

ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MEETING OF April 13th, 2023
MINUTES



The mission of the Public Health Commission shall be to review and assess emerging health needs; initiate and improve health and disease prevention programs and policies; make recommendations regarding opportunities for building community capacity as related to public health priorities; and advocate for adequate resources and increased County action to improve community health.

Attendance Record (P = Present, A = Absent)

Dist . #	Member Name	Term Exp.	01/12 /23	02/09/ 23	03/09/2 3	04/13/2 3	05/11/ 23	06/08/2 3	07/13/2 3	08/10/2 3
1	Hurst, David	07/01/24	A	P	P	P				
1	Narayan, Rajiv	01/30/25	A	A	P	P				
2	Castillo, Nestor	12/07/24	P	P	P	A				
2	Sahi, J	11/19/23	P	P	P	A				
2	Bhaiji, Ammar	10/7/23	A	P	A	A				
3	Boller, Gerg	01/29/23	A	A	A	P				
3	Varela, Rebekah	04/21/24	A	P	P	A				
4	Harper, Zhonnet	07/02/24	P	A	P	P				
4	Howard, Gary	11/28/23	P	P	P	A				
5	De La Pena Medina, Mitzy	03/23/23	P	A	P	P				
5	Budge, Jason	01/9/24	A	P	A	P				
5	Temple Perry, Koren	10/26/23	A	A	P	P				
At-Large	Van Cleve, Juliana	9/19/24	P	P	P	P				

At-Lar ge	Chowdhury , Mifta	9/13/23	P	P	P	A				
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Staff:

- Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Alameda County Public Health Department, Director
- George Ayala, Alameda County Public Health Deputy Director
- Evette Brandon, Alameda County Public Health Department, QIA Director
- Jessica Amen, Alameda County Public Health Department, PHC Staff Support
- Zandra Washington, Alameda County Public Health Department
- Linda Franklin, Alameda County Public Health Department
- Shannon Benson Public Health Nursing Department
- Jessica Blakemore, Health Care Service Agency
- Eileen Ng, Health Care Service Agency
- Leah Fortin, Public Health Department

Public: N/A

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CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

- Vice chair De La Pena Medina calls the meeting of the Alameda Public Health Commission to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- N/A

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- No action to minute

No Quorum: Only 7 commissioners were present.

STAFF REPORT

Roll call made by Jessica Amen, Support Staff.

Jessica Blakemore’s and Eileen Ng’s presentation on Health Care Service Agency Legislative update:

Their report focused on presenting a fast overview of policies and what to expect inside the Healthcare Services department, as well as an outline of the county's legislative process, a recap of the Public Health Commission's legislative activities for 2022, and a legislative update for 2023.

Agenda of the report:

- Policy & Advocacy Overview
 - HCSA Policy Team & Collaboration with PHC
 - County Legislative Process Overview
- 2022 Recap
 - PHC Legislative Efforts
- 2023 Legislative Update
 - Alameda County Delegation Update
 - 2023 HCSA Policy Priorities
 - State Budget & Legislation Update
 - Federal Update

HCSA Strategic Initiatives & Public Affairs (SIPA)

Policy Work:

- Agency-wide coordination of policy, communication, and collaborations
- HCSA legislative council & HCSA policy coordination Team
- Engagement with HCSA-sponsored boards and commissions
- Advances HCSA's vision and mission through proactive strategies

HCSA/Public Health Commission Collaboration

HCSA Policy team will:

- Share Alameda County's weekly bill lists.
- Provide legislative process presentation to the PHC as needed.
- Present to PHC or HEiAP Committee twice a year.
 - Spring (April/May) –provide State budget and legislation updates.
 - Fall (August/September) –to discuss and identify legislative priorities for next year.
- Assist PHC and submit PAL requests as needed.

County Legislative Process:

How to Participate as a Board or Commission

To take positions on legislation, budget, or regulatory actions:

- Contact commission support staff and HCSA Policy Team.
- Provide a description of the item and the problem that it causes or solves.
 - Information provided will assist with completing a PAL Request Form that must be submitted to the County Administrator's Office.
- HCSA Policy Team will work with you and impacted departments/programs as necessary to understand the following:
 - Is the item currently being tracked by HCSA and/or has a position been approved by BOS
 - Is it aligned with HCSA's Policy Priorities and the County's Legislative Platform?
 - What are the potential impacts for County residents?
 - Are there potential impacts on programs or County operations?
 - How does it impact the county/state/federal budget?
- Commission members work with HCSA Policy Team to complete PAL Request Form

For proactive legislative ideas, concerns, or questions

- Contact the HCSA policy team.

