

ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION

MEETING OF April 14th, 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.	9/9/21	10/14/21	11/18/21	1/13/22	2/10/22	3/10/16	4/14/22
1	Evan Branning	01/29/23	P	A	P	P	P	A	A
1	David Hurst	06/30/22	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
1	Kashef Qaadri	12/06/22							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	A	P
3	Greg Boller	01/29/23	P	P	P	P	A	P	P
3	Carolyn Bolton	02/11/24	A	P	P	P	P	P	P
3	Njeri Gathuka	2/07/24							A
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	A	P	P	A	A
5	Mitzy De La Pena Medina	3/23/23			P	P	P	P	P
At-Large	Joseph Engeda	12/18/22	P	A	P	P	P	A	P
At-Large	David Morris	09/14/23	P	P	P	A	A	A	A

Staff:

- Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Alameda County Public Health Department, Director
- George Ayala, Alameda County Public Health Department, Deputy Director
- Evette Brandon, Alameda County Public Health Department, QIA Director
- Leah Fortin, Alameda County Public Health Department, QIA and PHC Staff Support
- Carolina Guzman, Alameda County Public Health Department, QIA
- Gabriella Castillo, Alameda County Public Health Department, QIA
- Samantha Rego, Alameda County Public Health Department, QIA

Public:

- Haixing Zhang
- Jocelyn Cruz

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 Boller and seconded by Commissioner De La Pena Medina to approve the March 2022 meeting minutes. The motion passes with two abstentions.

BROWN ACT VOTE

- Motion made by Commissioner Sahi and seconded by Commissioner Qaadri to extend the continuance of virtual meetings into the month of May. The motion passes unanimously.

STAFF REPORT

- Possible meeting venues when in-person meetings resume is the Redwood Room at the PHD office and the meeting rooms at San Leandro Public Library
- Neetu Balam, the Public Information Officer, will be presenting to the commission in May
- Leah Fortin informs the commission of current vacancies in each district:
 - D1: 1 vacancy
 - D2: 2 vacancies
 - D3: 0 vacancies
 - D4: 2 vacancies
 - D5: 2 vacancies
 - At Large: 3 vacancies

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Director Watkins-Tartt informs the commission that COVID-19 cases recently have been slowly increasing in number and the majority are related to the BA.2 Omicron subvariant
- State mandates on masking and quarantine have been lifted for the general public, but the county has not adjusted and adopted the new policies on the local level just yet
- The Public Health Department is working with the health officer and getting feedback from stakeholders to assess if the county should align with the state's policies for the general public, certain mandates are predicted to still be in place for specific settings
- The Alameda County Public Health Department is officially accredited! Special congratulations thanks to QIA director Evette Brandon and the QIA team on their hard work

- As the COVID-19 is changing and shifting, the department is now working to revise and refresh the departmental strategic plan
- The department must work to continue efforts in other programs and areas of public health while still staying prepared for any changes in COVID-19
- Director Watkins-Tartt shares the idea of intersecting the COVID Advisory Group to be more involved with the Public Health Commission as there are many areas of possible partnership and common goals
- On April 11th, the department hosted a listening session revolving around the distribution of 11 million dollars from ARPA funding designated for outreach and navigation and capacity development
- The Public Health Department and the Public Health Commission co-sponsored the listening session and was successful, there were about 300 attendees for the event
- The department is in the early stages of launching a new unit the public and help to direct them towards the services or resources they seek
- The nursing division and the QIA unit will be working to develop and design this new unit and the Public Health Commission may be asked for feedback and advice during the development process
- The county is amid budget season, and the county has not received any increases in funding thus far
- Director Watkins-Tartt predicts there will be a need for budget cuts and more updates will be provided to the commission
- Commissioner Hurst asks about the federal cutbacks on reimbursement for testing and its effects on the county. Director Watkins-Tartt does not have a concrete answer currently as there is currently work being done on analyzing the data and financial aspects of this issue

