

Laurie Green, M.D.
President

Tessie M. Guillermo
Vice President

Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner

Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
Commissioner

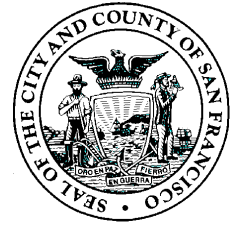
Cecilia Chung
Commissioner

Suzanne Girauo ED.D
Commissioner

Karim Salgado
Commissioner

**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO**

**London N. Breed Mayor
Department of Public Health**



Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

Mark Morewitz, M.S.W.
Executive Secretary

TEL (415) 554-2666

FAX (415) 554-2665

Web Site: <http://www.sfdph.org>

MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday September 3, 2024 4:00 p.m.

101 Grove Street, Room 300

San Francisco, CA 94102 & via Webex

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner Laurie Green, MD, President
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D
Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
Commissioner Tessie Guillermo
Commissioner Suzanne Girauo, Ph.D
Commissioner Karim Salgado

Excused: Commissioner Cecilia Chung

The meeting was called to order at 4:03pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF AUGUST 6, 2024.

Action taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the August 6, 2024 minutes.

3) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ann Colichidas, Gray Panthers, urged the Health Commission to restore the 120 beds at LHH, which were taken out of use during the decertification process.

Dr. Teresa Palmer, stated she is worried about losing the 120 beds at LHH and urged the Commission to include updates on LHH admissions and the waiver to get back the 120 beds at each of their meetings. This is very important to the people of San Francisco, especially the aging population, because LHH has one third of the skilled nursing beds in the city.

4) **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Grant Colfax MD, DPH, Director of Health, presented the item.

ACCIDENTAL DRUG OVERDOSE RATES UPDATE

In July, 39 people in San Francisco died of accidental drug overdoses, according to a report released on August 15 by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. Fentanyl continues to be the primary driver in the majority of these deaths. This is approximately 51% fewer overdose deaths than were seen in San Francisco in July 2023, when there were 79. Overall this year, we have 15% fewer deaths than in 2023. While a reduction in deaths is a hopeful sign, we will continue to double down on our efforts to expand substance use treatment and to get more people into treatment.

DPH SPONSORS ASSEMBLY BILL 2115

During the 2024 legislative season, Mayor London N. Breed and DPH sponsored Assembly Bill 2115 with Assemblymember Matt Haney. AB 2115 increases access to methadone by aligning state law with recent federal rules. Expanding access to methadone for vulnerable populations is essential to addressing the overdose crisis and this change would help expand efforts to prevent overdose deaths and further improve access to healthcare for our most vulnerable residents.

Methadone is a gold standard medical treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD) and is the most well-studied medication for OUD. People with OUD face multiple barriers to accessing methadone for the treatment, as it can only be dispensed in a limited number of situations. At the federal level, clinics are authorized to provide a 72-hour supply of methadone to a patient while referring a person to an Opioid Treatment Program (aka methadone clinic). Unfortunately, current California law does not fully align with this authority. AB 2115 would address this issue and allow clinics and hospitals to dispense 72 hours of methadone while referring a person to a methadone clinic. This will increase access to methadone for the treatment of OUD while patients wait to enroll in a methadone clinic, such as on weekends and evenings. The bill has successfully passed through the Assembly and is now in the Senate.

DPH HOSTS OVERDOSE AWARENESS EVENTS

The month of August includes Overdose Awareness Week and International Overdose Awareness Day (August 31st), a time to remember the lives lost to overdose and to share information about treatment and recovery services that can and do save lives. DPH and its partners held events throughout the month to raise overdose awareness and to promote overdose response training, substance use treatment and other services to help people addicted to fentanyl and other opioids. ZSFG hosted multiple Overdose Awareness Tabling events. The Richard Fine Health Clinic, OTOP, Bridge Clinic and Addiction Care Team each distributed free fentanyl strips and naloxone, and provided information about resources available for those interested in treatment and recovery and services available throughout DPH.

DPH Community Engagement led a [training event with Lyft](#) at SFO on August 28. More than 90 drivers were trained on how to recognize and respond to an overdose. Trainings were available in English and Spanish. DPH distributed over 95 naloxone kits, overdose response palm cards, and substance use treatment cards.

