

Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, July 20, 2017 - RSVP today!



Maternal and Child Health Access

July 20, 2017: Monthly Meeting

Where?

Maternal and Child Health Access
c/o Patricia Phillips Community Room
1111 W. 6th St., 3rd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
213 749 4261
info@mchaccess.org

Speaker/Topic

Shari Farmer, Field Deputy / Community
Outreach Coordinator
LA County District Attorney's
Bureau of Victim Services Helping
"Victims Become Survivors"

Nancy Gomez, Organizing Director, Health
Access
The Latest on the Efforts to Repeal and
Replace the ACA!

While we don't require reservations to attend our monthly meetings we do recommend to RSVP so we know you're coming...

[Click here to RSVP!](#)

From the meeting June 15, 2017 see handouts [HERE](#)

***Speakers: Paul Duncan, Associate Director of Systems Integration,
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)***

An Introduction to the Coordinated Entry System

Please note: The presentation slides are posted on MCHA's [website](#).

Mr. Duncan provided an introduction to homelessness in LA and how the Coordinated Entry System (CES) is being set up to address entry to housing and support services in Los Angeles. The LA Homeless Services Authority, an independent authority between the city and county of LA, oversees the CES and has held a number of structured feedback meetings.

A homeless person is defined by the federal government, for LAHSA, as "an individual/family whose primary nighttime residence is public/private space not designed

for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings". Or if sheltered, "An individual/family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living arrangement" - emergency shelters, transitional housing, safe havens or with hotel/motel vouchers. The 2017 Homeless County showed that homelessness had increased 23%, both chronic homelessness and those in shelters.

Measure H passed March 6, 2016 and provides \$355 BILLION dollars annually for outreach, housing, legal services, and infrastructure. The CES is a countywide system to coordinate programs and resources to try and be more effective, efficient and fair. CES divides populations in to single adults, families and youth. A "Housing First", Harm Reduction and client-centered approach is employed. An assessment takes place, participants are prioritized and matched with housing, linkage, stabilization and retention services, when it all works. The assessment tool is lengthy, but LAHSA is working on streamlining. The score from this assessment determines the next steps. MCHA advocates and others decried the lack of prioritization for pregnant women until the second trimester or if there is a documented "high risk". We say being homeless, meeting the definition provided, is high risk (see slide 35):

Women who are pregnant and homeless have options in which system they desire to be served under.

- Pregnant women are eligible to receive services through the single adult system if linked in and they desire to receive services through that system.
- Pregnant women are eligible to receive housing services through the family system once they have entered the second trimester, or if they are deemed to have a high risk pregnancy. Providers encourage that women are served through the family system when possible. This - current eligibility was expanded in FY 16-17.
- In Los Angeles there are limited beds that are specifically dedicated for women experiencing homelessness that are pregnant.

The need for a documented risk just creates a barrier, however minimal it may be. MCHA will continue to work on this issue.

Mr. Duncan urged folks to get to know the CES representative in your area (see slides), to know when to refer someone to a CES resource but also to know when to link them to another system, such as veterans to the VA. He left his contact at pduncan@lahsa.org

New since last meeting: June 15, 2017

UPDATE - BRCA done for now, but beware the full repeal!

Folks, we had to abandon what we wrote last night and give you a whole new update! Things are moving fast and furious.... Nancy Gomez will bring us up to speed on Thursday, but for those of you who won't get to hear her, please know the following (Thanks to Health Access for this timely update!):

The news was coming in very quickly last night - but by now you have probably heard that Senators Moran and Lee also came out saying that they will vote NO on the motion to proceed on this version of the BCRA. However, almost immediately, Sen. McConnell [released a statement](#) citing his plans to bring to a vote a version of the 2015 Affordable Care Act (ACA) repeal reconciliation bill that President Obama vetoed. This would be a full repeal of Obamacare with a two-year delay. Or a "repeal without replace".

While we have successfully defeated the BCRA in its current form (THANK YOU), it's clear we must not lose momentum in the wake of the BCRA failure and instead pivot to opposing the passage of this repeal bill.

There is a lot of uncertainty coming out of DC (and the story changes constantly) - but **we need to be prepared** for them to revive some version of repeal. The Senate still has almost a month left to try and jam a new proposal through. **We must continue our advocacy**

Attached are talking points on the impacts of the Republicans current plan to "repeal without replace" and what those impacts would be, but in short:

- First, it includes immediate repeal of the expansion
- Second, it kills subsidies with nothing in their place
- Third, it puts back the big tax cuts for the rich
- Fourth, the promise to follow with a replacement bill is now hollow -- Republicans have just shown they can't be counted on to pass a replacement bill

In January, the CBO came out with a score on a "repeal without replace" and estimated that **32 million people** would lose health coverage. See the full report [here](#).