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT PRESENTATION

- Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is federally mandated under the Affordable Care Act and requires non-profit hospitals to assess and prioritize the needs of their service areas every 3 years
- Community Health Assessments (CHA) should be updated every 5 years because they give local health departments comprehensive information about the community's current health status, needs, and issues
- Hospitals and local public health departments usually partner on CHNAs and CHAs because their goals and needs are highly related and intertwined
- For the Alameda County Public Health Department, funders and collaborators include St. Rose Hospital, John Muir Health, Sutter Health, UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital, Stanford Health Care, Hospital Council, Contra Costa Health Services, Kaiser Permanente, Actionable Insights, ACR, and Ad Lucem Consulting
- CHNA phases and cycle of activities include first data assessment, community input, implementation strategy, reporting, and monitoring. Currently the Public Health Department is in the implementation strategy stage
- The CHNA timeline is as follows: May 2021 consisted of a kickoff meeting and meeting with all partners, 2021 June-September consisted of collecting primary and secondary data, 2021 October- 2022 January consisted of analyzing data and planning for community prioritization, 2022 February – April will focus on community prioritization, and 2022 May-June will be focused on Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) planning
- The first result of the CHNA revealed access to care as a top priority, specifically access to clinical, mental, and dental care
- The areas relating to care accessibility that were selected by the focus groups and interviewees include improving access to telehealth care, early screening for chronic conditions, mental health wellness resources, and dental education and resources for children and seniors
- The second result of the CHNA data shows promotion of economic security as another top priority and this includes promoting efforts to protect affordable housing, to combat hunger and food insecurity, to improve educational opportunities for children and adults, and promote living wage jobs and job security efforts
- The third result of the CHNA data reveals a need for promoting communities free of violence and this included augmenting drug and alcohol prevention treatment/programs, addressing racial inequities, decreasing proliferation of illegal firearms, and promoting community wellness through trauma-informed services

- The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) describes how the health department and the community will work to improve the health of the population that it serves based on the results of the CHNA
- The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) requires various elements to be a part of the CHIP including community health priorities and a time framed target, policy changes that accomplish set objectives, a list of individual and organizations responsible for implementation, measurable health outcomes or indicators, and alignment with other levels of health departments and national priorities
- The next steps for the Alameda County Health Department include convening an advisory group to plan and implement the CHIP, identify community partners, select programs and services to address priorities, establish performance measures, provide capacity building and training to meet goals, and to finally celebrate the partnerships and work

LEADERSHIP REPORT

- Chair Castillo attended the ARPA listening session and gave opening and closing remarks for the event where he made sure to advertise and recruit for the Public Health Commission
- Chair Castillo attended the Measure A committee meeting and shares that they are behind on their reporting work, but he will continue to provide updates
- Vice Chair Harper assisted Dr. Leslie Salinas from the Oakland Knowledge Academy to help them prepare for their Community Resource Fair and build the relationship

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- *Medi-Cal Ad Hoc Committee*
 - Commissioner Hurst and the HEiAP will be partnering to work on common goals relating to Medi-Cal and CalAIM
 - The next meeting on May 16th at 5:30pm will have a presentation from Alameda Alliance about their work on health equity, health access, and state standards for programs and services
- *Nominations*
 - Commissioner Hurst states that he will be reaching out to the commissioners in districts with vacancies to network and fill the seats
 - Commissioner Hurst also would like to partner with the Communications and Community Outreach committee to develop media strategies for recruitment
- *Communications and Community Outreach*
 - Commissioner De La Pena Medina is working to connect with county council to discuss social media initiatives
- *Oral Health*
 - N/A
- *Health Equity in All Policies*
 - Commissioner Engeda is working with policy director of HCSA to schedule a presentation about the county's legislative council
 - Vice Chair Harper would like to partner more with Supervisor Keith Carson and the Health Committee to build relationships and address health equity issues together

STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT FOLLOW-UP

- Commissioner Howard felt that the meeting was enjoyable, and many good ideas were discussed, however, he felt that a second retreat was needed to further narrow the commission's goals
- Commissioner Howard feels that because of the limited size of the commission currently, a realistic and achievable goal would be to create a larger social media presence on various platforms
- Commissioner Hurst believes that it would be productive to form a group of commissioners to dissect the broad strategic planning goals into actionable and focused goals

- Vice Chair Harper responds saying that the Steering Committee can be the core group that processes the strategic planning goals to ensure that the goals and objectives of all subcommittees are represented
- Commissioner Howard suggests setting a date for a meeting to discuss further how to approach the strategic planning retreat goals and to make the goals of the Public Health Department a foundational starting point

AGENDA SETTING

- Neetu Balram, Public Information Officer presentation
- Standing Items

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- N/A

ADJOURN

- Meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted by: Phaplynn Phan

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Regular Meeting

May 12th, 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.