



Maternal and Child Health Access

In this mailing:

NOTICES FROM SEPTEMBER MEETING

JENNIFER GANATA - COMMUNITIES FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

ACCESS FOR INFANTS AND MOTHERS (AIM) PROGRAM TO CHANGE TO FEE FOR SERVICE

KAISER CHILD HEALTH PLAN OPENS - TEMPORARILY - NEWS & HOW TO USE

GOVERNOR SIGNS IMPORTANT MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH BILLS!

ESSENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS: THE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE (IOM) RELEASED ITS REPORT ON ESSENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS

THE MILK TRUCK, A MOBILE BREASTFEEDING UNIT

CONTACT US

Save the Date

Monday, October 24, 2011:
Food Day - see <http://foodday.org> for information and an interactive map of events in your area.

11/18/11 & 11-21/11 "We've Got You Covered" 2-Day Core Comprehensive Training

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

Next MCH Access Monthly Meeting:

This Thursday, October 20, 2011 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.)

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

SPEAKERS:

Ana Mascareñas, Policy and Communications Coordinator
Physicians for Social Responsibility - Los Angeles

Breast and Reproductive Cancer PREVENTION

Find us on Facebook

Notices, if still timely, from September 2011 meeting

- Western Center on Law and Poverty's compilation of Health Care Legislation Affecting Low Income Consumers as of 9-13-11; [click here](#) for updated 10-9-11 list
- Sept. 7, 2011 LA County CCS Provider Bulletin re: Medi-Cal enrollees who are CCS clients and in an SPD aid code will/should not be mandatorily enrolled into Medi-Cal Managed Care. See meeting for updated information.
- Sample letter for AB 395, to add Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) to California's Newborn Screening
- Speaker handout from Clean Up, Green Up Campaign

Jennifer Ganata from Communities for a Better Environment

Jennifer Ganata spoke on the Clean up Green Up ordinance. Communities for a Better Environment is advocating policy change on a municipal level to help clean up some of Los Angeles's most highly polluted neighborhoods.

Clean Up Green Up is a cutting-edge policy initiative that will establish "green zones" in three LA toxic hotspot communities where residents suffer dire health effects from the cumulative environmental impacts of too many near-by polluting industries. The first Clean Up Green Up neighborhoods will be in Boyle Heights, Pacoima and Wilmington

provided in LA County are included: Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, Healthy Kids, Healthy Way LA, 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

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP

Wednesday, February 29th, 2012 - Understanding Contraceptive Options

An interactive, informative and valuable training opportunity for outreach workers, health educators and administrators. Brochure & registration form will be sent out later in the year. Women's Health Care Clinic Education Program at Harbor-UCLA. Contact Lynnette Short for more information: 310 222 3729 - LShort@labiomed.org

EMPLOYMENT

MCHA is once again able to advertise for a Perinatal Case Manager for the Boyle Heights area, with extended funding from First 5 LA

- [Perinatal Case Manager Boyle Heights](#)
- [Welcome Baby! Registered Nurse](#)

The California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) is hiring [Welcome Baby Program Liaison](#) for the MCHA-CHMC Welcome Baby Program.

Join Our List

Air pollution has a staggering effect on human health in California. According to California Air Resources Board estimates, each year air pollution is associated with:

- 19,000 annual premature deaths,
- 280,000 annual cases of asthma symptoms,
- 1.9 million annual lost work days; and,
- More than 1 million respiratory-related school absences.

Using common tools of municipal land-use policy and economic incentives, we can create Green Zones in three pilot areas to attract new green businesses and help existing businesses clean up and green up to generate and retain jobs while safeguarding community health.

A comprehensive policy framework will emphasize:

- Prevention: Prevent further toxic overload in already overburdened communities.
- Reduction: Clean up, reduce and mitigate existing environmental problems and hazards.
- Transformation: Implement innovative economic revitalization strategies that will transform toxic neighborhoods into healthy, sustainable and vibrant communities.

Adoption of these recommendations will create healthier people, environments and communities - not only in Los Angeles' most vulnerable neighborhoods but throughout the City and region as a whole.

People interested in getting involved should contact: Clean Up Green Up campaign: (323) 397-1554 or ekyanez@yahoo.com

Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM) Program to change to Fee for Service

Celia Valdez informed meeting attendees that this change had been scheduled for Oct. 1, 2011, but has been delayed probably until at least the beginning of 2012. Opportunities exist to help shape how this transition takes place and to weigh in on important issues such as the assurance of an adequate provider network and comprehensive benefits. MCHA has issued an information bulletin; watch for our e-blast and website posting.

