



Maternal and Child Health Access

Support the work of
MCH Access

by giving the gift of
health care, food
support and policy work
that makes lasting
change!



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SAVE THE DATE

Next MCH Access Monthly Meeting:

Thursday, April 16, 2015

10am - 12pm

LOCATION:

MCH Access

**Patricia Phillips Community Room
1111 W. 6th St., 3rd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(6th St., and Bixel St.)**

SPEAKER/TOPIC:

**Angela Dreyer, RN, MSN
Nursing Instructor**

**Elmo Travina (CCS HRIF Liaison)
Children's Medical Services
LA County Department of Public Health**

After the NICU - High Risk Infant Follow Up

Updates

PARKING:

**Free at MCH Access; enter on 5th St. to 2-story
parking (between Lucas and Bixel) and walk across
the alley to our building**



**Please contact our office with any questions regarding
this email or visit our [website](#) for further information
about our organization.**

Materials Distributed February 2015 meeting

Apr 30-May 1, 2015
Advancing Equity in Education & Health Care, School Health Conference -
The California School-Based Health Alliance invites you to join hundreds of health care providers, educators, and children's health supporters April 30-May 1 for **Advancing Equity in Education & Health Care.**

The conference will feature workshops on increasing health equity for children, exhibits, networking, and a keynote address by California Assemblymember **Shirley Weber**. Together we will learn, generate ideas, and share resources to advance our collective mission to give all children an opportunity to succeed. Members get an additional discount and can register [HERE](#). Not yet a member? You can join us [HERE](#).

Take Action!

EMPLOYMENT

Please click on job title to view full description and the application process. And provide a cover letter and resume with your application that specifically outlines your employment history experience and educational background for which you're applying.

- [Administrative Assistant - Training Program](#)
- [Administrative Assistant to Executive Director](#)

Materials Distributed at March 19, 2015 meeting may be found [HERE](#)

Guest Speakers: Adriana Taboada, Gabriella Lewis The Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (CAST) Domestic Trafficking, Resources and Services

Our guests spoke to us of the growing issue of trafficking and resources available, including training, materials, posters and support. CAST was founded in 1998 in direct response to the El Monte sweatshop case in which 72 Thai immigrants were kept in slavery and debt bondage. CAST is the first organization in the US exclusively dedicated to Human Trafficking. CAST provides outreach and training, policy advocacy, works with a group of survivors to train leadership, provides social and legal services, and emergency response. Although slavery illegal in every part of the world, an estimated 27 million people are enslaved.

Trafficking is the recruiting or harboring or moving or obtaining a person by force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of involuntary servitude, debt bondage, slavery or sex trade. The most common form of slavery is debt bondage, where assistance is given for passage or to establish oneself in a new place, and one can never get ahead to work it off and are held captive.

Trafficking is ranked as the second most profitable activity for organized crime. California, and Los Angeles in particular, are a hub for trafficking. California is one of the top four destination states in the country because of proximity to international borders, number of ports and airports, a significant immigrant population, and large economy that includes industries that attract forced labor. In the most recent National Human Trafficking Resource Center Report, California had the most potential human trafficking cases reported to the national hotline of all states.

Los Angeles is one of the top three points of entry into this country for victims of slavery and trafficking. The diverse communities make it easier to hide and move victims from place to place, making it very difficult for law enforcement to locate potential survivors. Human Trafficking happens all across southern California. In 2012/2013, 60% of CAST clients were victims of labor trafficking. There is a myth that child sex trafficking isn't happening in the US but according to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children more than 100,000 American children have become sexual commodities and as many as 300,000 American children of all ethnicities and genders are at risk of becoming victims of sexual exploitation. The average age of entry into pornography and prostitution in the US is 12.

