



## 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 May 17, 2022

*A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco*

<https://www.dph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

*Today, there are over 133,000 San Francisco residents with confirmed cases of COVID-19. And, sadly, a total of 867 San Franciscans have died. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) sends our condolences to their loved ones.*

### **SAN FRANCISCO LAUNCHES OFFICE OF COORDINATED CARE**

Mayor London N. Breed and DPH announced the opening of the Office of Coordinated Care (OCC) as part of the unprecedented expansion of mental health and substance use services in San Francisco.

A key component of the 2019 Mental Health SF legislation, the OCC assigns case managers to people who are disconnected from behavioral health services, or who are making transitions in care from one setting to another. Case managers proactively support people to successfully access and remain in care so they can avoid falling back into a cycle of crisis. Previously, people had little follow-up care and experienced fragmented, or insufficient support and many times lacked a clear pathway to entering the behavioral health system. Mayor Breed worked in partnership with Supervisor Hillary Ronen and then-Supervisor Matt Haney to craft the Mental Health SF legislation.

The launch of the OCC is part of an expansion of behavioral health resources in process over the last year, including the addition of 400 mental health and substance use treatment beds and the deployment of the Street Crisis Response Team, which responds to calls for emergency services for those struggling with mental illness and addiction. This is all part of San Francisco's strategy, including the Mayor's Homelessness Recovery Plan, to provide services for those in need and improve the conditions on the streets.

Although DPH has been developing the OCC for more than a year through pandemic-related delays, it was the Emergency Declaration in the Tenderloin in December that provided the expedited hiring path needed to complete the staffing required to launch the OCC. The inaugural Director of the OCC, Heather Weisbrod, has been a DPH employee for 16 years and most recently served as the Director of Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) System of Care. She now leads a team of



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20 staff members that will expand to 40 by this summer. OCC staff include behavioral health clinicians, registered nurses, health workers, and peer specialists with lived experience with mental health and/or substance use disorders.

When fully expanded, the OCC expects to manage the cases of 4,000 individuals annually who have mental health and/or substance use disorders, and who have been historically underserved by the healthcare system because of trauma, homelessness, racism, and other social determinants of health.

The OCC will follow clients transitioning between systems of care, including those leaving jail, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital's Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES), and the hospital's emergency department. These transitions are a time of vulnerability, and the OCC ensures clients stay engaged with the health care system, including accompanying clients to appointments when needed rather than simply making a referral. The OCC's efforts can improve health equity by lowering the barriers to care and by utilizing a diverse staff who have language capacity and are reflective of communities in San Francisco.

Additionally, the OCC will carefully follow people who receive 5150s, an involuntary hold due to a mental health challenge, so that it can scale interventions as needed. This could include in-person outreach if the person is not connecting to care. And the OCC supports incoming calls to the City's 24/7 Behavioral Health Access Line where people can call for information on accessing care (415-255-3737 or 888-246-3333). In addition to case management and behavioral health access programs, the OCC will also provide enrollment services and connect uninsured San Franciscans to Medi-Cal and Healthy SF.

Opening the OCC has been a multi-phase effort beginning with a pilot that launched in April 2021 to provide follow-up case management for individuals seen by the Street Crisis Response Team (SCRT). In March 2022, the OCC team was actively working with 72 individuals identified through a SCRT crisis contact to support and connect them to ongoing care.

DPH is also expanding its most intensive case management support for the people who are already within the system of care and have the most complex needs. More than 100 individuals are currently on a wait list for the Intensive Case Management program and need additional supports or risk falling out of care. Expansion of that case management program is in process, and in coordination with the OCC will stitch together an effective network of case managers for people at all stages of care.

Mental Health SF is focused on serving people experiencing homelessness. For more information



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on Mental Health SF, go to: [sf.gov/information/mental-health-sf](https://sf.gov/information/mental-health-sf).

### **DPH, KAISER, AND SF OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PARTNER FOR DOWNTOWN WORKFORCE VACCINE EVENT**

On May 9, Mayor London Breed, in partnership with SEIU Local 87 and the SF Labor Council, hosted a drop-in COVID-19 Vaccination at the new Kaiser Permanente's "Care Essentials" location at Salesforce Transit Center. DPH's Vaccine Team collaborated with Kaiser Permanente and the SF Office of Economic and Workforce Development to provide COVID vaccinations and boosters to workers in the custodial, hotel, construction, and restaurant industries who are returning to work in the downtown sector. The pop-up also provided visitors with information and access to relief programs, as well as a speaking program highlighting the importance of health resources for essential workers.

### **SF BECOMES THE FIRST CITY IN THE NATION TO OFFER FREE DIAPERS TO ALL FAMILIES ON PUBLIC BENEFITS**

Mayor London N. Breed announced the nation's first city-funded program that provides diapers for all low-income families on public benefits. Her announcement expands program eligibility to include any family that receives Medi-Cal coverage and effectively doubles the number of eligible families that can receive free diapers through the San Francisco Diaper Bank.

The average monthly diaper bill for a child under three years old can range from \$80-\$100 per month, with infants needing up to twelve diapers a day and toddlers about eight a day. Yet, most state and federal safety net programs for families do not currently recognize diapers as a necessity.

The high cost of diapers creates a "diaper need" for low-income families, which is the lack of a sufficient supply to keep an infant or child clean, dry, and healthy. More than a third of families in the United States experience diaper need and are forced to make difficult decisions, often choosing between diapers and other necessities such as groceries, rent, and clothing. By alleviating the heavy burden of the cost of diapers for low-income parents and caregivers, the San Francisco Diaper Bank increases families' ability to pay for other necessities.

Because a supply of clean diapers is required to attend most childcare programs, the San Francisco Diaper Bank increases access to these programs for low-income infants and toddlers, promoting their healthy development and well-being.



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Since its inception, the San Francisco Diaper Bank has supplied diapers to more than 5,800 San Francisco infants and toddlers, with 95% of the families served identifying as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color; and 48% speak a language other than English at home.

Families who receive CalWORKs, CalFresh, or Medi-Cal in San Francisco can visit one of nine [community pick up locations](#) to request free diapers. Program participants are required to show their CalFresh [EBT](#) card or Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (“BIC card”) and a valid government issued ID card. Participation in the Diaper Bank will not reduce monthly benefit amounts for food and cash assistance. For any questions, call SFHSA at (415) 558-4700.

### [DPH in the News](#)



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## LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION CENTER

May 2022

Health Commission - Director of Health Report

(May 5, 2022 Medical Exec Committee)

	May	(FY 2021-2022) Year-to-Date
<b>New Appointments</b>	0	15
Reinstatements	0	0
<b>Reappointments</b>	6	45
Delinquencies:	0	0
Reappointment Denials:	0	0
<b>Resigned/Retired/Separated</b>	0	12
<b>Disciplinary Actions</b>	0	0
<b>Restriction/Limitation-Privileges</b>	0	0
<b>Deceased</b>	0	1
<b>Changes in Privileges</b>		
Additions	0	0
Voluntary Relinquishments	0	0
Proctorship Completed	0	5
Proctorship Extension	0	0

### Current Statistics – as of 5/03/2022

Active Medical Staff	35
As-Needed Medical Staff	16
External Consultant Medical Staff	46



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Courtesy Medical Staff	2
Affiliated Health Practitioners	7
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS</b>	<b>106</b>

<b>Applications in Process</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Applications Withdrawn this month</b>	<b>0</b>