Other Activities

- Technical expertise on potential impacts of legislative or policy issues

2022 Recap

PHC Legislative Efforts

- H.R. 8546 (Speier) Clinical Trial Coverage Act
- Support
- Discussed at HEiAP meeting & Dr. Esserman from UCSF presented a bill at the PHC meeting.
- PHC brought the bill forward to the Policy Team to assist with the PAL request.
- PHC contributed to the PAL request form and provided guidance/direction to Policy Team
- Require medical insurers to cover out-of-network routine care for clinical trial participants if no in-network provider is available. The bill would ensure adult and child patients can access clinical trials without paying significant out-of-pocket costs for physician services.
- HCSA Legislative Council on 11/10/22, PAL Committee on 12/5/22, BOS on 12/20/22
- Letters sent to DeSaulnier, Khanna, Lee, and Swalwell requesting support and co-sponsoring the bill if reintroduced in the 118th Congress
- Last action on 7/27/22: Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and Committee on Ways and Means

2023 Policy Update

2023 State/Federal Alameda County Delegation:

State Assembly:

- AD14 Buffy Wicks (D)
- AD16 Rebecca Bauer-Kahan (D)
- AD18 Mia Bonta (D)
- AD 20 Liz Ortega (D)
- AD24 Alex Lee (D)

State Senate:

- SD7 Steve Glazer
- SD9 Nancy Skinner (D)
- SD10 Aisha Wahab

Congress:

- CA-10 Mark DeSaulnier (D)
- CA-12 Barbara Lee (D)
- CA-14 Eric Swalwee (D)
- CA-17 Ro Khanna

Senate:

- Alex Padilla
- Dianne Feinstein (D)

2023 Alameda County

Alameda County:

- Supervisor, District 3, Lena Tam
- District Attorney, Pamela Price
- Sheriff-Coroner, Yesenia Sanchez
- Supervisor, Districts 2, Elisa Marquez

Mayors:

- Oakland, Sheng Thao
- Hayward, Mark Salinas
- Newark, Michael Hannon
- San Leandro, Juan Gonzalez

2023 HCSA Policy Priorities

Medi-Cal

- Housing supports benefit
- Maternal health expansion

Health Equity

- Address racism as a public health threat
- Data disaggregation

Public Health Infrastructure

- Staff and Non-staff infrastructure
- Flexible funding/non-categorical
- State and federal infrastructure and support

Violence Prevention

- Public health approaches to violence prevention/intervention
- Gun violence impacts

Substance Use Disorder (SUD)

- Harm reduction and public health approaches
- Linkage to care

Climate Change and Environmental Justice

- Public health impacts
- County Climate Action Plan

FY2023-2024 Proposed State Budget Overview

- **\$297B total budget (\$223.6B GF)**
 - \$22.5B shortfall predicted (LAO estimates \$25B)
 - May be higher. The tax deadline extended until October, the full fiscal picture is unknown.
- Small number of new proposals/initiatives, prioritizes sustaining key investments while closing the budget gap, including HCSA priorities such as:
 - Expanding Health Care Access and Health Care Delivery Transformation
 - Expanding the Behavioral Health Continuum
 - Improving Services for the Developmentally Disabled
 - Reproductive Health Services
 - Investments in Homelessness and Affordable Housing
- Reduces/Delays some key investments including in Public Health Workforce (Public HERO initiative), and other health workforce proposals.
- Some reductions may be restored if there is sufficient General Fund in January 2024

FY2023-2024 Budget: Public Health

- **Public Health Infrastructure Investment**—Maintains \$300M ongoing General Fund to modernize state and local public health infrastructure and transition to a resilient public health system.
- **Public Health Climate and Health Resilience Planning**—Reduces \$25M General Fund in FY 2022-23, eliminating the program. If there is sufficient General Fund in January 2024, this reduction will be restored.
- **Partial Public Health Workforce Reductions**—Reduction of \$49.8M General Fund over four years for various public health workforce training and development programs to help address the budgetary problem, resulting in only a \$15.8M investment over four years for workforce development programs.

FY2023-2024 Budget: CalAIM

- **Maintains approximately \$10B total funds** commitment to continue transforming the health care delivery system through California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM).
- **CalAIM Transitional Rent Waiver Amendment**—\$17.9M (\$6.3M General Fund) in FY 2025-26 increasing to \$116.6M (\$40.8M General Fund) at full implementation to allow up to six months of rent or temporary housing to eligible individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and transitioning out of institutional levels of care, a correctional facility, or the foster care system and who are at risk of inpatient hospitalization or emergency department visits.

- **Justice-Involved** —\$109.7M (\$39.1M General Fund) in FY 2023-24 for the CalAIM inmate pre-release program.

State Legislation

HCSA Legislative Council

- AB271 (Quirk-Silva) Homeless death review committees.
- AB 586(Calderon)Medi-Cal: community supports: change remediation.
- AB599 (Ward)Suspensions and expulsions: tobacco. (PAL)
- AB663 (Haney)Pharmacy: mobile units. (PAL)
- AB 1085 (Maienschein)Medi-Cal: housing support services. (PAL)
- AB 1644(Bonta) Medi-Cal: medically supportive food and nutrition services.
- SB 424 (Durazo)California Children’s Services Program. (PAL)
- SB 541 (Menjivar)Sexual health: contraceptives: immunization
- AB1057 (Weber): California Home Visiting Program (PAL)
 - Other issues we’re tracking.
- Behavioral Health Initiatives (CARE Court, MHSA)
- Bills addressing Fentanyl/ODU
- Local homelessness funding

Federal Update

- Omnibus Appropriations Bill, December 2022
 - Food as Medicine National pilot program
 - Medi-Cal Continuous Eligibility end on April 1
 - Reauthorizations of MH and SUD, Maternal Health, and other programs
- Federal Public Health Policy Issues
 - Federal Public Health Spending
 - Reproductive Health Care Access
- Health Policy in 118thCongress
 - Will be difficult for Congress to come to a bipartisan agreement and pass significant health legislation during the 118th Congress.
 - Biden Administration will focus on implementing regulations for key legislative accomplishments and leveraging executive and regulatory authority.