The speakers did an excellent job of demystifying who are enslaved and trafficked persons, and who the traffickers are. The human and economic cost of trafficking was discussed, identifying victims, how people are recruited and possible indicators of someone who is a victim. For immediate help, CAST urges:

- Call 911
- Call CAST Hotline
- 888.KEY.2.FRE(EDOM)
- 888.539.2373
- Call National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline
- 1.888.373.7888

- [Parent Coach, Level II - Welcome Baby Program](#)
- [Project Coordinator - Pregnancy Policy](#)

MCHA is an Equal Opportunity Employer; women and people of color are strongly encouraged to apply.

Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

MCHA has worked with CAST and their trainings. They have excellent presentations and trainings, posters and materials. Contact them at:

Gabriella Lewis, MSW
Senior Case Manager
Gabriella@castla.org

Adriana Taboada, MPA
Case Manager
Health Partner Liaison
Adriana@castla.org

Congress sends CHIP reauthorization to President Obama

Thanks to the National Health Law Program for information about the Hyde Amendment and QI and TMA included here.

Last night, the Senate voted 92-8 to extend funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) through September 2017. Advocates had worked for a four-year bill, since the funding is authorized until 2019. The bill is now in the President's hands, who has pledged to sign it into law. California should receive a annual \$450-550 million CHIP "bump" in addition to the estimated \$533 million in the Governor's budget.

CHIP funds the higher-income former Healthy Families kids in Medi-Cal, and Access for Infants and Mothers/MCAP, for which the state will now get a higher percentage payment.

The bill also permanently extends two programs for low-income people: the qualifying individual (QI) program, which covers the cost of Medicare Part B premiums for seniors with incomes between 120 - 135 percent of the federal poverty level; and transitional medical assistance (TMA), which provides Medicaid coverage to families transitioning to work. Together, these are critical wins for the health and wellbeing of vulnerable individuals

Community health centers (CHC) are also funded through 2017, but the bill imposes the Hyde Amendment on the CHC funding, which severely limits federal funding for abortion services. We oppose adding the Hyde restriction to any program because of the substantial harm to low-income women, and will continue to fight for the full scope of health care to be available to all.

April Update - What's happening with pregnancy coverage in California?

See last month's notes

- The state STILL awaits approval for full-scope coverage to 138% FPL for pregnant women, and a decision on whether pregnancy-related Medi-Cal will be considered "Minimal Essential Coverage" (MEC).
- There will be no mandatory enrollment in Medi-Cal managed care for this group of pregnant women (to 138%) enrolled in Medi-Cal.
- The Young Invincibles, a group advocating for health coverage, especially by and for young adults, have been pushing nationally for pregnancy to be considered a Special Enrollment Period, so that women in income brackets higher than Medicaid (and AIM/MCAP in California) could enroll year-round instead of only during open enrollment periods. Young Invincibles led a coalition of more than 30 advocacy groups lobbying for the change, and more than 100,000 people signed petitions urging that pregnant

women be allowed to access coverage throughout the year. However, the Obama administration has rejected a request by Democratic lawmakers and dozens of advocacy groups to allow women who become pregnant to enroll in Qualified Health Plans year-round.

- MCHA expects the state will program MCAP/AIM into the CalHEERS eligibility business rules in September, in time for Open Enrollment, even though pregnant women can enroll year-round in this program, just like Medi-Cal.

Draft Report Issued March 30 - Response to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors regarding possible creation of a health agency

On March 30, the above-named [report](#) was released by the CEO's office, accessible on the "Office of Health Integration" [website](#). [Four community](#) meetings next week and May 1 have been set up for feedback on the 69-page report, and separate meetings have been set up for county employees - see [HERE](#). You may also submit written comments to:

Office of Health Integration
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple Street, Room 726
Los Angeles, CA 90012
healthintegration@lacounty.gov

The timeline for comments ends May 15, and a Final Report will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors. MCHA and others have been meeting with Board offices about the effort.