Extending beyond August, to further improve addiction care, ZSFG's Birth Center partnered with the Addiction Care Team to train six nurses in addiction medicine. They are completing coursework to become Certified Addiction Registered Nurses. This ACT Nurse Liaison Program will be expanded to other hospital units as we aspire to have ACTNLs in every unit to support both our patients and staff.

ZSFG PARTNERS WITH MOTHER'S MILK BANK TO HOST MILK DRIVE TO HELP BABIES THRIVE

In recognition of National Breastfeeding Awareness Month, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG) hosted a Milk Drive on August 14 in partnership with Mother's Milk Bank of California; the first known organized Milk Drive in San Francisco. During the event along Dr. David Sanchez Way on the ZSFG campus,

donors dropped off their excess milk donations. The collected milk will be pasteurized and shared with babies and families in need in the Bay Area and across the nation. Just two tablespoons of human milk can help a baby in need thrive and just one quarter of an ounce amounts to one feeding in the NICU.

We are grateful to all the donors who donated and to the ZSFG Birth Center for their efforts in making this possible. We also acknowledge and thank Amalia Deck and Catalina Perez, ZSFG's Lactation Nurses, for spearheading and coordinating the event and Jessica O'Rourke and Shilu Ramchand, Nurse Managers and Susan Ehrlich, CEO and Gillian Otway, CNO for their leadership. As a baby-friendly hospital, ZSFG is proud to partner with Mother's Milk Bank to help collect this crucial resource to ensure families and babies in need get the care they deserve.

About Mother's Milk Bank

Mother's Milk Bank is the oldest operating nonprofit milk bank in North America. As a charter member of the Human Milk Banking Association of North America, Mothers' Milk Bank has helped set the industry standard for milk collection and donation. Mothers' Milk Bank serves babies, families, and healthcare providers across the United States.

VISIT TO DPH'S CENTRALIZED CALL CENTER

Dr. Grant Colfax recently toured the San Francisco Health Network's Centralized Call Center (CCC), which receives more than 1,100 calls a day from patients of the 12 San Francisco Health Network primary care clinics. Answering the phones are 24 full-time Call Agents, who assist patients with scheduling appointments, refilling medications, and getting diagnostic results. Call Agents also route calls from those experiencing urgent medical problems to the nurse advice line. More than 60% of the CCC team members are bilingual, and some are even trilingual, helping callers in their native languages such as Spanish, Tagalog and Cantonese.

The Call Center hours are 8:00am to 6:00pm, Monday through Friday, in alignment with clinic business hours. This fall, a phone system upgrade will be implemented to further enhance patient experience. This technology refresh involves several new applications that will provide tighter integration with EPIC and expanded quality control capabilities.

DPH'S CENTER FOR LEARNING AND INNOVATION AND OHE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT LAUNCHES COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR PROMOTORAS

As part of the CDC-funded Project INVEST (Innovations That Value Equity and Strengthen Teams) the Population Health Division's Center for Learning and Innovation and the Office of Health Equity and Community Engagement launched the community of practice for promotoras (community health workers) Spring 2024. On August 21, 2024, they concluded a Leadership Training conducted entirely in Spanish by Dr. Berta Hernandez, with support from community facilitators Abraham Gonzalez, Promotoras Activas SF and Francisco Icala, Instituto Familiar de la Raza, Indigena Health and Wellness. This series of four 3-hour workshops spread out over a four-month period provided a learning opportunity for promotoras and further strengthened our collaborative efforts to address health disparities impacting the Indigenous and Latine community in San Francisco. On the final day, 35 participants received certificates of completion from Asa King, Deputy Director of Community Health.

ZSFG STAFF RECEIVE LEAN AWARD

Craig Vercruyse from Moss Adams, our Lean expert consultant, attended the ZSFG Executive Team meeting in August to award Will Huen, MD, MS, MPH and Christopher Ross, MSIE a Level 2 Hoshin Kanri certification representing an advanced understanding and application of the Hoshin Kanri methodology, a strategic planning process that is aligning ZSFG long-term goals with its daily activities. This level of certification indicates proficiency in not only developing and deploying strategic objectives but also in managing the process of cascading these objectives throughout the organization to ensure alignment at all levels.

