



Maternal and Child Health Access

1111 W. Sixth Street, Suite 400
Los Angeles, CA 90017-1800
Tel 213.749.4261
Fax 213.745.1040
www.mchaccess.org

Next MCH Access monthly meeting:
Thurs., November 20, 2008, 10 AM – 12 noon
MCHA 1111 W. 6th St., Fourth Fl. Free parking in back, entering on Fifth St.

November is Prematurity Prevention Month and National Adoption Month!

Susan Berke Fogel, Health Policy Advocate
Office of Women's Health (Los Angeles): Current and Future Projects
Update on state budget
Medi-Cal Managed Care changes – preview for January

MCH Access now enrolls in and assists with Food Stamps (now called the “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)” at the federal level.)

Watch for our flyers and contact Jenny at MCHA (213) 749-4261 ext. 105, for an appointment.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Stamp Program



In this mailing

- **Presumptive Eligibility** for pregnant women update and back-up Provider Bulletins in one place! See the new full color PE brochure on our website!
- **Healthy Families** – wait list? Disenrollment? Call and FAX the MRMIB Board NOW! See sample letter and *LA Times* article, and www.100percentcampaign.org for more info. MRMIB's explanation of the funding gap http://www.mrmib.ca.gov/MRMIB/hfp_general_fund_d_efficiency.html and the Nov. 19 MRMIB agenda.
- **State Budget Cuts** – see the range of cuts proposed. If you have families who would be affected, let Lynn or Donald know (213) 749-4261.

CALL NOW:

Governor Schwarzenegger (916) 445-2841
Speaker Karen Bass (323) 937-4747
Republican Minority Leader Mike Villanes (559) 446-2029
Senate President pro tempore, Don Perata (510) 286-1333
Senate Minority Leader Dave Cogdill (559) 253-7172
Senate President Pro Tempore-Elect Daryl Steinberg (916) 651-1529

Distributed October 16 (except events no longer timely) – call for copies

- MCHA training calendar (see website)
- Intimate Partner Violence and Depression Awareness, from the Public's Health, Oct. 2008 <http://www.lapublichealth.org/wwwfiles/ph/media/media/October-2008.pdf>
- Gardasil Requirement for Immigrants Stirs Backlash <http://wsj.com/article/SB122282354408892791.html>
- First page of MCHA-PAC/LAC final list of MCH-related legislation – see our websites
- Medi-Cal Provider Bulletin August '08 on PE

Notes – Thursday, October 18, 2008

Ronette Brown, Black Women for Wellness – Proposition 4

We were pleased to have Ronette Brown speak to last month's MCHA meeting on Proposition 4 and the danger it posed to teen health. Note that Prop. 4 did NOT pass, but the same folks who provided funding for it are already planning for the next election... Ronette explained that low income communities and communities of color already face significant barriers to resources. In communities where there are already limited resources, are most at risk for losing services when issues like Prop. 4 are on the ballot. Forced notification laws sound good at first but the health and

safety of our daughters is more important than authorities getting involved in family matters. Similar Propositions were voted DOWN in California in 2005 (Prop 73) and 2006 (Prop 85), but Prop. 4 is much more destructive and deceptive. Proposition 4 would have amended the California constitution to ban abortions for minors until 48 hours after a physician notifies their parents. Prop. 4 was the third attempt in four years to pass this law. Parents would be notified by letter would be delivered in person by the doctor, or mailed via both certified and first class mail. The 48-hour waiting period would begin after the letter is assumed to have reached the parents, which is noon on the second day after the letter is postmarked. Parents would be allowed to pursue civil lawsuits against doctors who fail to provide notification. The exceptions to parental notification include if there is a Medical Emergency and the the ability to go to a judge for a Judicial Bypass. But this provision is practically meaningless because of the red tape young women would have to go through, and how difficult it would be for teens from low-income families or rural areas or those with limited English speaking skills to fill out complicated paperwork and come back for a court date.

State Budget Update

See the brief update handout in this mailing. LA Health Action (www.lahealthaction.org) has a number of documents, MCHA lists some, and the California Budget Project (www.cbp.org) lists summaries and an excellent publication on how health and human services have been repeatedly cut: *Stretched Thin 2008: State Budget Cuts Undermine California's Human Services Programs* <http://www.cbp.org/pdfs/2008/StretchedThin2008FINALE.pdf>. Join us in the Stop the Cuts Coalition, 213.385.8010 where we hope to be able to focus on longer-term strategies to improve the budget.

Sign the March of Dimes Prematurity Petition! California gets a "c" ...

The March of Dimes has graded states by comparing each state's rate of premature birth to the nation's objective of 7.6 percent or less. Help us make progress for preemies by signing the petition and finding out more about what you can do. <http://www.marchofdimes.com/pad/petition/index.aspx?a=1&z=1>

CA Premature Infant Health Coalition

California has more than 56,000 premature births each year, which is 10.7% of all California births, much higher than the national Healthy People 2010 goal of 7.6% of all births. More than 10% of all premature births in the United States happen here in California. Every five years more than a quarter of a million premature

children are added to our state's population. A great percentage of these children have serious health and development conditions requiring far more than the average health, developmental and social service care to help them have the optimal outcome for their lives.

The California Premature Infant Health Coalition was created to bring together the broad array of groups and individuals working on prematurity in California. The two foremost goals of the California Premature Infant Health Coalition (Coalition) is to help California reduce the rate of premature births and to improve the outcomes for children born prematurely and their families. A secondary goal of the Coalition is to provide a sustainable setting to allow those working on the broad landscape of prematurity to network, share best practice and other information, address policy, resource and systems change, and to help keep decision makers and the general public educated and knowledgeable about prematurity.

The California Premature Infant Health Coalition (Coalition) stakeholder membership is open to anyone or any organization with an interest in prematurity. The California Premature Infant Health Coalition can be reached through its Project Coordinator/ Executive Director, Steve Barrow, at sbarrow@pacbell.net or (530) 902-5551.



Resources

- Fact sheet – Frequently Answered Questions about EPSDT – this 10-page fact sheet answers commonly asked questions about the program that provides early health screenings, preventive care, comprehensive treatment, and health education to children and young adults enrolled in Medicaid. Additional topics include how the Deficit Reduction Act affects EPSDT, how people find out about EPSDT, and how to measure EPSDT performance and hold programs accountable. <http://www.healthlaw.org/library/attachment.134266.pdf>

Save the Dates!



- Jan 26-27, 2009 - March of Dimes Conference for Health Professionals: **Risky Business: Managing the Escalating Complexity of Maternal and Neonatal Care** Newport Beach, CA.

<http://www.regonline.com/marchofdimes>

- **Weds., Dec. 3** 10 AM – 12 PM Briefing on Modernizing Enrollment in Public Programs in California – Sacramento, CA. For more information, please contact Len Finocchio, CA HealthCare Foundation, at lfinocch@chcf.org or Jenny Kattlove, The Children's Partnership, at jkattlove@childrenspartnership.org.