



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, July 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:

**Ruth Dawson, Staff Attorney
ACLU of Southern California**

SB 138: Implementing Confidential Health Information

Clean Up, Green UP City Policy!

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**



Thursday, October 1, 2015
from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
**Black Women for Wellness
and Get Smart B4 U Get
Sexy: Speaking Truth to
Power Reproductive Justice
Conference.** At The
California
Endowment. Register and
information [here](#).

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.

- [Pregnancy Coverage Specialist](#)
- [Administrative Assistant to Executive Director](#)
- [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!](#)

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

Materials Distributed June 2015 meeting

Materials Distributed at June 18, 2015 meeting may be found [HERE](#)

Guest Speakers: Guest Speaker: Nancy Gomez, Southern California Program Director Health Access

Nancy Gomez addressed a record crowd at MCHA's June monthly meeting. Her topic was health care for the undocumented, and the historic achievement and success of health care for all children in California with the inclusion in the state's budget of Medi-Cal for undocumented children! This coverage is to begin in 2016. The gap in health coverage must still be closed for adults, and so much of the presentation covered the information available on Health Access's [Fact Sheet on SB 4](#) (Lara) With the advent of Medi-Cal coverage for children in the state budget, one of the bill's three provisions has been accomplished: health coverage for children. The bill would go further, to cover adults as budget allocations allow with a set amount determined each year. Finally, the bill would seek federal permission for all Californians to be able to purchase health coverage through our health Exchange, Covered California, regardless of immigration status. A [poll released last fall](#) showed that a firm majority of California voters -54%- support expanding healthcare to undocumented Californians. Many counties have sought to cover undocumented immigrants with their own funds, most recently Sacramento and 35 rural counties ([see article here](#)) Los Angeles has provided enrollment in My Health LA since October of 2014.

Latest pregnancy coverage issues!

Presumptive Eligibility (PE) for Pregnant Women through a Prenatal Gateway:

The state recently announced that the PE for Pregnant Women program will go online, with a target date of November 1! This is an improvement MCHA has long-sought (see SB 24 from 2003).

PE would become much more portable from the prenatal care provider to the lab, pharmacy and specialists; e-billing will become possible for PE for pregnant women for the first time, encouraging more provider participation; and women who submit their application for ongoing and/or retroactive Medi-Cal before PE ends should no longer have to worry about PE getting cut off before the final eligibility determination is made.

Newborn Hospital Gateway for newborns "deemed eligible" to Medi-Cal:

The state also recently announced that families will be able to enroll their newborns into Medi-Cal without an application before leaving the hospital when the mother had Medi-Cal for the delivery. There is no date yet for when this Newborn Hospital Gateway will be implemented. MCHA has been working on this for many years as well (SB 24 from 2003), and we hope the newborns of women who deliver with AIM/MCAP will be included as well.

For more prenatal coverage information about expanding pregnant applicants to 138% of poverty, and the issue of Minimum Essential Coverage (MEC) and whether pregnancy-related Medi-Cal covers/will cover, see the document on our website [HERE](#).

Final Report on a Health Agency released

The issue is heating up of an overarching Health Agency structure in Los Angeles County, with an Agency head overseeing the Department of Health Services, Department of Mental Health and the Department of Public Health. Here are some of the highlights:

- The Prevention Institute coauthored an excellent [Op-Ed](#) with Jonathan Fielding, former Director of Public Health in Los Angeles, that all Los Angeles Daily News Group papers published on June 26, on the LA Daily News site. Please feel free to share it widely.
- The final report to the Board of Supervisors, on the "[Possible Creation of a Health Agency](#)" was issued on June 30. The report is 93 pages long; the rest of the 269 pages are letters received after the March 30, 2015 cutoff.
- The Public Health Commission for Los Angeles County passed a motion advising the Board to delay any implementation and bring together the departments to identify needed integration areas. See their letter [HERE](#). Maternal and Child Health Access has posted a number of documents including a sample letter to the Board. Included are [talking points](#), along with a [sample letter](#) to the Board and a list of [Board offices and e-mails](#). If you do send a letter, please send a copy to our coalition mailbox: Mailbox@Healthcarecoalition.net

Please call Lynn Kersey at 213-749-4261 ext. 309 for more information. Your participation is welcome!

Medi-Cal renewal terminations halted

As a result of a preliminary injunction from a lawsuit, KCCEB v. Kent, brought by numerous legal services agencies, Medi-Cal renewal terminations (when someone doesn't adequately or accurately return paperwork for their redetermination or renewal) must have a 90-day cure period provision that a) tells people that their benefits can be reinstated and b) lists the information that the beneficiary needs to provide.

On July 2, DHCS directed the counties to cease terminations. This means that NO renewal terminations should go out from any county in July, or in any subsequent months until new Notices of Action are created.

DHCS specifically directed: "Please immediately instruct the consortia and the counties to **stop terminating Medi-Cal benefits and issuance of a notice of action** for failure to comply with the redetermination process and failure to return information requested in the redetermination process." (emphasis added).

