Billie Dawn, Health Educator, gave a tour of the Student Wellness Center at Esteban B. Torres High School. Torres High School is located in SD 1. Public Health will be opening new Wellbeing Centers on 50 high school campuses throughout L.A. County, where teens can experience youth-friendly support services, and spend time in an emotionally affirming environment.</p> <p>Background Public Health has partnered with the Department of Mental Health (Mental) and Planned Parenthood to address the social, emotional, and sexual health needs of adolescents while keeping them safe within the school environment. By bringing these services and resources on campus, students can get the information they need without leaving school, as so many have done previously. The Wellbeing Centers will also offer classes to parents on adolescent development, health issues, and strategies for communicating effectively with their teens about sensitive topics.</p> <p>Site supervisors spent time getting to know the schools, community, and the perception of the needs. Public Health will follow detailed criteria when opening centers across the districts.</p> <p>To be considered for a wellbeing center, the school should be a high-need area, 1000+ students enrolled, strong parent and student engagement, poverty markers, chronic absenteeism, public non-charter school, and currently have no wellness center.</p> <p>Torres High School Wellness Center has been opened for six weeks. The initiative aligns with a positive youth development framework in which we acknowledge and understand the life of an adolescent can be amazing, difficult, and overwhelming during this time. The students have a drive for independence, need support in their efforts and need caring adults to offer the tools needed for self-sufficiency. It is important to set the tone and to let the students know this is their space and not for staff or adults. The Centers is only open for</p>	
--	--	--

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
February 13, 2020**

students and is designed with the students' leadership. Over 1,500 students have passed through the center.

The Centers are open two and a half days a week and an additional day for Planned Parenthood services. Staffing includes two masters-level trained Health Educators (200 hours of training), site supervisors, and a Planned Parenthood staff.

Mental Health, UCLA, Children's Hospital are all partners and provide training for Health educators to address all student concerns. Training includes how to respond to students who had trauma in their lives and may need substance use prevention assistance.

There are 38 that will be opened by the end of the month, and plans are to continue building in the independent districts to bring meet our 50 centers goal.

Core Services include an after-hours hotline, which is available from 5 am to 12 am, 7 days a week to address any issues. Licensed clinical staff oversee the call centers, and any crisis calls are patched through to a crisis line.

Challenges:

Due to the need to balance locations within a particular Supervisorial District, not every school is eligible to have a Wellness Center. Some independent districts have expressed issues with the Planned Parenthood and sexual health components of the Wellbeing Centers.

Looking Ahead

Given the Wellbeing Centers' spread throughout the County, it could potentially serve as hubs for other Public Health programs, such as in the Office of Violence Prevention, Domestic Violence Council, Office of Women's Health, and Maternal Child and Adolescent Health. Although we do not serve all family members directly, the work can support the issues impacting those students.

The team is working with SAPC to build out an evaluation piece, with plans to collect data in June.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
February 13, 2020**

<p><u>V.</u> <u>New Business</u></p>	<p>The 2020 Annual report is due at the end of March 31, 2020.</p>	<p><i>Dawna to develop a draft with highlights from 2019 and will send out for review.</i></p>
<p><u>VI.</u> <u>Unfinished Business</u></p>	<p>2020 PHC Annual Goals.</p>	<p><i>Commissioner Dorian is scheduled to meet with Public Health to develop a draft</i></p>
<p><u>VII.</u> <u>Public Comment</u></p>		
<p><u>VIII.</u> <u>Adjournment</u></p>	<p><i>MOTION: ADJOURN THE MEETING</i> <i>The PHC meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.</i></p>	<p><i>Commission Colopy called a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with Commissioner Dorian and seconded by Commissioner Champommier. All in favor.</i></p>