



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of December 3, 2024

A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco
<https://sf.gov/departments/san-francisco-health-commission/past-meetings>

In alignment with the California Department of Public Health, we will no longer report on COVID-19 case data. More people are now testing themselves at home for COVID-19 and we do not get data from at-home testing. This affects the accuracy of data on testing volume. We will continue to report on [test positivity](#) and will monitor other indicators including hospitalizations.

SF HEALTH NETWORK WELCOMES SEVERAL NEW LEADERS

The San Francisco Health Network (SFHN) Division of DPH is delighted to welcome three new leaders to the Department in November and December.

Tangerine Brigham joined DPH on November 25 as the SFHN Chief Operating and Strategy Officer. In this role, Tangerine will provide executive oversight of DPH's healthcare delivery system and be a member of the SFHN executive leadership team.

Tangerine joins us from the Alameda Health System, where she served as Chief Administrative Officer of Population Health, but she is no stranger to DPH. She previously worked with us as Director of Policy and Planning and as a Deputy Director of Health & Director of Healthy San Francisco. Tangerine's additional leadership experience includes serving as a Deputy Director for the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services overseeing the Managed Care Services Division, Community Health Officer at the San Francisco Foundation, and Director of California Program for the Corporation for Supportive Housing.

Additionally, on December 21, the DPH will welcome Dr. Todd Barrett, MD, MBA, FAAHPM, as the SFHN Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Barrett is a renowned expert in clinical transformation and innovation of value-based healthcare, leading evidence-based cross disciplinary palliative care programs at multiple institutions to improve the lives of patients with serious illness. In his new role, he will be responsible for strategic oversight and management of the clinical practice of all



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physicians and licensed providers practicing in the SFHN.

Dr. Barrett joins SFHN after serving two years as the National Medical Director of Palliative and Advanced Care for ConcertoCare, leading its national strategy and innovation in palliative care and interdisciplinary care. Prior to this, he was Medical Director for Palliative Medicine at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and an Associate Professor and Associate Director of Health Services Research at the Ohio State University Division of Palliative Medicine.

Also joining the Department on December 21 is Aman Lail, new Chief Administrative Officer for Ambulatory Services. With over 20 years of healthcare experience, Aman brings a wealth of expertise in enhancing patient experience, strengthening provider and staff engagement, and driving operational efficiencies within ambulatory care, particularly in value-based care systems. She has a proven track of successfully leading large-scale, transformative efforts that integrate people, processes, and technology to optimize care delivery and drive organizational success.

Aman will be joining DPH after serving as Vice President of Provider Affairs and Engagement at CVS Health's Oak Street Health division, where she oversaw national strategic initiatives across 21 ambulatory care clinics and home health services. Before joining CVS Health, Aman held senior leadership roles at distinguished healthcare organizations such as Elevance Health, Kaiser Permanente, and Stanford Healthcare. Aman is deeply committed to improving healthcare access for underserved communities. She has led numerous initiatives aimed at reducing health disparities, expanding virtual care, and developing hospital-at-home programs for chronically ill patients.

ZSFG'S SKILLED NURSING FACILITY NAMED 2025 BEST NURSING HOMES

U.S. News recognized the 30-bed Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) at ZSFG Hospital as one of the "2025 Best Nursing Homes," earning the highest possible achievement with a "High Performing" rating and an overall rating of 5 out of 5. The hospital is now part of the elite 19% of SNFs that have been recognized for providing essential care to our community of patients requiring short-term rehabilitation following a hospitalization for surgery, heart attack, stroke, injury or similar condition. Congratulations to the entire 4A Skill Nursing Facility team at ZSFG for being recognized as one of U.S. News 2025 Best Nursing Homes!



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DPH RECOGNIZES WORLD AIDS DAY

On December 1 every year, we commemorate World AIDS Day, honoring all those who have been affected by HIV/AIDS and renewing our promise to continue this critical fight.

