



Maternal and Child Health Access

In this monthly mailing:

NOTES FROM 4-18-13 MEETING: GUEST SPEAKER, DR. KAREN EHNERT, VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH

CHILD HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATES, LIZ RAMIREZ, DIR. OF TRAINING

DENTAL CARE UPDATE, MONICA OCHOA, ORAL HEALTH ADVOCACY PROJECT

STATE DEPT. OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO CREATE "DASHBOARD"

QUESTION: WHAT IF I LOSE MY "GREEN CARD" AS A LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT?

ISSUE BRIEF: MEDICAID'S ROLE FOR WOMEN ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

THE CALIFORNIA ADVOCACY NETWORK FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

US SYSTEM TO END LIFETIME COVERAGE LIMITS FOR STUDENTS

CONTACT US

SAVE THE DATE

Webinar: Working Together to Promote Oral Health Care for Pregnant Women

Date/Time: June 3, 2013, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Faculty: Jayanth Kumar, DDS; Renee Samelson, MD, MPH, FACOG; Russel Maier, MD, FAAFP; and Melissa Moore-Sanchez, CIC
Register [HERE!](#)

Next MCH Access Monthly Meeting:

Thursday, May 16, 2013 10 AM - 12 noon

LOCATION:

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

SPEAKERS/TOPIC:

State Budget - "May Revise" update
Impact of May Revise AND Health Reform on
Pregnancy - How do the puzzle pieces fit together?

Cal Fresh Awareness Month

Other Program Updates

Materials Distributed at our April 18 meeting may be found [HERE](#) on our website

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

RSVP:

While this is not required, you can register [HERE](#) so we know you'll be attending

Please contact our office with any questions regarding this email or visit our website for further information about our organization.

Notes from April 18, 2013 Meeting
Guest Speaker: Karen Ehnert, DVM, MPVM, DACVPM Acting Director, Veterinary Public Health and Rabies Control, County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health - "Pets and Home Visit Safety: Bites, Rabies and Pet Info"

The American Academy of Pediatrics is hosting a free webinar to discuss the importance of collaboration among health professionals to ensure that the oral health needs of pregnant women are met. This Webinar will:

- * Highlight the Oral Health Care During Pregnancy: A National Consensus Statement
- * Share what health professionals can do in their practices and ways to work with other health professionals to promote the importance and safety of oral health care for pregnant women
- * Discuss key concepts around prevention, disease management, treatment, anticipatory guidance, and connecting with community resources
- * Focus on common concerns of health professionals (liability) and pregnant women

Friday, May 17, 11-12:30 Pacific Time:

Webcast: Women's Health in the US and Implications for the Affordable Care Act. The purpose of the webinar is to share information on current efforts related to maternal/women's health in the United States and opportunities to improve women's health through the Affordable Care Act. We encourage attendees to submit questions in advance of the webcast [HERE](#). Attend the webcast. Saturday, May 18 is Safe Kids Day - see activities and statistics: Preventable injuries are the #1 killer of

Dr. Ehnert gave a fascinating and unique presentation on the public health impact of pets and the important roles they play in our lives. Did you know that four in ten adults in LA have a pet? Angelenos own slightly less dogs than are owned nationally - 27% vs. 37% in the U.S., and only about half as many cats. The pros outweigh the cons, however, as pets offer companionship, protection, assistance, improved health, exercise and a lesson in responsibility for children. The negatives include possible bites and injuries, zoonoses (infectious disease that is transmitted between species from animals other than humans to humans) and allergies. While only about 2% of people get bit every year, 80% of those bites are from dogs - 4.5 million dog bites in the US each year, and 20% require medical attention. As home visitation programs spread, it's important to be prepared prior to visiting and to know what to do if bit. Rabies is almost NOT an issue - most rabies is carried by bats. Good tips for home visiting included: Always call first, notice fencing and any signs at the home, be aware of surroundings, keep a clipboard, purse of jacket handy and tap on the fence prior to entering a fenced yard, to draw the dog if there is one in the yard.