Contact MCHA to get assistance if you see terminations for Medi-Cal renewal issues!

RESOURCES

World Breastfeeding Week - August 1-7, 2015

They're on Facebook: [WABA-World-Breastfeeding-Week](#). This year the theme is working and breastfeeding. See the [breastfeeding infographic](#) and think about a celebration or event at your agency! See also [Breastfeed LA's](#) information and activities. MCHA traditionally marks this week with pictures honoring women, testimonials and celebration. Finally, enjoy this [Spoken Word](#) poem on the UNICEF Baby Friendly website about the challenges of breastfeeding in the United Kingdom. It's a little hard to understand her accent, but well worth listening til the end and accent gets easier to understand! and website [here](#).

The Office of Women's Health is excited to announce the launch of a new campaign!

With the tagline "Putting your health last is not putting your family first," the campaign is a Call to Action for LA County moms to take time out to focus on their own health and well-being for the benefit of their whole family. Oftentimes, busy women neglect their own health, placing themselves at risk for undiagnosed cancer, heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, and other illnesses.

Prominently displayed on campaign materials is the free multilingual Women's Health Hotline number (1-800-793-8090).

The Hotline connects LA County women to many services and information, including:

- Free or low-cost appointments and referrals for Pap tests, breast exams, and mammograms.
- Information and referrals for health insurance and programs. We can help the uninsured find a medical home, regardless of their financial or legal status.
- Referrals to local resources for health, mental health, and social services.
- Free Heart Disease Risk Assessment over the phone.

Our highly trained Hotline Operators speak 7 languages: English, Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), Korean, Vietnamese, and Armenian.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We need assistance in spreading the word about these FREE services, which can improve the health and well-being of our LA County community. Here are a few ways you can help:

- Download the Flyer (English/Spanish) that provides detailed information about the Women's Health Hotline and the services we provide.
 - Can you print it out and place it in your public areas/reception areas/waiting rooms?
 - Take to community outreaches and hand out?
 - E-mail the flyer to your Community Partners and ask them to further distribute?

(Note: [Flyers](#) in Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and Armenian are forthcoming)

- Can you place a Web Button on your website that hyperlinks to our website (www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/owh)? We can create customized web buttons for your specific needs. Please contact Denise Pacheco (dpacheco@ph.lacounty.gov) if you would like a customized web button.
- Use your Social Media channels (e.g., Facebook, Twitter) to help us publicize. We can send you copy and images.

Please feel free to contact Ellen Eidem with any questions, and thank you for your support!

Ellen Eidem, MS, Director, Office of Women's Health, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (626) 312-1208 - tel eeidem@ph.lacounty.gov

**(With thanks to our Wellness Center partners ELA Women's Center!):
DID YOU KNOW? Tenants who are victims of domestic violence and the
termination of a lease under Calif. Civil Code 1946.7**

Phillips & Urias, LLP

In California, victims of domestic violence can avail themselves of certain housing protections. If you are renting an apartment or home you can terminate your lease early if you or a member of your family is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, abuse of an elder/dependent adult or human trafficking.

If your family member is the victim he or she must be living with you in your home to qualify for this protection.

In order to terminate your lease early you must show the landlord proof that you or your family household member has been a victim of domestic violence. The proof can be any of the following documents but must have been issued within the last 180 days.

1. A temporary restraining order, emergency protective order issued by a Court protecting you or your household member; OR
2. A copy of a police report stating you or your household member was a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, abuse of an elder/dependent adult or human trafficking; OR
3. Documentation from a qualified third party stating you or your household member is seeking assistance for physical or mental injuries or abuse resulting from an act of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, elder abuse, dependent adult abuse or human trafficking. Qualified third parties can include counselors, therapists, psychologists, doctors, case workers, etc. For a complete list see Cal.Civ.Code §11946.7(b)(3XB).

County of Los Angeles Community Health Assessment!

It's new, its beautifully done, chock-full of statistics and helps to get across what public health is! NOT primary or other health care in public clinics! "[The Community Health Assessment](#)" captures conditions in the social and physical environment that contribute to health such as housing costs, access to healthy food

and places for recreation, and physical safety." Kudos to our Department of Public Health for producing such a fine report.

Affordable, high-speed internet for people with disabilities.

You can qualify if you: Want to get connected to high-speed Internet service. Want access to online job applications, social networks, and your doctor. Want an Internet service that you can afford on a low-income. You must have a debit card, credit card, or prepaid card that can be billed monthly. We encourage you to go to our website, www.digitalaccessproject.org for more information and to learn about the low-cost refurbished desktop computers, laptops and devices that are also available. Individuals who adopt new high-speed internet service from the Digital Access Project will be entered into a monthly drawing on a one time only basis. One name will be drawn each month and the winner will receive a refurbished desktop computer. Please contact our Digital Access Partner staff at info@digitalaccessproject.org or call (800) 390-2699 / (800) 900-0706 TTY if you have additional questions.

[Take the Qualifying Survey...](#) A Project of the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers, in part funded by the California Emerging Technology Fund.

CONTACT US

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