

Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, June 15, 2017 - RSVP today!



Maternal and Child Health Access

June 15, 2017: Monthly Meeting

Where?

MCH Access
Patricia Phillips Community Room
1111 W. 6th St., 3rd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
213 749 4261

Speaker/Topic

SPEAKERS/TOPICS:
LA Homeless Services Authority
re: Coordinated Entry System for
homeless people; housing pregnant
women

Updates

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 May 18, 2017 see handouts [HERE](#)

Speakers: MCHA staff Lynn Kersey and Donald Nollar

Medical support coverage: Medi-Cal, Covered CA and other health programs for the public now "count" for medical support coverage for non-custodial parents (see May mailing). Note that parents are now required to share cash medical support/uninsured medical expenses paid.

Statistics for women's mental health: We noted that the [Kaiser Family Foundation's profile for women's health for California](#) noted 37-45% reporting of poor mental health status in their 2013-15 survey; while the [California Women's Well-Being fact sheet for Los Angeles](#) from the California Budget and Policy Center showed the percentage of

women who have likely experienced serious psychological distress" at 10.1%. The latter is a measure of more serious illness and thus lower percentages. MCHA also discussed the bill (and now budget item) for home visitation for CalWorks families. [AB 992 \(Arambula\)](#) was amended on May 26 to strengthen the voluntary nature of the program and clarify who can conduct the services, among other wording changes.

Donald Nollar gave an update on Non-Qualified Immigrants (NQI) and the demise of the "Medi-Cal Wrap" - no it's not a sandwich... This was a proposal floating around for a couple years now, to move certain immigrants (Legal Permanent Residents here less than five years) from full-scope Medi-Cal to Covered CA, with "wrap around" services still to be provided by Medi-Cal - adult dental for one. It would be confusing and potentially more costly to be in two systems. The "wrap" was pulled from the budget (YAY!), a policy win. In addition, the state will seek a "minimum essential coverage" certification from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) for full-scope state-only Medi-Cal. Without it, the immigrants' health coverage through state-only Medi-Cal are subject to a tax penalty as long as there is an individual mandate requirement. This lack of certification with CMS has caused many Medi-Cal beneficiaries to need specialized legal assistance in order to avoid tax liability for the months they were on full-scope Medi-Cal. The next move is to urge the Legislature to strike the existing law that authorizes the NQI wrap program and replace that language with the requirement that DHCS seek Minimum Essential Coverage certification from CMS for full-scope state-only Medi-Cal programs for as long as there is an individual mandate requirement.

New since last meeting: May 18, 2017

FULL RESTORATION MEDI-CAL ADULT DENTAL BENEFITS!!!!

The State's Senate and Assembly Conference Budget Conference Committee agreed on June 8 to fully restore adult dental benefits in the Medi-Cal program, starting in January, 2018. This is incredible news! Adults on Medi-Cal have gone without many services since mid-2009, with some exceptions. Oral health care is a critical part of overall health and well-being and now avoiding tooth decay, unnecessary extractions and all else will be a game-changer and life-saver! MCHA will be following this incredible news and working to let folks know about ways to get care in the meantime, as well as ensuring as smooth a return-to-services as possible for folks. The conference committee also voted on (thanks to CPEHN for these items):

- Restoration of optical benefits in the Medi-Cal program, beginning in 2020;
- Expansion of the California Earned Income Tax Credit to raise the income threshold and include the self-employed;
- Restoration of funds for children's mental health crisis services, proposed for elimination in the January Budget.

The Budget agreement unfortunately does not fund the following items:

- Restoration of other optional Medi-Cal benefits, including audiology, incontinence creams/washes, podiatry, and speech therapy;
- Expansion of eligibility for Medi-Cal's Aged and Disabled Program from 123% to 138% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

Although no agreement was reached to fund the CalWORKs home visitation measure in the budget conference, Assemblymember Arambula's bill, AB 992, continues to work its way through the Legislature and is in the Senate now.

Indigent clients will no longer be charged \$50 for legal counsel

Last week, Sup. Sheila Kuehl brought a motion, co-authored by Mark Ridley-Thomas, to eliminate the fee "requested" by public defenders from their clients before receiving legal services.

This \$50 upfront fee has somehow been in place for the past 21 years for indigent defendants seeking legal counsel with what should have been free government lawyers. By removing this barrier, the Board is protecting people's Constitutional rights, ensuring that low-income defendants eligible for legal representation can get the legal help to which they're entitled.

Read: [Board Eliminates Fee "Requested" of Indigent Defendants Prior to Receiving Legal Counsel](#)

#I pumped here - where would you put your sticker?

I would put mine in the bathroom stall at the Sacramento Convention Center, where I attended a conference six months after giving birth in 1999.... MomsRising - that great action-oriented mom-run organization/blast/blog - is thrilled to share that they've launched #IPumpedHere, a "laugh (so you don't cry) and then demand change" campaign to bring breastfeeding women out of the bathroom stalls, inside from the cars, and into the pumping rooms they deserve.