Contact information for the Board of Supervisors is:

Sup. Hilda Solis, 1st District	213-974-4111	FirstDistrict@bos.lacounty.gov
Sup. Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District	213-974-2222	MarkRidley-Thomas@bos.ca.gov
Sup. Sheila Kuehl, 3rd District	213-974-3333	Sheila@bos.lacounty.gov
Sup. Don Knabe, 4th District	213-974-4444	don@bos.lacounty.gov
Sup. Michael Antonovich, 5th District	213-974-5555	FifthDistrict@lacbos.org

RESOURCES

The *California Reproductive Health MetaData Project*, introduced at the "Reproductive Health and the Environment" conference last month, was developed in an effort to make existing reproductive health datasets more easily accessible to a wider audience of students, researchers, faculty and staff from academic institutions, government agencies, health care facilities, community organizations, policymakers and others conducting research on birth outcomes and related information. It was developed by the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center and the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families & Communities. To access the information, please click [HERE](#). When you click on "dataset links" you will see a summary of each of the 12 datasets with their links. Also on the page is a "glossary of terms" that provides an overview of common research terminology which can be helpful to new researchers. The goal is to promote the availability of

this easily accessible and free portal to current and emerging researchers. Because the Metadata Project is new, your comments and suggestions would be most helpful.

Developmental & Behavioral Screenings Help Kids Start Strong - Pediatricians recommend that all kids under three receive routine, formal developmental and behavioral screenings as part of well-child health care visits. Screenings are the best way to ensure children meet developmental milestones by identifying any concerns or delays early. But fewer than 1 in 3 of CA's kids are getting the recommended screenings. See the "Infographic" from Children Now and the First 5 Association of California.

The Kids Aren't Alright - But They Could Be - [The Impact of Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents \(DAPA\) on Children](#) In this brief, the USC Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration takes a closer look at the significant economic and social impacts of DAPA on an estimated 5.5 million U.S. citizen children. The brief presents national level data with a special focus on California, where 30% of the country's DAPA-impacted children reside. CSII researchers estimate that full implementation of DAPA has the potential to boost family earnings in California by nearly \$1.6 billion and bring nearly 40,000 children out of poverty.

Maternal Mental Health Resource Directory: The Los Angeles County Perinatal Mental Health Task Force is pleased to announce the launch of the [Maternal Mental Health Resource Directory](#). The Directory lists over 190 resources in Los Angeles County that provide treatment and support to new and expectant mothers women suffering prenatal and/or postpartum depression and anxiety.

According to the 2012 Los Angeles Mommy & Baby (LAMB) Survey of the Los Angeles Public Health Maternal Adolescent Health Program, 11% of new mothers reported systems of depression before pregnancy, 29.7% reported symptoms of depression during pregnancy and 47.3% - representing more than 62,000 women - reported depressive symptoms after pregnancy. The survey also found that rates of perinatal depression are much higher among Latinas, African-Americans and those with limited resources.

Despite the high rates of perinatal depression and anxiety, few new and expectant mothers are asked about depression or anxiety at their pre- or postnatal appointments. According to the 2012 LAMB study, less than half of women discussed depression with their provider at a postpartum visit and only one-third discussed anxiety at a postpartum visit. Many health care providers cite lack of resources that address postpartum depression and anxiety as the primary reason why they don't screen patients. You can access it [HERE](#).

Missed the programs on trauma and healing at The California Endowment? See the videos!

January 29: [Healing Together: Using Culture and Stories for Building Resilience](#). On Thursday, January 29th, TCE brought together an amazing panel featuring moderator Brenda Ingram, Ed.D, LCSW, Jerry Tello, Juan Gomez, Kanwarpal Dhaliwal, M.P.H., and Richard Mollica, M.D. M.A.R. to discuss how they are using multicultural strategies of healing and empowerment in communities across California.

March 5: [The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of](#)

[Trauma](#). Dr. Bessel van der Kolk visited TCE to speak about his recent book of the same name, and his work as a clinician, teacher, and researcher.

CONTACT US

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