Kaiser Child Health Plan Opens Temporarily - News and How to Use

We are very pleased to announce that Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan (KPCHP) will temporarily reopen to new enrollment in Los Angeles County, Orange County, and San Diego County. KPCHP enrolls children 0-18 not eligible for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families. Enrollment began on **Tuesday, October 18, 2011**. We are unsure how long KPCHP will be accepting new enrollment into the program, but we understand there will be limited enrollment. See our next e-blast or:

<https://www.myoneeapp.org> English <https://www.myoneeapp.org> Spanish

If you have questions or problems with the One-e-Ann system

click on the help link, which sends you to the Los Angeles Unified School District CHAMP Helpline (866) 742-2273. It is staffed for questions from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday

Governor Signs Important Maternity and Child Health Bills!

After four years of vetoes from the previous administration, Governor Brown signed an important set of bills to ensure maternity coverage in health insurance plans.

SB 222 (Evans) requires that every individual insurance policy include maternity care; AB 210 (Roger Hernandez) clarifies "maternity services" for group insurance plans, which are already required to cover maternity but without needed specificity. The bill now requires "maternity services" to include prenatal care, ambulatory care maternity services, involuntary complications of pregnancy, neonatal care, and inpatient hospital maternity care, including labor and delivery and postpartum care. Both bills take effect in July of 2012. As stated in SB 222: "... it is essential to clarify that all health care coverage made available to California consumers, whether issued by health care service plans regulated by the Department of Managed Health Care or by health insurers regulated by the Department of Insurance, must include maternity services."

MCHA is proud to have worked on this important access issue. Two of our clients assisted with enrolling in AIM were featured in the LA Times story about the bills:

<http://articles.latimes.com/2011/oct/01/local/la-me-maternity-20111001>

Governor Brown also signed the following important bills:

- SB 299 (Evans) prohibits employers from refusing to maintain and pay for coverage under group health plans for women who take maternity leave.
- SB 502 (Pavley), Hospital and Infant Feeding Act, requires all general acute care hospitals and special hospitals that have perinatal units, as defined, to have an infant-feeding policy and to clearly post that policy in the perinatal unit or on the hospital or health system Internet Web site. The infant-feeding policy must be routinely communicated to perinatal unit staff and applies to all infants in a perinatal unit. This bill becomes operative January 1, 2014.
- AB 499 (Atkins) adds a service to Minor Consent Medi-Cal; the ability to consent to services for the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. Minors may already consent to treatment for these diseases confidentially.
- Also after many years of attempts, AB 1319 (Butler and Pavley), the Governor signed the Toxin-Free Infants and Toddlers Act. It bans BPA in baby bottles and sippy cups as of July 1, 2013.
- AB 395 (Pan) adds Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID, or "bubble boy" disease) to the list of diseases that can be addressed and are screened for at birth via a heel stick of the baby's blood. As of January 2012 all infants

will be screened for SCID and identified at birth via the California Newborn Screening Program.

Unfortunately, Governor Brown vetoed AB 568, requiring the "least restrictive restraints" of pregnant incarcerated women. He stated in his veto message that the bill went too far, prohibiting handcuffs or restraints of any kind except under ill-defined circumstances.

Essential Health Benefits: Balancing Coverage and Cost

On Thursday, October 6, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released its report on Essential Health Benefits. The Department of Health and Human Services requested that the IOM recommend criteria and methods for determining and updating the essential health benefits (EHB) that will be included in certain health insurance plans for individuals and small businesses beginning in 2014, as specified in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The task of the IOM was not to decide what is covered in the EHB, but rather to propose a set of criteria and methods that should be used in deciding what benefits are most important for coverage. The committee saw its primary task as finding the right balance between making a breadth of coverage available for individuals at a cost they could afford. This balance will help ensure that an estimated 68 million people will have access to care covered by the EHB. The report may be downloaded for free [HERE](#).

Read more: The Milk Truck, a mobile breastfeeding unit

Have you heard of it? The Milk Truck is a combination of guerilla theater, activism and a little slapstick humor, calling out the US Fair Labor Standards Act protecting breaks for breastfeeding and the right to breastfeed in public. For more information click [HERE](#). Remember that the Breastfeeding Task Force of Greater LA has downloadable messages for card stock/free cards for breastfeeding rights in CA, containing text from lactation laws in the State of California. Click [HERE](#) for a whole page of resources.

Milk Truck drives home rules on breast-feeding Monday, July 18, 2011 By Annie Tubbs, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

What do you get when you take an artist, a citywide art show, and lots of confrontations between breast-feeding mothers and ignorant business owners? A 10-foot truck with a giant breast on top, of course. [Read more...](#)

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Contact us:

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