



## Maternal and Child Health Access

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### SAVE THE DATE

**Tuesday Sept. 25 9 AM - 3 PM South Central Family Health Center VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE** In support of National Voter Registration Day. "Don't Surrender Your Power - Let Your Voice Be Heard" - free give-aways and information on voting. South Central Family Health Center  
4425 S. Central Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90011

**Sunday, Oct. 28: Third Annual Perinatal**

### Next MCH Access Monthly Meeting:

**Thursday, September 20, 2012 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/TOPICS:

**Barbara Facher, Alliance for Children's Rights**  
Services and initiatives for pregnant and parenting teens living in foster care

**Irene M. Lim, LCSW "AIM 4 Teen Moms"**  
Project NATEEN

**Children's Hospital Los Angeles**  
(Note: This is NOT the state Access for Infants and Mothers program, but a local program with the same acronym)

**Ben Hellerstein**  
Pesticide Action Network of North America (PANNA)  
Los Angeles Field Organizer  
Prop 37 - California Right to Know initiative

#### 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

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



### Materials from July meeting: (Call or e-mail if you want copies) The California Partnership 2012-2013 Final State Budget Summary

Slides from Astrid Campos, California Partnership, "Budget 1012-CalWORKs and Child Care"

Welcome Baby Will Welcome New Hospital Partners

Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

Don't guess - be sure (poison control flyers)

Improvements in Medi-Cal's Dental Benefits for Pregnant Women (MCHA fact sheet)

**Mental Health Task Force**, "Speak Up When You're Down" Gala Taglyan Cultural Complex in Hollywood, CA: to honor local women who have survived postpartum depression and the friends, family and providers who have supported them. Click [here](#) for more information

**Do you know what's in your food?**

Up to 80% of the food in grocery stores today contains genetically engineered (GE) ingredients. GE crops have increased the use of toxic pesticides that pollute our air and water. And we still don't know whether GE food is safe to eat or what effect it has on our health. **Everyone has the right to know what's in their food.** This November, Californians will vote on Prop 37, the California Right to Know initiative, to require labeling of genetically engineered food. Come learn how you can help pass Prop 37!

[California Right to Know Campaign Kick-Off Meeting](#) When:

Wednesday, September 19th

Time: 7:00-8:00 PM

Where: St. John's Well Child and Family Center, 808 W. 58th St., LA

[RSVP Here!](#)

**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

**Notes from July meeting (no meeting in August):  
Guest Speaker: Astrid Campos, The California Partnership - Cuts to Welfare and Vital Social Services - what can be done**

Astrid Campos provided a very thorough overview of the cuts and changes to health and human services in this year's state budget. A budget with revenues, not cuts, was not passed or even floated. Instead, even with the cuts below, California still very much needs to pass the Governor's/Former "Millionaires" tax initiative, Proposition 30, in November or painfully more will be cut from services.

Cuts to Health and Human Services:

**Cal WORKs:**

- Reduces from 48 to 24 months the amount of time parents may receive cash assistance while participating in work services and activities. Takes effect January 1, 2013 and is prospective, meaning time already on cash aid will not count toward the new limit.
- Eliminated the current "young child" exemption from work participation requirements for parents/guardians with one child under 2 or two or more under age 6. There is a new one-time exemption for this issue.
- At the same time, reduces state funding for services and child care by \$205.7 million.

**Medi-Cal:**

- \$1.2 million in cuts, mostly from expanding managed care to 28 new counties
- \$7.7 million reduction in reimbursement for lab services
- \$250 million in cuts to public and private hospitals
- Seek federal approval to impose two copayments on **Medi-Cal** recipients - \$15 for non-emergency use of ER and \$3.10 for each prescription for non-preferred drugs.
- AIDS drugs - the budget agreement rejected the Governor's proposal to increase costs on AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) beneficiaries living with HIV or AIDs.
- Behavioral health (DMH and Dept Alcohol and Drug Programs) now completely transferred to state DHCS and DSS, with Workforce Education from Prop 63 to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development

**Healthy Families** - the budget eliminated this program by gradually transferring children to the **Medi-Cal** program, starting in phases in 2013. For more information and to be on lists for ongoing webinars and updates, [DHCS](#) and [MRMIB](#) each have a dedicated webpage and email address for the HFP transition: or email

dhcshealthyfamiliestransition@dhcs.ca.gov or hfptransition@mrmib.ca.gov

If Proposition 30 is not passed in November, \$6 BILLION in additional cuts will be made, mostly to K-12, community and state university and colleges, but would also affect health and safety.

**NEW Los Angeles Dental Stakeholder Meeting**

employment history  
experience and  
educational background  
for which you're applying.

- [Community Associate: Access to Quality Healthcare for Women and Children in Boyle Heights](#)
- [Health Programs and Benefits Trainer - Training and Education Department](#)
- [Perinatal Case Manager - Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles](#)
- [Welcome Baby - Outreach Specialist](#)
- [Welcome Baby - Parent Coach, Level I](#)
- [Welcome Baby - Parent Coach, Level II](#)

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

#### Join Our List

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

This group held its first meeting in July and will meet again in October, and then every other month. The impetus was monitoring Denti-Cal Managed Care due to revelations about Sacramento's managed care plans and Los Angeles statistics showing even worse access. Since plans are only about 15% of the coverage in LA, much of the work will focus on Fee-for-Service dental as well. Three workgroups were created: Data Reporting; Informing Materials and Increasing Provider Choices. Please contact Monica Ochoa or Lynn Kersey at MCHA to be added to the list. This is a State Department of Health Services-sponsored effort and staff from DHCS attends.

