

**Public Health Advisory Board**

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**Meeting Notes: March 5, 2008**

**Members present:** Leslie Benson, Joan Hurlock, Barbara Fox, Vicki McGahan, Dr. Raymond Wilson, Dr. Robert Meagher, Terri Mack, Dr. Glennah Trochet (ex-officio), Dr. Dorothy Pitman (ex-officio).

**Members absent:** Scott Seamons (excused), Leticia Garcia (excused), Chris Wood (excused), Ana Negron, Matt Hedges, Dr. Anthony Russell.

**Guests attending:** Teresa Kline, Alondra Thompson, Marnie Musser, Mia Orr, Dr. Olivia Kasirye.

**Staff:** Alan Lange, Kevin O’Keefe.

Issues	Discussion	Action/Recommendation
<b>Introductions</b>	The PHAB Chair was unable to attend the meeting, so Leslie Benson served as Acting Chair.	
<b>Chair’s Report</b>	<p>The Chair shared the following notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PHAB’s Executive Committee approved a Testimonial Letter on behalf of the Environmental Management Department at its meeting on February 15. The Testimonial Letter was written for Environmental Management Department because it is in the running for the prestigious Samuel Crumbine Award.</li> <li>• The PHAB’s Quarterly Meeting with the Chiefs of Staff on February 14 was postponed. The PHAB had hoped to discuss its Trans Fat Recommendation with the Chiefs, but due to a lack of quorum at the February meeting the Trans Fat Recommendation was not approved.</li> <li>• The PHAB convened its Nominating Committee on February 26 to interview four candidates. Mia Orr and Rebekah Anderson were recommended to the Board of Supervisors for appointment to the PHAB. The Board of Supervisors will be addressing this issue in the upcoming weeks.</li> <li>• Leslie Benson performed the PHAB’s first outreach presentation to the Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition on February 21. The presentation went well and the Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition was kind enough to provide feedback. A second outreach presentation is scheduled for the HIV Health Services Planning Council on Wednesday, March 26, at 10 a.m., at the CARES building, which is located at 1501 21<sup>st</sup> Street.</li> <li>• The Human Services Planning Council is hosting the “Finding Common Ground” forum for health and human services advocates on Saturday, April 19. All Member Advisory Boards are cordially invited to attend. The forum will address the dire budget outlook that the County faces in 2008-09 and examine ways to maintain the safety net for our most vulnerable individuals. The forum will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sierra Health Foundation, which is located at 1321 Garden Highway. If you would like to attend, please contact staff.</li> </ul>	
<b>Action Item: Meeting Minutes</b>	The PHAB Minutes from February 6 were unanimously approved without changes.	* M/S (Dr. Meagher, 1 <sup>st</sup> ; McGahan, 2 <sup>nd</sup> ) to unanimously approve the PHAB Minutes from Feb. 6 as is.
<b>Presentation: California Medical Association</b>	Teresa Kline, Associate Director for the California Medical Association’s (CMA) Center for Government Relations, gave a presentation. The CMA represents physicians of all specialties in California and has a membership of 35,000. The CMA’s primary focus is on advocating for health issues throughout the state. Kline’s presentation dealt primarily with budgetary and legislative concerns and how they will impact programs and services. Approximately 2,000 bills are introduced into the California Legislature each year, of which 400-500 involve health care and are tracked by the CMA. The State of California is currently facing a \$16 billion budget deficit for 2008-09.	

