

ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION

MEETING OF March 10th, 2022

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.	8/12/21	9/9/21	10/14/21	11/18/21	1/13/22	2/10/22	3/10/16
1	Evan Branning	01/29/23	P	P	A	P	P	P	A
1	David Hurst	06/30/22	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
2	Nestor Castillo	12/06/22	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
2	Jatinderpal Sahi	11/19/23	P	P	P	P	P	P	A
3	David Ralston	04/20/22	A	A	A	P	A	A	A
3	Greg Boller	01/29/23	P	P	P	P	P	A	P
3	Carolyn Bolton	02/10/22	A	A	P	P	P	P	P
4	Zhonnet Harper	07/01/22	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
4	Gary Howard	11/28/23	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
5	Helene Hoenig	01/26/23	P	P	P	A	P	P	A
5	Mitzy De La Pena Medina	3/23/23				P	P	P	P
At-Large	Joseph Engeda	12/18/22	P	P	A	P	P	P	A
At-Large	David Morris	09/14/23	P	P	P	P	A	A	A

Staff:

- Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Alameda County Public Health Department, Director
- Evette Brandon, Alameda County Public Health Department, QIA Director

- Leah Fortin, Alameda County Public Health Department, QIA Administration and PHC Staff Support
- Katie Schlageter, FHS
- Tamarra Brown, Administrative Services Director

Public:

- Benita Tsao

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

- Chair Castillo calls the meeting to order and allows all attendees to introduce themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- N/A

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion made by Commissioner Hurst and seconded by Commissioner Bolton to approve the February 2022 meeting minutes. The motion passes unanimously.

BROWN ACT VOTE

- Motion made by Chair Castillo and seconded by Commissioner Hurst to extend the continuance of virtual meetings into the month of April. The motion passes unanimously.

STAFF REPORT

- Leah Fortin informs the commission of current vacancies in each district:
 - D1: 2 vacancies
 - D2: 2 vacancies
 - D3: 1 vacancy
 - D4: 2 vacancies
 - D5: 2 vacancies
 - At Large: 3 vacancies
- Leah Fortin informs the commission that there is a new commissioner in process of onboarding for district 3 and is projected to join in April once they complete their oath
- The Strategic Planning Retreat is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 12th from 10:00am-1:00pm via Zoom
- Upcoming presentations include Carolina Guzman in April presenting on the Community Health Needs Assessment and Neetu Balram in May presenting about the Public Information Office

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- In relation to COVID-19 cases, there is an overall downward trend however, there are disparities by race/ethnicity especially the Latinx and African American Communities
- Comparing vaccinated and unvaccinated data, cases are higher in the unvaccinated and Director Watkins-Tartt states that work throughout the county is being continued to increase vaccination rates and distribute accurate information to combat misconceptions about the vaccine
- With the Omicron surge on the decline, there are still ongoing public health efforts including support for mask, testing, and vaccination access, education and outreach, and case surveillance in high-risk settings
- COVID-19 will be present indefinitely therefore individuals, families, and institutions will need to work and manage the new normal
- Emergency requirements will continue to ease with cases declining however restrictions and requirements may be needed in the event of a severe variant

- Masking requirements have changed in public indoor settings and schools or childcare settings, masks are not required but strongly recommended
- Masking is still required in health care settings, long-term care settings, and jails/prisons
- Masking requirements and mandates will be eased in times of low risk and low case rates
- The Public Health Department will continue to support health education, access to masks, testing, and vaccinations in impacted communities
- Areas for future improvement as a Public Health Department include engaging the community more, preparing front lines workers more, and overcoming mixed messaging
- Director Watkins-Tartt acknowledges that COVID-19 disproportionately affected certain communities and that root causes such as housing, no sick-leave, and healthcare access play a large role, therefore a continued effort to address these root causes is a high priority
- The Public Health Department is formulating surveys and updating strategies to think about how communities can respond to and live with COVID-19 in the long run
- Boosters are recommended for those that are ages 12 and up
- Choosing better masks with a good fit and filtration is important and although it is not required in some settings, it is encouraged that people mask according to their own individual situations
- The department is working community partners to distribute high quality masks
- Potential areas of partnership between the Public Health Department and the commission include violence prevention, climate change, ARPA listening session, COVID-19 strategies, and cancer disparities
- Efforts for violence prevention is still in the planning phase and commissioners are invited to participate in the planning process or for future partnership and participation in meetings
- ARPA listening session will be taking place to discuss the distribution of 11 million dollars designated to the Public Health department for navigation and capacity development
- The commission is invited to co-sponsor the listening sessions and participate in the planning; the listening sessions are scheduled to take place in early April