Will and Chris were recognized for their exceptional skill in identifying key organizational goals, creating actionable plans to achieve them, and monitoring progress through metrics and regular reviews. The award also recognized their work to lead cross-functional teams to solve complex problems using continuous improvement techniques. At ZSFG, these principles have helped enable us to meet our True North goals in many ways, including but not limited to ambulance diversion rates, infection control, hospital-acquired pressure ulcers, and wholistically serving our vulnerable patient population.

This certification demonstrates the ability to drive strategic initiatives effectively, ensuring that the hospital remains focused on its long-term vision while also addressing everyday emergencies and adapting to changes. Congratulations to both Will and Christopher!

ZSFG WELCOMES NEW CHIEF INTEGRATIVE OFFICER

ZSFG welcomed Angelica Almeida to their Executive Team as Chief Integrative Officer. In this role, she is responsible for overseeing all behavioral health services at ZSFG, including Psychiatric Emergency Services, Psychiatric Inpatient Units, the Behavioral Health Center, and community behavioral health services. She will also serve as a dyad leader with the Chief of Psychiatry. Over the past nine years, Angelica served in several roles with DPH's Behavioral Health Services, most recently as the Director of the Adult and Older Adult System of Care. As a clinical psychologist with an expertise in complex trauma and serious mental illness, Angelica has been instrumental in providing subject matter expertise on court related programs and conservatorship locally and statewide and prioritizes client centered care. We welcome and look forward to having her serve in this critical role in supporting hospital operations and linking behavioral health services within our campus, across the San Francisco Health Network and DPH, and also across the City.

DPH TB CLINIC ARTICLE IN NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL PUBLICATION

An article outlining the methods of collaboration between DPH's TB Clinic, UCSF and Northeast Medical Services, a local Federally Qualified Health Center, to provide TB screening, diagnosis and prevention services effectively and efficiently in the patient's medical home was recently published in a [special Public Health theme issue](#) of *NEJM Catalyst Innovations in Care Delivery*. DPH's Tuberculosis Controller, Dr. Susannah Graves, is the lead author. ["Think. Test. Treat TB" in Action: An Innovative Primary Care and Public Health Partnership to Improve Tuberculosis Prevention and Care](#), has been published in the Volume 5, Issue 8 (August 2024).

COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 08/29:

- San Francisco's 7-day rolling average of COVID test positivity is 5.8%.
- Thirty-four percent of SF residents are fully up to date on their COVID vaccinations and have received the updated vaccine.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chow asked if the San Francisco Health Network Nursing Line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Dr. Albert Yu, San Francisco Health Network, stated that the Nursing line hours are 8am to 6pm Monday through Friday. Commissioner Chow noted that many health plans have 24- hour nurse lines and asked if the DPH has any opportunity to expand the hours. Dr. Yu stated that there are primary care providers on call after hours and on the weekends. When the Call Center is closed, the answering service routes the calls to the on call provider. Therefore, there is always someone to respond to a caller's questions.

Commissioner Chow requested for a link to the TB screening. Mr. Morewitz stated that he would send the link to the Commissioners.

5) **RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GIFT OF \$10,000 FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Greg Wong, DPH Administrative Analyst, presented the item.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution (Attachment A).

6) **RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND GIFTS OF \$490,692, \$280,588.14, \$83,255.04, \$21,444.48, \$21,983.13, \$262,800, \$44,570.88, AND \$166,984.60 FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Greg Wong, DPH Administrative Analyst, presented the item.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution (Attachment B).

7) **LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL GIFT FUND BUDGET FY24-25**

Leo Palacios, LHH Gift Fund Program Manager, presented the item.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved LHH Gift Budget FY24-25.

8) **HUNTERS POINT NAVAL SHIPYARD UPDATES**

Dr. Susan Philip, Health Officer and Director of Population Health Division, and Asa King, Deputy Director of Community Health, Population Health Division, presented the item.

Public Comment:

Tonia Randell, long time Bayview resident and Administrative Director, Marie Harrison Community Foundation, stated that there needs to be a groundwater survey. Residents also need the newest technology to block the dust. She noted that it is appalling to see the piles of dirt with only a chain link fence as a barrier. There are current technologies that could be a better barrier.