### Bills Addressed this session

The Governor has until September 30 to sign, or veto, or ignore, thereby passively signing, legislation that is on his desk. At our meeting we will review some of the bills we are following.

**AB 1731** (Block) The March of Dimes cosponsored this legislation which requires all newborns in California to be screened for critical congenital heart disease (CCHD) starting July 1, 2013. This screening is done through a simple non-invasive test that will save the lives of babies born in California.

Yesterday in San Diego, the March of Dimes held a press event in which we thanked the Governor for signing the bill and celebrated Caleb Peltier's 2nd birthday. Caleb nearly died at three days old after going home with undiagnosed CCHD, but doctors were able to save his life. He turns two today and Assembly Member Marty Block, who authored the bill, and the March of Dimes celebrated this victory with the Peltier family and other volunteers. Here is a [CBS 8 news story](#) about the press event and the bill getting signed.

#### Tenant Rights Victory:

On Friday, Sept. 7, Gov. Jerry Brown signed **SB 1055** (Lieu) that would ensure landlords continue to accept forms of payment other than by computer.

As a result of the Coalition for Economic Survival's organizing efforts of affected tenants against this practice, Sen. Ted W. Lieu took decisive action by introducing **SB 1055** that will ensure residents can continue paying with check or money order. [The Coalition for Economic Survival](#), along with the [Western Center on Law on Poverty](#), were co-sponsors of the bill.

Last September tenants in the buildings owned by Jones and Jones Property Management were served with notices informing them that a new rent online only policy would begin on December 1, 2011. The notice stated that the new rent policy was for the purposes of 'going green' to help the planet and save trees by eliminating paper checks and envelopes.

After receiving the notice, tenants sought and received assistance from the Coalition for Economic Survival (CES). CES helped to organize residents to oppose the new policy and contacted [Bet Tzedek Legal Services](#) who agreed to represent the tenants in a legal action against Jones and Jones. Many of these tenants are over the age of 62 and have

lived in their homes for a decade or more, and, thus, are paying the lowest rent. In addition, many of these tenants do not own computers, are not computer literate, and are living on fixed incomes. This law will now prohibit these actions and provide tenants with a choice on how they prefer to pay their rent.

### Office of Women's Health Updates its website

The Office of Women's Health, in the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, has announced that their website has been updated with new sections on Data Resources at the national, state and local level, as well as the Women's Health Summit Implementation activities. Please see the attached flyer and visit [Public Health L.A. County](#) or [Prevention Matters](#) to see what's new.

### Palliative Care Program gets great press

You may remember that Celia Valdez spoke about the state's Palliative Care Waiver in October of last year. The project is a pilot project, a pediatric palliative care benefit for children with life-threatening conditions, to evaluate whether, and to what extent, such a benefit should be offered under the Medi-Cal program. The waiver allows services regardless of the child's life expectancy, while normally under Medi-Cal, in order to receive these services, the child must be measured somehow as having six months or less to live. The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research has shown cost-savings in the program and have written a [policy brief](#). In addition, the Los Angeles Times wrote about the release of the [Brief](#) and the program itself on August 29:

The program is open to more participants: contact CCS in Los Angeles for more information (See our January 2012 mailing).

### Child car seat checkups urged during safety awareness week (Remember that in California, children must be in a car seat until age eight.)

Posted on September 17, 2012. Parents are making five critical, but fixable, mistakes when using car seats, according to new data announced by Safe Kids Worldwide and the General Motors Foundation. With so many safety features now available in both cars and car seats, parents are urged to make sure their kids are getting every advantage by taking the time to do a 15-minute at-home checkup.

**Car Seat Checkup Checklist Right Seat.** This is an easy one. Check the label on your car seat to make sure it's appropriate for your child's age, weight and height. Like milk, your car seat has an expiration date. Just double check the label on your car seat to make sure it is still safe.

**Right Place.** Kids are VIPs, just ask them. We know all VIPs ride in the back seat, so keep all children in the back seat until they are 13.

**Right Direction.** You want to keep your child in a rear-facing car seat for as long as possible, usually until around age 2. When he or she outgrows the seat, move your child to a forward-facing car seat. Make sure to attach the top tether after you tighten and lock the seat belt or lower anchors. Continue to use a booster seat until your child properly fits in the seat belt, usually when they are between the ages of 8 and 12.

**Inch Test.** Once your car seat is installed, give it a good shake at the base. Can you move it more than an inch side to side or front to back? A properly installed seat will not move more than an inch.

**Pinch Test.** Make sure the harness is tightly buckled and coming from the correct slots (check car seat manual). Now, with the chest clip placed at armpit level, pinch the strap at your child's shoulder. If you are unable to pinch any excess webbing, you're good to go.

Contact us:

### **Maternal and Child Health Access**

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