Dr. Ehnert discussed dog "body language" through pictures and descriptions: happy, scared and aggressive body language and calming behaviors and what to do and not to do to prevent bites. Other pet issues include contamination from turtles - salmonella risk, pet parasites and diseases (see handouts). She ended on the bright side of walking dogs for exercise and impact on blood pressure of petting cats and dogs!

Child Health Insurance Updates

Liz Ramirez, Director of Training, MCHA

Liz provided an update "DHS Kids". This is a program for former 6-18 year old Healthy Kids members, for whom the program was closed at the end of February this year. These children are able to enroll into this LA County DHS pilot program with proof of former Healthy Kids coverage.

If the child enrolls at a DHS facility, there is no income screening. Benefits include primary health care, vision screening, prescriptions, specialty care, dental, emergency room, hospital, and a nurse advice line.

If a child enrolls at a community partner clinic, he or she will be financially screened for 133% of poverty and below or will pay on a sliding scale basis if above 133%. The benefits include: primary care, vision screening, prescriptions, dental care if the community partners have the capacity, specialty care, emergency room, and hospitalization at a DHS facility. A group is working on a fax referral process for specialty care to streamline the referral process for community partners.

Kaiser child health plan new enrollment continues to be suspended in Southern California through May 24th at the earliest.

Dental Care Update

Monica Ochoa, Coordinator, Oral Health Advocacy Project

Report to the Legislature - Released by the Department of Health Care Services, March, 2013. This report addresses concerns, mainly low rates

kids in the U.S. click [HERE](#) for more info

Thursday, June 6, 10-11 AM: USC UCEDD Policy webinar

Understanding Federal K-12 School Food Services Policies to Access Special Meals.

This education session targets parents of people with developmental disabilities and/or special health care needs and individuals with developmental disabilities and/or special health care needs, but will be of interest to professionals as well. All participants must register in advance by clicking [HERE](#). You will receive an immediate confirmation with your unique link to the webinar. Handouts will be sent a week before the webinar. If you don't receive the handouts by June 3, please call or email us.

If you are an agency or organization, please consider hosting several families to participate in the call. You will be provided a sign-in sheet.

Please feel free to forward this flyer to your network or families you think might be interested.

For more information: Fran Goldfarb at 323 361-3831 or fgoldfarb@chla.usc.edu

Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council - upcoming neighborhood events

For those who live or work in the Boyle Heights area, check it out [HERE](#)

of utilization for children ages 0-20 in dental managed care plans, along with "A Call to Action" by the California Legislature to improve children's access to dental care. The call to action urged immediate action expectation requirements that improved oversight and held the dental plans more accountable for increasing utilization rates have been low and meet specific provider adequacy.

Report can be found [HERE](#).

State Department of Health Care Services to create "Dashboard" of data for Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans

The State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is seeking to "distill a wealth of information from a variety of sources about the performance of the managed care program and participating plans into a report or tool that allows users to assess whether program goals are being met, to identify areas of success and areas where improvement is needed and to understand trends over time. These dashboards are intended to foster greater transparency and accountability and to guide discussions regarding health care delivery and performance improvement". Lynn Kersey is part of a group providing feedback and recommendations on specific measures to consider for the dashboard. In addition, this Technical Advisory Group will provide feedback on the performance of locally-sponsored and commercial plans in five chosen counties. If you have comments or questions about the process please contact lynnk@mchaccess.org.

Breastfeeding Initiative Targets African American Mothers

Surgeon General Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA announced the launch of It's Only Natural, a new public education campaign that aims to raise awareness among African American women of the importance of and benefits associated with breastfeeding and provide helpful tips.

"One of the most highly effective preventive measures a mother can take to protect the health of her infant and herself is to breastfeed," said Surgeon General Benjamin. "By raising awareness, the success rate among mothers who want to breastfeed can be greatly improved through active support from their families, their friends and the community."

Breastfeeding offers mothers and their babies a healthy start. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 80 percent of all women in the United States-regardless of status, race, or income - start out breastfeeding. Among African American women, the breastfeeding rate is almost 55 percent - up from just 35 percent in the 1970s. However, while these rates are improving, breastfeeding rates among African American women remain lower than the rates of other ethnicities in the U.S., particularly among those living in the south.