Arieann Harrison, Founder and Executive Director of the Marie Harrison Community Foundation, stated that her organization teaches advocacy and creates bridges for youth to enter the workforce at places like the DPH. She appreciates that the DPH staff are coming from behind their desks to get to know the community; she added that you cannot care about people you do not know. She thanked Dr. Philip and Director King for the work they are doing. She added that anything to do with the Bayview Hunter's Point community relates to her people. It may be too late for her but not the youth in the community. She urged the Commissioners to ensure that this community's concerns are addressed and to fight alongside the community.

Dr. Ahimsa Porter Sumchai, Hunter's Point Biomonitoring Foundation, Inc, stated that she has concerns about the Navy's 5-year report and objects to its finalization without any data or legal evidence of human exposure. Although the DPH does not have a regulatory role in the clean-up, it has a responsibility to ensure the safety and address human exposure at the Shipyard. She verbally reviewed data indicating residents and workers that have been exposed to environmental toxins and the impact of that exposure.

Ann Colichidas, Gray Panthers, appreciates the great movement by the DPH since last update. The Gray Panthers are longtime allies with the Bayview Hunter's Point community. She attends the monthly community meetings and supports the Dr. Sumchai's position regarding the Navy's report. She requested an immediate remediation for the fence line in lieu of action by the Navy. She noted that there is a Navy side to the fence and a San Francisco side. She urged the DPH to take more timely action on the dust containment.

Dr. Teresa Palmer stated that we have evidence that shipyard migration has been happening over time and impacting health of residents. There is not current adequate containment. All of these issues should have been dealt with in the past. It sounds like the DPH is saying it is uncertain but there is a lot of evidence. There is no way the land is acceptable to transfer from the Navy to San Francisco. She urged the DPH and the Commission to ensure a curtail is put up as a barrier to the dirt and dust.

Kamillah Ealom, All Things Bayview, submitted the following written public comment,

While the Navy's Final FYR acknowledges the low levels of toxic chemical exposure to past, present, and future Bayview Hunters Point Community residents and occupants, it fails to address the hazardous landfills, human exposure, and cumulative health impacts. Bayview Hunters Point residents continue to suffer from an increasing number of non-genetic cancers. It is the responsibility of the Department of Public Health to ensure that human health data is incorporated in the Final FYR as residents' experiences confirm the EJ Screen and CalEnviroScreen data.

Michael Lyon, Gray Panthers, submitted the following written public comment:

For fifty years, San Francisco has segregated its black and poor population into a toxicological killing ground. Its Public Health Department has made this possible by denying epidemics of breast and other cancers, asthma, cardiovascular disease, and emphysema, and by ignoring or actively denying the risks of radioactivity, heavy metals, organic solvents, and asbestos dust. You have stolen at least a decade of life, on the average, from some 35 thousand BVHP residents. Now, San Francisco's politicians-for-hire like Willy Brown, Nancy Pelosi, and Londen Breed want the City to let Lennar make money hand over fist saying this environmental disaster zone is safe for residences, offices, stores, and playgrounds. The ball's in your court. What are you going to do?

Betty Traynor, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, submitted the following written public comment:

The public health disaster at the San Francisco Naval Shipyard needs to be addressed immediately. The radioactive and other chemical contamination of the shipyard has gone on for decades, never adequately cleaned up by the U.S. Navy as we all know. Greenaction for Environmental Justice had to finally (June 2024) sue the U.S. Navy and the U.S. EPA over inadequate cleanup of the BV/HP naval shipyard. This contamination has severely affected the health of the people living on and near the shipyard for all these years—The S.F. Department of Public Health needs to declare a public health emergency and address the chronic health needs of all the people affected at no cost to them. Please discuss this at your Hearing today.

Linda Ray, Retired public health nurse and concerned citizen, submitted the following written public comment:

I am a retired Public Health Nurse and I visited patients/families in the Bayview and Hunters Point areas of San Francisco and found the residents there to be burdened with unusually high morbidity and mortality rates as compared to other areas of the city. I urge the Health Commission to declare a Local Public Health Emergency for this area under section 101080 of the California Health Safety Code. The navy must be held accountable to really clean up the area and not just cap the contaminated soil and the Commission and the Health Department owes it to not only the people in this area but the entire region since rising ground water will only spread the contamination if the navy is allowed to not do its duty to clean up the hazardous mess it has left.