MEDICAID & CALAIM PRESENTATION

- Public Health divisions that received Medi-Cal funding in 2020-2021 include Community Health Services (CHS), Division of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention (DCDCP), and Family Health Services (FHS)
- The Community Health Services (CHS) division uses its funding in programs such as Asthma Remediation, and Project New Start which involves tattoo removal
- The Division of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention (DCDCP) uses its funding towards the Public Health lab and tuberculosis work
- Family Health Services (FHS) receives the most amount of funding and dedicates it towards programs that serve low-income individuals and families such as the Medical Therapy Program, the Healthcare Program for Children in Foster Care, the Developmental Disabilities Council, and Black Infant Health Program
- Medi-Cal funding sources include Fee for Service (FFS), Title V and XIX Medi-Cal funds, Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA), Federal Financial Participation (FFP), Targeted Case Management (TCM), and program allocations
- For 2020-2021, a total of about 14.5 million dollars from Title V and Title XIX funding were distributed across various programs and the distribution is as follows: Black Infant Health Program received about \$900,000, the California Children's Services Medical Therapy Program received about \$5.2 million, the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program received about \$1.9 million, the Maternal, Paternal Child and Adolescent Health Program received about \$5.2 million, and the Foster Care Program received about \$1.2 million
- For 2020-2021 a total of about \$280,000 from MAA funding were distributed as follows: Asthma Remediation Program received \$133,260, the Developmental Disabilities Council received \$113,323, and the Tuberculosis Program received \$32,852

- CalAIM stands for "California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal" and is a 5 year plan to transform California's Medi-Cal program and to make it integrate more seamlessly with other social services; it seeks to address many complex challenges facing the most vulnerable residents
- The goals of CalAIM include: identify and manage member risk, move Medi-Cal to a more consistent and seamless system, to improve quality outcomes, reduce health disparities, and drive delivery system transformation and innovation through initiatives, system modernization and payment reform
- Two areas of focus for CalAIM are Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports (CS)
- From January 2022 to June 2023, Anthem & Alliance will contract with Enhanced Care Management providers for 3 populations of focus to improve outreach and engagement, comprehensive assessment, care management plans, coordination of care, health promotion, comprehensive transitional care, member and family supports, and coordination and referral to support services
- Under Community Supports (CS) the Alameda County Office of Homeless Care and Coordination will subcontract housing navigation services, tenancy sustaining services, and housing deposits services. The Alameda County Public Health Department will start the Asthma Remediation Program called Asthma Start for youth under 18 years old. Anthem and Alliance will contract with CBOs such to address areas and programs such as recuperative care, environmental accessibility adaptations, medically tailored meals, and the Day Habilitation program
- In July 2022 under Enhanced Care Management (ECM) the Alameda County Behavioral Health will work with adults with severe mental illness and substance abuse disorders
- In July 2022 under Community Supports, Anthem will contract with CBOs to support personal care and homemaker services
- In January 2023 under Enhanced Care Management (ECM) Anthem and Alliance will contract with ECM providers for 4 populations of focus and include support in areas such as outreach and engagement, comprehensive assessment and care management plans, enhanced coordination of care, health promotion, comprehensive transitional care, member and family supports, and coordination and referral to support services
- In January 2023 under Community Supports (CS) Anthem will contract with CBOs to focus on areas such as community transition services such as transition from nursing facilities to home, nursing facility transition to assisted living facilities, respite services, short-term post-hospitalization housing, and sobering centers
- For the Public Health Department in particular, the programs that are impacted by CalAIM include Asthma Remediation under Community Supports and California Children's Services and Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care under Enhanced Care Management
- Asthma Remediation program will provide services and resources that reduce the frequency of acute asthma episodes and therefore lower the need for emergency services and hospitalization
- Currently the Asthma Remediation program has executed a contract with Alameda Alliance for Health and has received initial electronic payments from Alameda Alliance for Health
- The Asthma Remediation Program will complete monthly reports that advises Alameda Alliance for Health of the current status of any referral or case, provide yearly satisfaction survey data, meet weekly with the Alameda Alliance for Health case management team, and plan to expand services to the adult population in the next phase
- The seven populations of focus for CalAIM Enhanced Care Management are individuals and families experiencing homelessness, high utilizer adults, serious mental illness/substance use disorder risk adults, adults eligible for LTC and at risk for institutionalization, nursing home residents transitioning to the community, adults and youth transitioning from incarceration, and children in you in foster care
- For the Public Health Department, programs that are included under CalAIM Enhanced Care Management (ECM) include California Children's Services (CCS) and Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC) and those that are eligible will receive additional case management support through ECM contacts and services to address physical, behavioral, dental, and social determinants of health
- CCS and HCPCFC's current status are that they are participating in advisory groups with the Department of Health Care Services (DCHS), anticipating direction on defining eligibility from DCHS, creating and enhanced care management model for CCS and foster care clients, discussing outcome measures, and building partnership with Alameda Alliance for Health