	<p>The Governor recently enacted a 10 percent cut to the Medi-Cal Reimbursement Program. Less than 50 percent of California physicians currently accept Medi-Cal patients and this cut will only serve to exasperate this situation further. Many of the physicians who do accept Medi-Cal only see a limited number of patients with Medi-Cal (as low as 10 percent). Kline shared a handout with the PHAB entitled “Top 10 Fiscal Reasons Not to Cut Medi-Cal Funding.” Kline noted that there has been very little public response to this 10 percent cut.</p> <p>Other California Legislative issues included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The California State Senate Health Committee recently vetoed the Governor’s Health Care Reform bill. The CMA, however, remains optimistic that with newly appointed leadership in the state government will continue to work toward Health Care Reform in 2008. The CMA advocates for Universal Health Care and not for a Single Payer Health Care;</li> <li>• The California State Children’s Coalition has introduced a ballot initiative to expand child health care services;</li> <li>• Managed Care Plan legislation has also been introduced to prevent the rescinding of authorized care;</li> <li>• Although Trans Fat Menu Labeling legislation was vetoed by the Governor last year, a similar bill (SB1420) was re-introduced into by State Senator Alex Padilla;</li> <li>• The California Restaurant Association, meanwhile, has introduced legislation (AB 2572) that would require food establishment to provide menu label information only upon request. If this bill is passed, this issue will not be able to be addressed at the County level.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Presentation: Perinatal &amp; Child Health Advisory Committee</b></p>	<p>Marnie Musser and Alondra Thompson combined to give an update on the Perinatal &amp; Child Health Advisory Committee (PCHAC), which is continuing to working with Maternal Child &amp; Adolescent Health, Black Infant Health, the March of Dimes, and the National Office of Minority Health to host a “Healthy Babies Belonging To You” Summit event in early October (at the Sutter Convention Center), which will address infant mortality in the African-American community. The PCHAC is using the World Health Organization’s Perinatal Periods of Risk (PPOR) tool in developing its Summit. It is also receiving a great deal of support from DHHS’ Epidemiology Department. This data has been used to develop recommendations that will be incorporated into an Action Plan.</p> <p>PHAB members had several recommendations for stakeholders who should be invited to the Summit, including pregnancy centers, the STARS program, school nurses, and the County Girls Juvenile Hall. Staff will research the contact information for these entities and pass it along to the PCHAC.</p> <p>Dr. Trochet shared that infant mortality rates for all ethnicities have dropped in recent decades. The infant mortality gap between African-Americans and other ethnicities, however, has remained the same.</p>	<p>* Staff will follow up and secure the contact information for several suggested stakeholders for the PCHAC to invite to its Summit. This information will be passed along to the PCHAC.</p>
<p><b>Division Update</b></p>	<p><u>Primary Care Division:</u> Dr. Dorothy Pittman shared that cuts to the 2008-09 County Budget continues to loom large. The County Budget Office requested that all departments and divisions turn in a budget with recommended cuts and prioritized programs. There is a real concern that programs and staff will have to be cut. Dr. Pittman shared that Primary Care hasn’t seen a budget increase in years and is already operating at a bare bones level.</p> <p><u>Public Health Division:</u> Dr. Glennah Trochet reported that the Public Health Division recently turned in its own recommended budget for 2008-09 complete with recommended cuts and prioritized programs. As soon as this information can be shared with the public, Dr. Trochet said that she would share the Public Health Division’s recommendations with the PHAB.</p> <p>Chlamydia and Gonorrhea rates in Sacramento County continue to rise, particularly among people aged 15-24. Only Fresno County has higher rates for these STD’s in California than Sacramento County. A Preliminary Survey of pregnant teenagers suggests that many are misinformed and think that they cannot purchase condoms until they are aged 18 (like cigarettes) or 21 (like alcohol). On a related note, California continues to refuse Federal Dollars for Abstinence Only Sex Education, which would prevent educators from</p>	<p>* Staff will forward contact information for KVIE showtimes for “Unnatural Causes” and a phone number to request that it be broadcast in a more desirable time slot.</p>

	recommending condoms for those teens who are going to engage in sexual activity. The Public Health Division is currently developing a Strategic Plan to address this issue.	
<b>Action Item: Trans Fat Recommendation</b>	<p>The PHAB reviewed the Trans Fat Letter of Recommendation and attachments and made several changes to these documents, including:</p> <p><b><u>Letter of Recommendation</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make the definition of Trans fat a footnote;</li> <li>• Make the third sentence of the third paragraph the lead sentence in that paragraph;</li> <li>• Correct number of deaths at end of third paragraphs. It should read “150 to 500 deaths” instead of “140-150 deaths”; and,</li> <li>• Include mention of SB490 in the first paragraph of the second page.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Overview</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add “until January 1, 2006” to first sentence of third paragraph.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>In Support Of A Ban</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delete “artificial” from the first bullet point.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Legislative Overview</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two additional bills, AB 90 and AB 2572, were added to this document. Information on all bills were updated.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, the PHAB asked the REC to consider changing the recommendation from a complete ban to a volunteer program for food establishments.</p>	* Staff will make recommended changes to the Trans Fat Recommendation and have the Research & Evaluation Committee look it over one more time before bringing this before the entire PHAB.
<b>Action Item: Criteria for Developing Recommendations</b>	The PHAB reviewed the Criteria for Developing Recommendations and voted unanimously to approve as is.	* M/S (Meagher, 1 <sup>st</sup> ; Benson, 2 <sup>nd</sup> ) to unanimously approve Criteria for Developing Recommendations as is.
<b>Announcements</b>		
<b>Adjourn</b>		Next meeting: May 7, 12 noon.