Sara Greenwald, 350 San Francisco co-coordinator, submitted the following written public comment:

The report fails to include existing reliable data that document ongoing human health impacts of the reported contaminations at the site. Wittingly or not, the policy of ignoring the human impact essentially treats the people impacted as though they were simply disposable commodities of the ship-cleansing and other military and industrial processes conducted in the area. This grave environmental injustice demands that the health impact data be included in this and future reports.

Dave Rhody, Climate Reality Project SF Policy Co-Chair, submitted the following written public comment:

The San Francisco Health Department and this commission have failed to take action on the health crisis in the Bayview Hunters Point community. Your own records prove the facts: high rates of emphysema, asthma, congestive heart failure with radioactive contaminants found in an alarming number of residents as tested by Dr. Sumchai. The Navy has ignored these facts. As its report shows, it's planning to cap contaminated soil rather than eradicate it. With rising ground water, contamination of the community will only get worse, more sickness and more death. It's time for the SF Health Commission to declare a Local Public Health Emergency at Bayview Hunters Point per the mandate of CA Health Safety Code, Section 101080. As a San Franciscan, I am ashamed at this city's horrible disservice to my friends and the residents of Bayview Hunters Point.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chow asked how the Navy accepted the technical comments submitted by the DPH. Dr. Philip stated that the Navy's response varies, based on the issue. For example, regarding modeling out climate risk, the Navy did agree with the DPH, which was in alignment with regulators and the community. Regarding the DPH recommendation to expand the dirt sampling for testing, the Navy stated that they would go with the regulators' recommendations, which were not in alignment with the DPH recommendations. She added that the DPH hopes to amplify the community's point of view and to recommend activities that are health protective.

Commissioner Chow asked if the DPH has taken a position on the resident impact related to the land San Francisco has taken over from the Navy. Dr. Philip stated that as the DPH develops capacity, it must better understand the data. It will be hiring additional expertise within DPH and will engage other experts at UCSF and UC Berkeley. The DPH leadership knows there are health issues and disparities in the Bayview and Hunter's Point and it will continue to focus efforts on the health equity issues. She understands that there are special and unique concerns related to the Shipyard. Commissioner Chow asked for further follow-up on these issues in the next update to the Commission, including data and strategies related to the fence covering. He added that he understands that not all health issues and disparities in the Bayview and Hunter's Point are exclusively related to the Shipyard.

Commissioner Girardo congratulated Dr. Philip and Director King for the work they have done since the first time they presented to the Community and Public Health Committee last year. She hopes the full Commission will get regular updates on this important topic. Dr. Philip thanked the Commission for the push and encouragement, and expectation that this work will be done. This is a decades-long situation with complex issues so solutions will not be found quickly, but the DPH will continue to do the work with the community, regulators, and the Navy.

Commissioner Green thanked Dr. Philip and Director King for the collaboration with the community. She asked the possible impact if there is a change in a presidential administration; how is the Navy impacted by presidential elections. Dr. Philip stated that it is difficult to predict. She added that the DPH, with the Health Commission support, will continue to advocate on behalf of the community as much as possible. She added that the local regulatory staff are very committed to make the situation better for the community.

Commissioner Salgado stated that she grew up in the City. It hurts that we are still dealing with these issues. She remembers her granddad lived out in that neighborhood and had asthma. The situation is not acceptable. She is concerned that she is not hearing a deadline when this will get resolved. she would like to hear a deadline, even ten-year deadline, something people can look forward to. Does the government give us extra money to support the Bayview residents for their medical expenses? Do we get any community support from the government, from the Navy, so that people suffering from these illnesses do not have to suffer financially? She hopes these are the questions that can be answered the next time the Commission receives an update.

She understands a change in a presidential administration could set this process back another few generations. No one should have to live like this. She would like to hear a deadline; talk to the Navy and regulators. The people in Hunter's Point deserve the dignity of knowing a date of when this will end. The community wants curtains for the dust; that is a sensible and practical request. She would like to hear in the next presentation a deadline of when this will be done.