This gap may indicate that African American mothers face barriers to meeting breastfeeding goals and need additional support to start and continue breastfeeding. It's Only Natural was specifically designed to provide materials that reflect the experience of African American moms. It's Only Natural was developed to equip new moms with practical information and emotional support from peers, as well as tips and education about the benefits of breastfeeding and how to make it work in

Friday, June

14: Fatherhood Solution

Conference: "Strengthening Relationships Between Fathers and Their At-Risk Children." The event promises to be another great opportunity to hear the most current thought and research on father engagement, empowerment and related issues. This year's keynote speakers include: Judge Michael Nash, William Arroyo (DMH), Anthony Anderson, and Dr. Stephen Johnson along with a special performance of the play "Manish Boy", performed by Ralph Harris. Conference workshops address both immediate and long-standing challenges, such as a father's legal rights, collaborations between Fatherhood and DV programs, the need for role models in our communities, Child support 101, mastering the co-parenting conflict, making room for dad, women in the fatherhood movement and much more. Click [HERE](#) for more info and click [HERE](#) to register.

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

- [Community Outreach Worker - Enrollment and Retention in Health Coverage Programs](#)
- [Health Programs and Benefits Trainer](#)

their own lives. All of the material is uniquely crafted for African American women. Materials include:

- video testimonials from new moms talking about the challenges they have overcome, providing breastfeeding tips, sharing their individual stories, and much more;
- articles on a variety of topics ranging from laws supporting breastfeeding to how to fit breastfeeding into your daily life;
- two fact sheets, which contain proper holding and latching techniques, as well as information on managing discomfort and how much milk is enough; and
- radio public service announcements.

To learn more about the campaign click [HERE](#)

Question: What if I lose my "Green Card" as a Legal Permanent Resident? Services at CARECEN

USCIS charges \$450 for form I-90 to replace a green card. The person should attach a copy of the prior green card, or approval notice of the application for residence or at minimum, their "A #" (Alien Registration #, letter A followed by 9 digits, appears on all immigration documents, forms, etc).

A fee waiver of the \$450 fee is available to persons who meet certain criteria, easiest of which is recent proof of receipt of a means-tested benefit (documentation of the benefit, not a copy of the card, rather the notice from County for Cal Fresh approval/amt, or Medi-Cal, etc.).

CARECEN charges only \$30 to renew a green card and an additional \$50 for a fee waiver application. Many folks seeking to renew their green cards are naturalization-eligible and Carecen has extremely low cost naturalization assistance services (free classes/tutoring, \$50 naturalization application preparation if the person is eligible). Schedule for walk-in legal services (no appts for green card renewal) is Monday from 9-4 & Wed from 9 - noon. Waits are long lately and people should arrive closer to 9 AM, as CARECEN often ends services before 4pm/noon on Mon/Wed. More information en español [HERE](#).

Issue Brief: Medicaid's Role for Women Across the Lifespan: Current Issues and the Impact of the Affordable Care Act

Medicaid, (Medi-Cal in California) a jointly financed state-federal health coverage program for the poor and low-income, provides more than 22 million low-income women with basic health and long-term care coverage. Because women are more likely than men to fall into one of the eligibility categories for Medicaid and are more likely than men to be poor, women comprise over two-thirds of beneficiaries.

This issue brief discusses the role of Medicaid for women and examines how changes under the health reform law will affect the program and women covered by Medicaid. The brief explores Medicaid's role for women across their lifespans including reproductive health services, care for chronic conditions and disabilities, and long-term care services. And

- [Receptionist](#)

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

Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

it provides new state-level data on enrollment and coverage policies on services of importance to women.

[Issue Brief](#) link

The California Advocacy Network for Children with Special Health Care Needs

The Network provides an excellent web newsletter with updates on legislative work, webinars, and links to articles and research:

Click [HERE](#) for more info.

UC System To End Lifetime Coverage Limits for Students

Acting on a recommendation from the UC Student Health Insurance Program Advisory Board, all 10 UC campuses will abolish lifetime coverage limits and other restrictions on essential health benefits in students' health insurance plans. The change will take effect in the 2013-214 academic year.

*"UC System Cuts Lifetime Coverage Limit for Health Insurance" (Robertson, Sacramento Business Journal, 5/3).

Read more [HERE](#).

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