HCSA Federal Policy Activity

- Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) Reauthorization
- Proposed Rulemaking: Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Revisions in the WIC Food Packages.
- Proposed Rulemaking: Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Patient Record

Shannon Benson’s presentation on Front Door Organizer

Public Health nursing division, a new program served as a front door. Resource and central referral unit for providers, communities, organizations, individuals, and families. They've come because folks are uninformed of available programs and services. They wish to help residents with their fundamental resource

needs. They want to be able to provide a client profile. Residents frequently require essential resources such as health insurance, medical care, food, public assistance, transportation, housing, aid, housing, assistance, housing, assistance, Covid information, and numerous social needs. She noted that citizens in many of the places we serve are frequently unaware of government-funded programs that can help them. Our team will provide information, assistance, and connections to access resources, as well as support. Service navigation can be hard, difficult, and intimidating at times. The front door will be a program that tries to bridge the knowledge-access gap by directing people to helpful, use suitable resources such as social services, public assistance, behavioral health care, and mental health care. And the reason she's presenting to the Public Health Commission is that they're attempting to name the front door, and I'm coming to the commission to beg for help. She mentioned several names that they had discussed in the past. Mrs. Benson invited the Public Health Commissioners to vote using the MENTI app to select a name that they believe will be the best match for this program, and all commissioners participated accordingly.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Watkins-Tartt's presentation is about the Violence Prevention Update.

Timeline of Violence Prevention Efforts:

2020/2021:

Community Health Needs Assessment

CHNA RESULT

1. Access to care
2. Mental and Behavioral health
3. Income & Employment
4. Housing & Food Security
5. Community and Individual safety

About the Office of Violence Prevention (OVP)

Established January 2023, the mandate for OVP is to:

- Support community-based interventions that address violence/trauma.
- Expand Department/Agency capacity to prevent, intervene, and reduce the impacts of violence in Alameda County.
- Serve as a convener bringing together diverse stakeholders to work collaboratively on midstream and upstream interventions.

Directors Watkins-Tartt talks about the Public Health Approach which is:

Investigate, understand, and address violence through the following:

- Data Collection
- Narrative Change
- Advancing Best Practices
- Policy Advocacy

Criteria for Prioritizing Future Work

Community Need	Partnerships & Existing Community Efforts	Data	Best Practices	Social Determinants of Health
Concerns raised by the community and solutions are led by communities closest to the problem	Strengthen existing community support; align with ongoing efforts to promote resilience and safety	Population and/or client-level data inform the work; a health equity-centered approach for service and support	Established or emerging violence prevention best practice aimed at addressing the experience of trauma and its impacts	Contributes to positive change in the social, physical, and/or economic environments that improve quality-of-life conditions and reduce risks

The Types of Violence that OVP Will Explore Overtime

- Community violence (with the use of a firearm)
- Homicide
- Violence to facilitate theft.
- Assault
- Ganga violence
- Hate-motivated violence.
- Disputes/conflict among community members
- Dependent abuse
- Elder abuse & neglect
- Child abuse & neglect
- Intimate partner & domestic violence
- Gender-based violence
- Sexual assault
- Human Trafficking
- Commercial sexual exploitation of minors
- Suicide
- Self-mutilation
- Police violence
- Systemic violence

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Medi-Cal Ad Hoc Committee:** No update
- **Nominations:** Commissioner Hurst is working currently with its members to have a certain time/day to have a meeting in the community (e.g Coffee shops).
- **Oral Health:** No updates
- **Health Equities in All Policies:** Commissioners Harper sent Alison the first draft of the HEiAP description, she is waiting for feedback to be able to complete the second draft.
- **Communications and Community Outreach:** Commissioner Howard is in communication with mental health provider figuring out a day/time to meet that works best for them.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ✚ Violence Prevention Zoom meeting is on April 19th, 5-6 pm
- ✚ Vice-chair De La Pena Medina will be sending out an email to all commissioners to have a priority of focus with the commission.

Violence Prevention Zoom Meeting

- ✚ Commissioner Budge will be attending.
- ✚ Commissioner Narayan will be attending.
- ✚ Commissioner Harper will be attending.
- ✚ Commissioner Van Cleve will be attending.
- ✚ Chair Castillo will be attending.

Agenda for next PHC meeting on May 11th.

- ✚ Commissioner Budge will be attending the Violence Prevention Zoom meeting and will be reporting back to the commission on May 11th PHC Meeting
- ✚ Action item
- ✚ 2 internal priorities for SPR

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