The first step is to take action here: [MomsRising.org](#) And the second step is to be sure to visit #IPumpedHere to watch the video, learn more, get your sticker and share with friends!

[California laws are better](#) - but let's help our sisters in other states!

[Hyland's homeopathic teething tablets recalled nationwide](#)

This took place in April, but because the impact was so awful, we are including the information here. Two types of the teething products, which previously were [linked to the deaths of 10 children](#), have been recalled, the Food and Drug Administration announced on Thursday. Standard Homeopathic Company, the Los Angeles-based maker of Hyland's homeopathic teething products, recalled all of its teething tablets and nighttime teething tablets, the announcement said. The FDA concluded that the products have [misabeled the amounts of belladonna alkaloids](#) they contain.

After the FDA [warned parents against using homeopathic teething tablets](#) and gels last year, the company had announced in October that it would stop distributing the products in the United States.

Thanks to Steve Nish at LABBN for the content below!



[Part 1 - The simple acts of care that could help premature babies develop](#)

MAY 30, 2017



Can the most basic nurturing techniques help heal the traumas of premature birth? Leaving the womb too early puts babies at a higher risk for emotional, behavioral and developmental challenges later in life. William Brangham reports on one research effort in New York aimed at minimizing those impacts by strengthening the emotional connection between mother and child. [Continue reading, watch video...](#)

[Part 2 - The science of nurturing and its impact on premature babies](#)

MAY 31, 2017



A long-term study on helping preterm babies, using the simplest of interventions, is showing signs of promise. In part two of our story, William Brangham explores the study's outcomes, as well as questions about the complex past of the doctor behind it. [Continue reading, watch video...](#)

How music therapy helped my premature baby

MAY 31, 2017 BY **TERRY RUBIN**



On the second day of my son's life, born 11 weeks early, a woman approached me in the NICU with a guitar and other instruments. As a music therapist, she said she had scientifically proven ways of alleviating the stress that both my son and his roommates felt with the use of music and other sound-making, and that her work could potentially reduce his days in the NICU. [Continue reading...](#)

SAVE THE DATE

June 23, 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM - " Uncertain Times: Charting the Path Forward for Women's Health" at the Center at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels (555 West Temple Street, Los Angeles). The Community Clinic Association's Policy Café is focused on women's health with speakers from Planned Parenthood. More information and register [here](#).

LAST DAYS TO GET EARLY BIRD RATE - DEADLINE 6/13/17 June 27, 2017 8:30 am Registration / 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Workshop Braille Institute, 741 North Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90029 SING AND SPEAK: Using Evidence-Based Music Therapy to Assist Children with Relationships and Communication in early childhood programs, clinics, and home settings
Speaker: David Sonnenschein-CEO, iQsonics

[Register Online](#)

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 \(PDF\)](#)

RESOURCES



Social and Emotional Learning- Volume 27, Number 1

Evidence is growing that disparities in social and emotional skills are just as important as academic disparities. This timely issue offers scientific evidence about which interventions are most likely to improve these skills.

Visit the [Future of Children](#) to access the Social and Emotional Learning journal and policy brief.

Immigration Fears - Know Your Rights (We will continue to post this information)

The Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) is partnering with Para Los Niños, Clinica Romero, National Immigration Law Center and other agencies to host Know Your Rights workshops. Please see the link below for immigration workshop dates and locations. To reach MOIA, please call (213) 978-0645 or email them at mayor.immigrantaffairs@lacity.org **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS flyer**

Everyone has certain basic rights, no matter who is president for English with links to Spanish, Chinese (traditional and simplified), Arabic and Korean!

Diabetes Prevention Camps for Youth - The American Diabetes Association just opened registration for 3 local type 2 diabetes prevention camps for youth. These camps are for youth (7-15) that are overweight and have a family history of type 2 diabetes. Camp will offer an educational and activity-filled environment focused on creating healthy behaviors around nutrition and physical activity. To ensure that the educational messages learned while at camp are able to be reinforced and supported at home, parents and other family members are invited to attend all day Sunday. We need your help in getting the word out about this NEW program! Please feel free to give camp information out to your clients and staff team that might work with children that may be at high risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

Information, registration links and dates for all camps:

Santa Clarita: July 15-16th register [here](#).

Los Angeles: July 29-30th register [here](#).

San Bernardino: September 23-24th register [here](#).

Should you have any questions, contact: Alissa Singer, MPH ASinger@diabetes.org Pacific Region Director, Community Health Strategies 323-966-2890 ext. 7434

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.

- [Administrative Assistant - Training Program](#)

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

Take action!

We have no grants for this work. 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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STAY CONNECTED:

