



Maternal and Child Health Access

In this mailing:

[GUEST SPEAKER MAY 19, MARGARET CHAO - LA MOMMY AND BABY](#)

[UPDATE: GOVERNOR'S MAY REVISE PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE MRMIB](#)

[URGENT NEED FOR CALLS - DON'T CUT MEDI-CAL - OPPOSE THE "STATE FLEXIBILITY ACT"](#)

[PROPOSED CHANGES TO SECTION 8 PROGRAMS IN THE CITY OF L.A.](#)

[NEW REPORT: MEDICAID WORKS - A REVIEW ON HOW PUBLIC INSURANCE PROTECTS THE HEALTH & FINANCE...](#)

[RESOURCES](#)

[SAVE THE DATE](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

[EMPLOYMENT](#)

MCH Access is hiring a Case Manager for our Perinatal Outreach in East Los Angeles click

[HERE.](#)

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Next MCH Access Monthly Meeting:

[This Thursday, June 16, 2011 10 AM - 12 noon](#)

Place:

Good Samaritan Hospital
(Moseley Salvatori Conference Center)
637 S. Lucas Street Los Angeles, CA 90017
(between 6th and Wilshire Streets)

Speakers

Black Women for Wellness - Trust Black Women
Updates on Health Program issues:
Pregnant women in managed care third trimester
Healthy Families to Medi-Cal proposal
Dental care for pregnant women
Ambulatory care in Los Angeles/Healthy Way LA
Health Reform - latest "Exchange Board" meeting June 15. The meeting will be webcast:
<http://mfile.ahamai.com/31949/live/reflector:54377.aspx>
. Materials for the meeting will be posted no later than the Monday before the meeting: www.HealthExchange.ca.gov

And more!

Parking:

Free at MCH Access, enter on 5th St. to 2-story parking (between Lucas and Bixel) and walk across alley to 1125

[Find us on Facebook](#)

From May 19, 2011 meeting

Please call for copies, if necessary.

- Powerpoint presentation on the Los Angeles Mommy and Baby Project
- 2007 Surveillance Report on the LA Mommy and Baby Project (LAMB)
- May 24th Immigrant Day 2011 - Sacramento
- California Partnership's Family Recovery Budget
- MCHA/PACLAC's MCH-related legislation list

<http://www.mchaccess.org/pdfs/legislation/MCH-related%20%20Legislation%205-19-11.pdf>

Guest Speaker: Mary19: Margaret Chao, LA Mommy and Baby (LAMB) Project

LA Mommy and Baby (LAMB) Project

Margaret Chao, Ph.d, MPH, Chief, Research, Evaluation and Planning, LA County Department of Public Health, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health

Dr. Chao explained the LA Mothers and Babies (LAMB) project - a survey to identify factors associated with poor birth outcomes and to estimate the prevalence of certain maternal experiences before, during and after pregnancy. She also presented data from the 2007 LAMB survey with a focus on the downtrend in the economy already beginning to take place, and a look toward the 2010 survey which will focus on economic influences even more.

The LAMB survey is sent to new moms in Los Angeles County from 0-7 months postpartum, from birth certificate data. It is available in English, Spanish and Chinese and is self administered, or followed up by phone and an interview done.

Some findings include: in 2007, 44% of pregnant women in Los Angeles had family incomes below \$20,000. LAMB asks about psychosocial conditions, such as living in an unsafe neighborhood or stressful life experiences, as well as having enough money for food and self-reported maternal depression (17%). On the positive side, about 90% of moms entered prenatal care before the first trimester. The data are used for action in several county committees, and in private sector requests. Dr. Chao welcomes data inquiries and as a researcher, says she wants to know that the data are being used! For example, questions from the audience included the availability of data on American Indians, which Dr. Chao can provide, and for women in/coming from jail or prison, which LAMB does NOT have. We eagerly await the 2010 data, most likely available in December, 2011. More psychosocial/economic emphasis will be included, as well as more questions about dental care.

Update: Governor's May Revise proposal to eliminate MRMIB, move children from Healthy Families into Medi-Cal

On May 27, the Assembly Budget Subcommittee adopted language for transitioning children up to 133% of federal poverty from Healthy Families to Medi-Cal starting January 2012 and phasing in children from 133%-250% of the federal poverty level on January 1, 2013. The Committee also adopted a proposal to have a formal stakeholder process. The Senate Budget Subcommittee did not adopt language for the transfer at all. Due to the differences between the Senate and Assembly Subcommittee actions, the proposal to transition children from Healthy Families to Medi-Cal has gone to the full budget committee for further discussion. Opposition from health plans and some providers has intensified and they have written letters to legislators to that effect.

Maternal and Child Health Access submitted our [May Revise Letter](#) to the Budget Committees

The May Revision can be found here: <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/>
It is presented in sections; the Health and Human Services summary is about 16 pages.

URGENT NEED FOR CALLS - DON'T CUT MEDI-CAL.

**Oppose the "State Flexibility Act"
(Medicaid in other states)**

The budget passed by House Republicans in April 2011 makes radical changes to Medicare and Medicaid. The Energy and Commerce Committee has prepared, for all 435 congressional districts, a district-level analysis of the impact of the GOP's legislation. The analysis includes information on the impact on seniors, individuals with disabilities, children, pregnant women, and others.

Click [here](#) for district-specific fact sheets.

Proposed Changes to Section 8 Programs in the City of Los Angeles

Earlier this year, the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) and the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) convened the Barriers to Access Working Group to review their respective admissions policies and procedures for their Section 8 Special Programs, including the Section 8 Homeless Assistance Program and the Project-Based Voucher Program. Shelter Partnership was actively involved in the Working Group, as were other community stakeholders. To inform the Working Group's discussions, Shelter Partnership surveyed homeless clients in emergency shelters (with the help of New Image Shelter) and sober living homes (with the help of A New Way of Life Reentry Project). Similarly, Skid Row Housing Trust reviewed their tenant applications for permanent supportive housing (PSH).

Among our goals was to seek alignment between the requirements of the Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and the community stakeholders' determination to provide housing for people who have had long periods of homelessness, often referred to as the chronically homeless. Chronically homeless individuals often have a record of offenses that exclude them from publicly assisted housing. Yet research and practice show that PSH is critical to their recovery and, in most cases, is key to permanently ending their homelessness.

HACLA has released its proposed amendments to the 2011 Section 8 Administrative Plan to address these issues and, under several categories, is reducing exclusionary periods for admissions to Section 8 Special Programs. The draft version of HACLA's proposed amendments can be found here: <http://www.hacla.org/pdocs/> Public comments will be accepted until June 28th.

Highlights of HACLA's proposed changes for Section 8 Special Programs include:

- Reduces exclusionary period from 5 years to 2 years for prior drug-related criminal activity
- Reduces exclusionary period from 5 years to 2 years for violent criminal activity
- Eliminates exclusionary period if previously terminated from HACLA Section 8 Programs for cause due to:
 - Failure to notify before moving out of unit
 - Failure to notify before absence from unit
 - Violation of annual HQS inspection
- Reduces exclusionary period for termination from any housing assistance program for damages to unit exceeding \$1,000 from 5 years to 3 years
- Reduces exclusionary period for fraud from 10 years to 5 years
- Eliminates exclusionary period if applicant who owes money to HACLA or other PHAs enters into repayment agreement

**URGENT NEED FOR CALLS - DON'T CUT MEDI-CAL. Oppose the "State Flexibility Act"
(Medicaid in other states)**

Families USA and many national organizations will hold call-in days this week to Washington. We encourage you to urge your networks and members to call Congress this week to reject Medicaid cuts, in any form - including deep spending cuts, harsh caps on spending that could lead to deep spending cuts, elimination of Maintenance of Effort (MOE) or proposals that would restructure Medicaid.

It's not clear that Democrats are holding strong! We particularly need to oppose the dismantling of "Maintenance of Effort" rules in federal health reform that are included in the "State Flexibility Act" (H.R. 1683 / S. 868). MOE means states can't roll back programs and eligibility from what it was when federal health reform was passed - if Congress allows this bill to become law, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that half of all states will eliminate their CHIP programs by 2016, and even more states will scale back coverage for kids in either their separate or CHIP-funded Medicaid programs for children.

Please feel encouraged to use Families USA's toll free number, 1-866-922-4970, to help generate calls.

NEW REPORT

MEDICAID WORKS:

A Review of How Public Insurance Protects the Health and Finances of Children and Other Vulnerable Populations

As policymakers in Washington have turned their attention to reining in the federal budget deficit, entitlement programs are being targeted for major cuts. While many are defending Medicare and Social Security, Medicaid - which serves over 50 million low income children, parents, elderly, and disabled Americans - appears to be more vulnerable for serious cuts.

[Our new report](#), authored by Professors Leighton Ku and Christine Ferguson of the George Washington University, provides a detailed analysis of the Medicaid program and documents its effectiveness in addressing the health and financial needs of children and other vulnerable populations.

The brief also explores the potential impact of the fiscal year 2012 budget resolution approved by the [House of Representatives](#), which would block grant the Medicaid program. Such a proposal would end Medicaid as we know it - causing states to reduce enrollment, limit benefits, cut provider payments, and shift more costs onto the children and families who rely on public programs.

- [Read the press release](#)
- [Download the report.](#)
- [Download a summary of the key findings from the report.ca](#)

RESOURCES

Orthodontia Care for children in the DCFS system: The UCLA School of Dentistry will provide orthodontic care, including examination, necessary radiographs, required general dentistry, pre-orthodontic extractions and non-surgical orthodontic care at no charge (pro bono) to a limited number of children and youth referred by the Los Angeles County of Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Children will be served on a first come, first-served basis. Contact: Jeffrey Kim, at 213-739-6433, or Geneva Johnson, at 213-351-5739 of the DCFS Orthodontia Program.

A new report from the World Health Organization and the World Bank, the "[World Report on Disability](#)," calls for the elimination of barriers that often force people with disabilities to "the margins of society." About 15 percent of the world's population - some 785 million people - has a significant physical or mental disability, including about 5 percent of children. Full text of the report is available [here](#).

The report calls for innovative programs and policies that empower people living with disabilities and remove the barriers which prevent them from participating in their communities, getting a quality education, finding decent work, and having their voices heard. A practical manual for doing exactly that, Hesperian's, [A Health Handbook for Women with Disabilities](#) is filled with descriptions of activities and programs that have been proven to work in a multiplicity of settings.

The National Academies Press Makes All PDF Books Free to Download: As of today all PDF versions of books published by the [National Academies Press](#) will be downloadable to anyone free of charge. This includes a current catalog of more than 4,000 books plus future reports produced by the Press.

[More Information](#) and click [here](#) for the Women's Health Page

SAVE THE DATE

Tomorrow Weds. June 15, 12 Noon



Wednesday, June 15, 12 Noon
The Governor's Office
300 S. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA.

For more information: Astrid Campos
213-407-5840 or acampos@communitychange.org

June 23-24, 2011 - 8:30AM - 4:30PM

"We've Got You Covered" 2-Day Core Comprehensive Training
(Thursday & Friday) at MCH Access.

This two-day training is for those individuals who want to provide full-service outreach, enrollment and retention services for clients. Programs for children and adults are covered. All free or low cost health programs provided in LA County are included: Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, Healthy Kids, Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan, as well as County Resources, Managed Care, Immigrant Issues, and Advocacy Tips for accessing and successfully using these programs and resources.

If you have questions regarding our specialized trainings please contact: Liz Ramirez, (213) 749-4261 ext 317 lizr@mchaccess.org or Donald Nollar at ext.301 donaldn@mchaccess.org

Please note you **MUST RSVP** in order to attend this training

June 26 - Monthly Bike Rides to Begin in South LA

Over the summer TRUST South LA, along with its partners in the CicLAvia South LA Host committee, will be organizing Monthly Bike rides and workshops. One Sunday every month we will choose a location in the community and hold a short workshop on a biking topic and then immediately go out on a group bike ride together exploring different parts of the South LA Community. This is all to lead up to the larger closed-streets event scheduled for Oct 9 which will bring the event CicLAvia into South LA.

Angeles for the first time. Our first workshop/bike-ride (hosted by C.I.C.L.E) will be at the Mercado La Paloma on June 26 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (3655 S Grand Ave #240 Los Angeles, CA 90007) where we will review how to ensure your bike is the right size and how to adjust it for the right "fit." And if you don't have a bike, starting in June, there will be bicycles to loan. For more information or a loan bike, contact Tafarai@trustsouthla.org.

July 27&28, 2011

March of Dimes will be holding it's annual Becoming a Mom /Comenzando bien training on at the California Endowment. Becoming a Mom/Comenzando bien® is the latest version of the March of Dimes prenatal curriculum. This training will provide overview information about the Becoming a Mom/Comenzando bien® curriculum for new and experienced facilitators. NEW FOR THIS YEAR! Breakout sessions available on the first day, presented in partnership with NuParent and the Los Angeles County, Department of Public Health, Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program. (see agenda for more details).

Please visit http://marchofdimes.com/california/2260_27618.asp to register online. If you are able to please try to register online.

Contact us:

Maternal and Child Health Access

1111 W. 6th St., Fourth Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90017

213 749 4261 phone

213 745 1040 fax

www.mchaccess.org

info@mchaccess.org email