Commissioner Christian is gratified with the work the DPH has done since the last time this item was presented to the Commission. She thanked Dr. Philip and Director King for the effort of community engagement they have structured and implemented. She asked for more information on the quarterly meetings the DPH participates in with the regulatory bodies. Dr. Philip stated that it is a small group of DPH staff, Navy, and regulatory staff, including some local regulatory staff. She hopes that the DPH can continue to bring up topics, such as mobilization of dust, and revisit them over time. She noted that the Navy and regulatory staff cannot share all the discussions they have previously had together in meetings which are not open to the DPH or the public. However, the Navy and regulatory staff are forthcoming when they can be and have a real interest in trying to protect and promote the health of San Francisco residents. She and Deputy King are striving to deepen the engagement with the Navy and regulatory bodies. Commissioner Christian asked if topics of discussion in these meetings are actions that have been or will be taken to help protect the community health of residents, in addition to working on longer term timelines and goals. For example, technology to prevent the dust from traveling. Dr. Philip stated that she will continue to bring up the issue of the dust and will push for more direct response to the question of installing a barrier at the fence. She added that the Navy does speak about other preventative actions such as spraying down the dust with water to help prevent it from spreading. Commissioner Christian urged Dr. Philip to encourage the Navy to focus on what it can do now to reduce the harm, even as they may be working on longer term remediation efforts.

Commissioner Christian asked for clarification regarding technical comments that the DPH gives the Navy and regulators. Dr. Philip stated that the DPH technical engineer asks the Navy questions about its plans, possibly questioning a technique or plan, and offer an alternative solution he considers more appropriate; the regulators may ask the same questions. The Navy will then respond. Dr. Philip stated that she may ask questions on behalf of the community health as a physician and the San Francisco Health Officer.

Commissioner Christian asked if there is any reporting out by the DPH to the community from the meetings between the DPH and regulators. Dr. Phillip stated that there has not been reporting out from these meetings. Commissioner Christian encouraged the DPH to be as transparent in their communications with the Navy and regulators, including possibly sharing an overview of what was discussed at these meetings.

Commissioner Christian thanked Director King and Dr. Philip for hearing the Commissioners' concerns at previous meetings about the Shipyard and taking action. Dr. Philip expressed gratitude for Deputy Director King and the work they have done in the past months.

Commissioner Green noted that it is frustrating for everyone that the Navy has control of the situation, including setting timelines. She echoed Commissioner Christian's suggestion to share topics that were discussed at meetings with regulators and/or the Navy so the community feels included and is kept updated.

Director Colfax thanked Dr. Philip and Director King for their work on this important topic. He also thanked all those who made public comment; he added that the Department hears their concerns.

9) DPH OVERDOSE RESPONSE UPDATE

Hillary Kunins, MD, Director Behavioral Health Services and Mental Health SF, and Krista Gaeta, MSW, Director of Strategic Initiatives, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Giraud asked if there is adequate staff to do this important work, noting that it is a difficult market for hiring behavioral health clinicians. Ms. Gaeta stated that DPH has made this area a priority so there have been successful hiring efforts. There are funding issues for some of the housing that the DPH programs support. She noted that there is a local high demand for behavioral health clinicians. Dr. Kunins stated that the Mental Health Services Act allowed some funding to be directed to substance abuse services a few years ago; therefore, some of that funding supports these programs. Opioid settlement funds have been used to expand some of this work. Director Colfax stated that state and federal bureaucracy has not adapted to the current crisis. The impact includes difficulty obtaining treatment beds and the inability to use EPIC to record an individual's substance use issues and treatment. The DPH is utilizing creative solutions in an attempt to get around City bureaucracy but have no impact on state or federal issues and systems.

Commissioner Guillermo is impressed with innovative solutions and interventions developed by the DPH. She noted that in all Dr. Kunins presentations, and when Behavioral Health contracts are discussed at the Finance and Planning Committee, there is a clear commitment across the DPH in reducing unnecessary bureaucracy. Dr. Kunins stated that Behavioral Health Services and the DPH are attempting to simplify messages and the reasons why it makes the choices it does.

Commissioner Chow asked how DPH providers select Methadone or Buprenorphine for patients. Dr. Kunins stated that Methadone requires a daily visit to a clinic where providers witness a patient taking a dose, or in special cases, patient's get a dose to take home. Buprenorphine can be prescribed in primary or specialty clinics. She noted that clinical studies show small differences in effectiveness. For example, Methadone may be more effective for Fentanyl addiction, but for many, going to a clinic every day is not realistic.

Commissioner Christian thanked Ms. Gaeta for her enthusiasm, noting that she and the team are solving complex problems in real time. She urged the DPH to continue sharing these innovations with the public.

Commissioner Green agreed with Commissioner Christian that the DPH should strive to share its incredible work with the public through media stories.

10) FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Commissioner Tessie Guillermo, member, chaired the committee meeting and gave the update. She stated that the committee recommended that the Health Commission approve all contract-related items on the Consent Calendar. She added that the committee also heard a presentation launching the SF MRA Funds Finder Tool and public awareness marketing campaign.

11) JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AND OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Tessie Guillermo, LHH JCC Chair, stated that at the August 13th meeting, the committee reviewed standard reports including the Regulatory Affairs Report, Human Resources Report, and Executive Team Report. The committee also reviewed all the Laguna Honda policies on the Consent Calendar and recommended that the full Commission approve all the policies. During the closed session, the committee approved the Credentials Report and the PIPS Minutes Report.

Commissioner Edward Chow, ZSFG JCC Chair, stated that at the August 27th meeting, the committee discussed two robust presentations, one on the Access and Flow of the hospital, which helps enhance the patient experience and ensure the hospital flow is as convenient for patients to navigate as possible. The other presentation is on revenue cycle optimization, focusing on the billing. The committee also reviewed standard

reports including the Regulatory Report, Human Resources report, and CEO Report. Dr. Ehrlich introduced new data elements which align with the hospital's true north metrics. During the Medical Staff Report, the committee recommended that the full Commission approve the Neurology Rules and Regulations. In closed session, the committee approved the Credentials Report and PIPS Minutes Report

12) CONSENT CALENDAR

Actions Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the following items:

- **September Monthly Contracts Report**
- **Request for approval of a new Professional Services Contract with Asian and Pacific Islander Wellness Center dba San Francisco Community Health Center to provide services to support Unhoused Trans and Gender-Diverse Individuals. The total proposed agreement amount is \$1,568,000 which includes a 12% contingency for the term of 10/1/2024 through 6/30/2026 (1 year and 10 months).**
- **Request for approval of a new Professional Services Agreement with Pacific Neurophysiological Systems, LLC to perform neurophysiological monitoring services at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital on a scheduled and “on-call” basis. The total proposed contract amount is \$2,060,800 which includes a 12% contingency for the term of September 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029 (5 years).**
- **ZSFG Policies and Procedures:**
 - Updated Neurology Rules and Regulations
- **LHH Policies and Procedures:**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>Policy No.</u>	<u>Policy Title</u>
1	Facility-wide	01-14	Compliance Program Discipline
2	N/A	N/A	Laguna Honda Hospital Adult Intravenous Vancomycin Per-Pharmacy Dosing Protocol
3	Medicine	001-02	Night and Weekend Physician Services
4	Medicine	003-04	Billing for Physician Services: Acute
5	Medicine	003-05	Billing for Physician Services: SNF
6	Medicine	003-06	Billing for Physician Services: Consultation
7	Social Services	7.5	Discharges to the Acute Care Unit (PMA)
8	Social Services	7.6	Documentation of Care Plans
9	Social Services	7.7	Discharge Planning and Implementation
10	Social Services	7.9	Readmission Assessments
11	Nursing	C 1.3	Discharge Procedure to Acute
12	Nursing	L 1.0	Emergency Intervention for Choking
13	Nursing	A 10.0	Utilization and Monitoring of P103 and Per Diem
14	Nursing	A 11.0	Utilization of OT Staff
15	Nursing	Standard	Advance Practice Nursing (NP/CNS) Preamble Procedure

13) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Commissioner Suzanne Giraudo, Chair, stated that at the August 20th meeting the committee discussed two presentations. The Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Needs Assessment Summary and Foster Care Services update was a robust presentation. The top 3 maternal needs are access to care, housing security/homelessness, and mental health. The top 3 perinatal and infant needs include access to care, economic family support, and mental and physical health of the parent. The top 3 adolescent needs are housing, mental health, and economic family support to cover basic needs. The top needs of special needs

populations include case management to navigate the complex health care systems and related services; access to specialty care, including dentists; and mental health and respite care for family/caregivers. There are 600-900 foster youth in San Francisco. The healthcare program is case management focused.

The second presentation was a DPH Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response update included information on developing the LHH emergency preparedness plan; coordinating with the Drug Market Agency Coordinating Center; leading the health components of the APIC Summit planning; and conducting ongoing emergency preparedness exercises to ensure the City is prepared for emergencies.

14) OTHER BUSINESS:

This item was not discussed.

15) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm.

Attachment A

**Health Commission
City and County of San Francisco
Resolution No. 24-13**

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GIFT OF \$10,000 FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

WHEREAS, The California Department of Public Health will be donating to the Department of Public Health a cash gift in the amount of \$10,000 for The Public Health Infection Preventionist Capacity Externship Program (PHIPCEP); and

WHEREAS, PHIPCEP is an innovative new program that will provide new public health infection preventionists (IP) with acute care hospital experience in their local area; and

WHEREAS, The California Department of Public Health has notified the Department of Public Health that proceeds from the gift will be distributed; and

WHEREAS, The gift will be in the form of cash to the Department of Public Health hospital infection prevention program; and

WHEREAS, The California Department of Public Health provides gifts to entities with the shared goals of preventing communicable disease transmission in the community and promoting safe healthcare delivery; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Health Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisor authorize the Department of Public Health to accept and expend a cash gift of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to help IPs with gaining acute care hospital experience; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the gift will be accepted and expended consistent with San Francisco Administrative Code Sections governing the acceptance of gifts to the City and County of San Francisco, including San Francisco Administrative Code Section 10.100-305.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting on August 20, 2024, adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz, MSW
Health Commission Executive Secretary

**Health Commission
City and County of San Francisco
Resolution No. 24-14**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND GIFTS OF \$490,692, \$280,588.14, \$83,255.04,
\$21,444.48, \$21,983.13, \$262,800, \$44,570.88, AND \$166,984.60
FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

WHEREAS, The California Department of Public Health provides for the distribution of four hundred ninety thousand six hundred ninety-two dollars (\$490,692), two hundred eighty thousand five hundred eighty-eight dollars and fourteen cents (\$280,588.14), eighty-three thousand two hundred fifty-five dollars and four cents (\$83,255.04), twenty-one thousand four hundred forty-four dollars and forty-eight cents (\$21,444.48), twenty-one thousand nine hundred eighty-three dollars and thirteen cents (\$21,983.13), two hundred sixty-two thousand eight hundred dollars (\$262,800), forty-four thousand five hundred seventy dollars and eighty-eight cents (\$44,570.88), and one hundred sixty-six thousand nine hundred eighty-four dollars and sixty cents (\$166,984.60) to the Department of Public Health for the purpose of obtaining COVID-19 test kits; and

WHEREAS, The California Department of Public Health provides donations to entities that help low income and at-risk populations; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Health Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisor authorize the Department of Public Health to accept and expend gifts of COVID-19 test kits valued in the amounts of four hundred ninety thousand six hundred ninety-two dollars (\$490,692), two hundred eighty thousand five hundred eighty-eight dollars and fourteen cents (\$280,588.14), eighty-three thousand two hundred fifty-five dollars and four cents (\$83,255.04), twenty-one thousand four hundred forty-four dollars and forty-eight cents (\$21,444.48), twenty-one thousand nine hundred eighty-three dollars and thirteen cents (\$21,983.13), two hundred sixty-two thousand eight hundred dollars (\$262,800), forty-four thousand five hundred seventy dollars and eighty-eight cents (\$44,570.88), and one hundred sixty-six thousand nine hundred eighty-four dollars and sixty cents (\$166,984.60) to support the goal of helping low income and at-risk populations; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the gift will be accepted and expended consistent with San Francisco Administrative Code Sections governing the acceptance of gifts to the City and County of San Francisco, including San Francisco Administrative Code Section 10.100-201.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting on August 20, 2024, adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz, MSW
Health Commission Executive Secretary