



Maternal and Child Health Access

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We are canceling MCH Access' November meeting, this Thurs. Nov. 16, 2006
due to construction we were unaware would be taking place around our parking area.

Next meeting in the New Year! Thursday, January 18, 10-12

1111 W. 6th St., Fourth Fl. - Free parking in back, enter 2-story lot on 5th St.

In this mailing:

- Medicaid for newborns - alert
- MCHA Trainer Job Announcement – we're still looking!
- Healthy Kids Alternatives – updated.
- March of Dimes Annual Conference – Preventing Prematurity, Birth Defects and Infant Mortality Jan 10-12, 2007
- Women in Action – Mujeres en Movimiento MCHA's craft collective – dates and times for holiday purchases

Distributed at October meeting, except for events that have passed; call for copies 213.749.4261:

- MCHA Health Programs Trainings calendar
- *LA Times*, 10-19-06, "More Youngsters in LA County Living in Poverty"
- Weds. Nov. 15, "Proactive Breastfeeding Support and Management" (213) 596-5776
- UCSF study of pregnant Latinas – see below
- CHIRLA Legislative Review for 2006
- Information on SB 1471 veto by Governor
- Yes on 87 Fact Sheet
- UCSF Study of Pregnant Latinas (see end)
- Community Health Councils Fact Sheet on Centinela/Freeman Memorial and KDMC
- MCHA-PAC/LAC list of 2006 maternal and child health-related legislation.

Guest Speaker: Suzanne Foster, Community Health Councils and Coalition for Health and Justice, "Campaign to Save KDMC and Daniel Freeman Memorial"

These two campaigns have been linked due to their proximity and the reality of the effect of the loss of the Daniel Freeman Emergency

Room plus the downsizing of the KDMC emergency room.

Two events are upcoming: a Nov. 1 public meeting held by the county's Emergency Medical Services Commission on the closure of the Centinela-Daniel Freeman emergency department and the Beilenson Hearings on the downsizing of King Drew Medical Center on November 6. Los Angeles County's proposal to downsize KDMC to a Community Hospital ("Metrocare Implementation Plan") is available on the LAC/DHS website,

www.ladhs.org and on the Community Health Councils website, www.chc-inc.org.

There you will also find a community response to the plan, written by CHC with input from other organizations.

Ms. Foster provided an excellent slideshow with charts on the availability and proximity of other hospitals and what the concerns are about them as alternatives to KDMC. The Metrocare proposal, for example, proposes housing patients at Olive View Medical Center, 40 miles away and opening a medical-surgical ward at Olive View, which while closer does not now have an acute care mission. St. Francis, the only hospital within 5 miles, is at overcapacity with its deliveries and emergency room. The proposal calls for eliminating all high-risk obstetrics at KDMC and contracting out or moving the women to Harbor-UCLA. The emergency room volume at KDMC has increased from 45,326 in 2004 to 51,475 in 2005 in spite of the closure of the trauma center and diversion of patients to other hospitals, and 80% of the inpatients have come from the emergency room historically. However, the plan reduces the

inpatient beds at KDMC to 75 beds beginning November 30th and to 42 beds by March 1, 2007, requiring a significant number of transfers to other facilities. Join the Coalition for Health and Justice to improve these plans for the health of South LA and countywide.

Note: Proof of Citizenship Requirements for Medi-Cal Citizen Applicants still not in effect. Our meeting will provide an update, but we believe several additional categories of folks will be exempted. We expect to know more about implementation by the end of this month or early next month, but until then, citizenship documentation (birth certificates, passports, etc) should not be requested of Medi-Cal applicants. Understand that the joint Mail-In application requires a birth certificate for Healthy Families purposes.

Election Results

See <http://vote.ss.ca.gov/> for county-by-county and other results on propositions and state offices. Los Angeles County voted to pass both Prop. 86 and 87, although both failed statewide. See the enclosed, "Health Care Program Alternatives" for ideas on which programs children can still be enrolled or receive health care.

Did you know?

www.ladhs.org/ambcare/patients/pdf/clinicstatuslist.pdf provides the full 10-page list of Los Angeles County Public-Private Partnership (PPP) clinics by SPA, their addresses and phone numbers, types of services, whether they are open to new patients and/or episodic patients and when this information was last updated. Remember that whether or not they are accepting refers to patients qualifying for PPP-paid visits. The clinic may see paying patients still and you should always call before referring. If you find an error, please report it to: Wesley Ford, (213) 240-8135.

MCH Access still needs about 7, higher-income (not Medi-Cal eligible) first-time pregnant women to interview! We are in need of adults and teens who are either foreign or U.S. born but MIDDLE INCOME. The study sponsor, the University of California, San Francisco, is defining this

category as women who are not living in a household where someone is receiving Medi-CAL, WIC, food stamps, etc. A \$50 gift certificate to Target is provided. See our website, under "alerts" mchaccess.org or contact Julie or Dolores (213) 749-4261.



Resources

Prevent Childhood Choking poster

National SAFE kids Campaign and the International Food Information Council. Download for free, one sent free and/or buy for \$1.50 (double-sided in Spanish and English):

www.ific.org/publications/brochures/choking_pos.cfm.

Children's Planning Council 2006

Children's Scorecard examines the condition of Los Angeles County's Children in health, safety, education, economic status: www.childrensplanningcouncil.org

2006 Short-Term Housing Director of Los Angeles County now available online!

Download (98 pages) at:

<http://shelterpartnership.org/documents/housingdirectory2006.pdf>.

Evidence Report/Technology Assessment #133: **Cesarean Delivery on Maternal Request** – Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Publication #AHRQ06-E009 www.ahrq.gov. In 2003, C-section deliveries were up 38% over 1997 and Vaginal Births After Cesarean (VBAC) declined 60%.



Save the Date!

Sat. Nov. 18, 5:30 -7:30 PM "9to5 Los Angeles Working Women community potluck supper". Parish Hall, Holy Faith Episcopal Church, 260 N. Locust St., Inglewood Info (323) 299-0737

Dec. 1-2: Promotora/Community Health Worker Network Fourth Annual Statewide Conference Burbank Hilton Melinda Cordero (626) 864-6117 or Alma Esquivel (213) 202-5358 or promotorasinCA@aol.com