- Commissioner Hurst asks about the status of the integration of CCS into the Medi-Cal Whole Child Model
- Alameda County's CCS has not integrated into the Whole Child Model, but it may happen if Alameda Alliance for Health becomes a County Organized Health System (COHS)
- This is currently an area of controversy and concern because in many counties, access to care has been impeded for those in the Whole Child Model

LEADERSHIP REPORT

- Chair Castillo and Vice Chair Harper share the agenda for the Strategic Planning Retreat on Saturday, March 12th
- The leadership briefly overview the agenda and the objectives for the meeting
- Chair Harper shares a report on the Black Joy Parade event and shares that the commission was invited to participate in other events including the Community Resource Fair hosted by the Oakland Academy of Knowledge on April 29th, the Juneteenth Festival on June 25th in West Oakland, and to partner with the East Bay Municipal Utility District
- Chair Castillo has been officially appointed to the Measure A Citizen Oversight Committee and will provide updates at future meetings

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- *Medi-Cal Ad Hoc Committee*
 - Commissioner Hurst plans to schedule presentations from the managed care plans to learn more about their work in health equity, diversity, inclusion, and CalAIM to address any gaps in quality
- *Nominations*
 - A survey will be sent out to brainstorm ideas on what should be included in future onboarding processes
- *Communications and Community Outreach*
 - There is work being done to develop social media platforms and guidelines
 - Once guidelines and structure have been established, more information will be shared with the whole commission
- *Oral Health*
 - N/A
- Health Equity in All Policies
 - Areas of concern and focus include mental health policies and low-income housing and will be discussed further in the retreat for how to effectively address these issues

SB 1038 LETTER OF SUPPORT

- To be revisited in HEiAP committee meeting and future PHC meeting

AGENDA SETTING

- Presentation about Community Health Needs Assessment
- Discussion about meeting in person or hybrid model
- Follow up about the Strategic Planning Retreat
- Action Items
 - Discussion about participation in ARPA listening session and Violence Prevention
 - Participation in listening sessions with BARHII about black homelessness

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chair Castillo announces that a CBO called La Familia will be hosting an event called Place Based Equity Initiative on March 24th from 4-5pm that he will be paneling in and invites others to attend.

ADJOURN

- Meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted by: Phaplynn Phan

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Regular Meeting

April 14th, 2022

6 to 8 PM

Online via Zoom

If you would like to RSVP for the next meeting, please do so at phcommission@gmail.com.

Please visit the Public Health Commission blog at <http://acphc.wordpress.com/> for information on how to become a member, bylaws, meeting schedule and more.