Many of us remember the early days of the AIDS epidemic and the devastation it brought to our city and the world. Through hard work, collaboration, and tireless advocacy, we have been able to turn the tide. DPH is proud to be a part of Getting to Zero San Francisco (GTZSF), a consortium of over 300 members who are working together to achieve the goal of eliminating HIV infections, preventable deaths, and stigma. GTZSF is a collaborative effort among DPH, UCSF, health systems, community-based organizations, community members, and industry. Since GTZSF was launched in 2014, incredible headway has been made both in reducing new HIV diagnoses and linking people to care more quickly. Through collaboration, San Francisco was able to pioneer PrEP research and spearhead antiretroviral therapy access by making treatment available on the same day as diagnosis. Thanks in large part to these efforts, the number of new HIV diagnoses in San Francisco has declined by 67% since the launch of GTZSF, and 84% of people diagnosed the first nine months of 2023 were virally suppressed within six months.

GTZSF has influenced the HIV response around the world, collaborating with many jurisdictions in the United States, Europe, North and South America, Africa, and Asia. Examples of recent GTZSF initiatives include working with regional partners to coordinate efforts around equitable access to PrEP, including long-acting injectables, and supporting capacity-building programming for Spanish-speaking HIV frontline workers who provide services to communities across the Bay Area. We owe it to all those we lost in our fight against HIV/AIDS to sustain and accelerate the progress that has been made, and there are a lot of great things happening. Learn more about GTZSF and the incredible work that is being done by visiting gettingtozerosf.org.

ZSFG CONNECTING WITH OLDER PATIENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

ZSFG's Age Friendly Emergency Department (AFED) team recently visited Jackie Chan Senior Center in the Richmond District. Residents at the Senior Center were very supportive and thankful to have a service line like AFED that supports and provides services for older adults—particularly around the challenges related to the use of technology at the hospital and linkages to care after emergency department visits. During this gathering, the team learned about the experiences of our mono- and bilingual older community members at the hospital and identified opportunities to



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improve care through bolstering language services to help patients feel more at ease and reducing the need for patients to travel across the city to another hospital due to possible language barriers. ZSFG currently holds the bronze standard – Level 3 Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation, which recognizes the hospital for focusing and providing on the highest standards of care for our communities' older adults. This is the first of many planned visits with our Chinese, Black/African American and Latine/x communities to learn more about opportunities to better deliver patient-centered services at ZSFG.

DPH PARTNERS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS ON PROMOTORES TRAINING SERIES ON OVERDOSE PREVENTION

DPH's Office of Health Equity and Population Health Division Office of Equity and Community Engagement recently partnered with Instituto Familiar de la Raza and Promotoras Activas SF to conduct a series of four trainings focused on preventing Fentanyl overdoses. The trainings were delivered to the indigenous community from Latin America in SF, with promotores representing Instituto Familiar de la Raza, Mission Economic Development Agency and Mission Action. DPH staff facilitated the final workshop that concluded with the presentation of certificates of participation and naloxone for all in attendance. Thank you, Team DPH, for this collaborative effort!

UCSF LABOR ACTION AT ZSFG

ZSFG worked closely with UCSF leadership, DPH's Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Branch and others during a two-day strike in November by UCSF employees—represented by the University Professional and Technical Employees and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees unions—who work at ZSFG. This impacted several hundred UCSF employees at ZSFG who perform various roles in clinical laboratories, respiratory care, operating rooms, dialysis, psychiatry and social work. While impacts included limited services in hematology and general delays in the clinical lab, biomed and pathology, generally the impacts were minimal thanks to ZSFG's contingency planning. ZSFG activated a Hospital Incident Command System at Level 1 and successfully minimized impacts to patients. The hospital remained fully operational and there were no impacts to the emergency department, trauma care or inpatient care. During the two-day labor action, ZSFG also hosted a successful survey from the California Department of Public Health.



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SF 5TH ANNUAL FEEDING 5000 EVENT

DPH is proud to partner with the San Francisco African American Faith Based Coalition, Livable City, and the Office of Economic & Workforce Development to spread joy and nourishment at this year's Feeding 5000 event on December 14. Feeding 5000 will provide turkeys, fresh produce other vital resources to over 7,000 households, plus daily meals during the week of December 23 to vulnerable seniors.

Please consider volunteering to help make this event a success. There are several different shifts and roles available. For more event details and to register, please visit <https://livablecity.org/feeding5k/>

COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 11/26:

- San Francisco's 7-day rolling average of COVID test positivity is 2.1%.
- Twenty-three percent of SF residents are fully up to date on their COVID vaccinations and have received the updated vaccine.