Our advocacy efforts are more important than ever!

- Look at our internal calendar for events: available [here](#)
- Email me (ypeled@health-access.org) if you are interested in hosting your own phone bank
- Email Lea Grundy (lgrundy@groundworkscampaigns.org) if you are interested in getting involved in our canvass program

Fight4OurHealth Campaign Call this Friday 7/21 @ 11am: 1-866-906-7447 Code: 9174075#

California Coalition for Reproductive Freedom distributes letter of opposition to the "Better Care Reconciliation Act"

Thanks to the ACA, California has reduced its uninsured rate by more than half, from 17% to 7%, the biggest drop of any state in the nation. MCHA is a member of CCRF and participated in the drafting and distribution of this letter. Feel free to use the statistics and wording for your own letters, particularly those who live in one of California's Republican districts that voted in the House for the bill that then moved to the Senate. Many of these representatives vowed they were a "no" vote and then all voted in a block for the bill.

[MCHA supports CCRF letter opposing ACA Repeal Effort](#)

California decided it was tired of women bleeding to death...

An excellent story on the steps California has taken to make changes in maternal mortality. Kudos to the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (<https://www.cmqcc.org>) and everyone else who worked tirelessly on protocols, standards, and the OB Hemorrhage Toolkit.

California decided it was tired of women bleeding to death in childbirth. The maternal mortality rate in the state is a third of the American average. ([Read more...](#))

APPROVED RELATIVE CAREGIVER (ARC) FUNDING OPTION PROGRAM

The ARC Program enacted by Senate Bill (SB) 855 (Chapter 29, Statutes of 2014), effective January 1, 2015, increases payments to children placed in foster care with relative caregivers when the children are not eligible for federal foster care benefits, which are higher than the CalWORKs1 benefits these children typically receive. This county-optional program provides funding for participating counties to make per-child, per-month payments to approved relative caregivers on behalf of eligible children in an amount equal to the basic foster care rate paid to Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) providers. **Many approved relative caregivers now receive CalWORKs, which is less than AFDC-FC. Eligibility. Please note: 11 counties opted to make these payments retroactive to January, 2015 - Los Angeles included. LA thinks it has about 3400 eligible families.**

- Eligible relative caregivers must be approved and live in California. Caregivers who are approved meet health and safety standards that mirror those for licensed foster parents.
 - Eligible children must be under the jurisdiction of the California juvenile court in a county that has opted in; not be federally eligible under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act; and live in California.
 - Program implementation instructions have been issued via [All County Letter \(14-89\)](#)
-

Impact of Prolonged Breastfeeding on Dental Caries: A Population-Based Birth Cohort Study Pediatrics, June, 2017

The authors of this study found that prolonged breastfeeding over 24 months increased the risk of dental caries. However, they called for dental interventions to be established as early as possible, not to shorten breastfeeding duration, because breastfeeding is beneficial to children's health, and to more deeply investigate the mechanisms underlying the process.

SAVE THE DATE

Leadership and Resistance Training for Latinas: Sat. July 22, Know Your Rights Training, Sat. Aug. 5: Policy is for Everyone Training; Sat. Aug. 19: Community Loteria & Social. 10 AM-1 PM Huntington Park Library. Registration Limited Christina@CLRJ.org or 323-487-1143.

Friday, July 28, 2017 - California Black Health Network is hosting a series of town hall meetings in six sites in California to document the concerns of African Americans in this new era and political upheaval. Stakeholder Meeting 1-3 PM, Town Hall 3-5 PM at Charles Drew University. Register and more information or see their website at cablackhealthnetwork.org [Download Registration Form \(PDF\)](#)

Sept. 8-14, 2017: Dolores - a new documentary about Dolores Huerta, advocate for social justice and equality who co-founded the United Farm Workers with Cesar Chavez in 1962. Join the California Women's Law Center on opening night for special guests and filmmaker question and answers. Visit www.doloresthemovie.com for more info.

October 23-24 Women's Health Update 2017, by Essential Access Health and Contraceptive Technology. Registration is now open and you can see the Conference Brochure and register [here](#):

Employment

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

- [Parent Coach - Welcome Baby Program](#)
- [Health Programs and Benefits Trainer](#)

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

Take action!

Your donations allow us the space to reassure, to exchange information, to take the vast amount of time it already takes to

ensure health - for everyone. Donate now - we appreciate your support!

DONATE

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