

Maternal and Child Health Access



Monthly Virtual Meeting
This Thursday, September 15, 2022 - 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Where?

This is a virtual meeting



10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

After you register, look for
the Zoom link in your
registration confirmation
email

Speaker/Topic:

Faith Raider

Chief, Communications and
Education Unit

Genetic Disease Screening Program
California Department of Public
Health

Setie Asfaha

Health Program Specialist

Genetic Disease Screening Program
California Department of Public
Health

**Prenatal and Newborn Screening -
Updates and Changes to Prenatal
Screening**

Join us for a conversation with our
California Department of Public
Health colleagues to learn about the
upcoming changes at the California
Prenatal Screening Program

Updates - Health and Social Services - bills, administrative changes and more!

AB 1930 on the Governor's desk!!

Thank you all SOOOO much. We are requesting support letters to the Governor. Please **write your letter of support to the Governor as soon as you can – the bill could be acted on at any time.**

See the sample letter with instructions [here](#).

AB 1930 would provide Medi-Cal's Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program (CPSP) benefit for the full 12-months of postpartum eligibility. It would also provide reimbursement when Comprehensive Perinatal Health Workers assist clients in the home or community, not just at a medical site.

Notes from Monthly Meeting July 21, 2022 , 2022

Guest speaker: Xochitl Lopez-Ayala, Policy Advocacy Coordinator, ACCESS Reproductive Justice

“California/Los Angeles Response to Abortion Access”

Ms. Lopez-Ayala addressed the stigma that is present with even talking about abortion, and the difference between reproductive rights, and reproductive justice – that the rights are actually utilized by everyone especially people of color. As the ACCESS website notes, “reproductive rights” are meaningless if you don’t know where to get birth control, no abortion provider accepts your insurance, you are afraid to seek prenatal care because of your immigration status or the closest clinic is hours from your home.

ACCESS is the most well-known and critical group addressing access to abortion, medical and surgical, and helping to provide the supports needed to get an abortion. That’s why their role is so critical in the current climate, with Roe v. Wade having been overturned. You will also hear this issue referred to as the “Dobbs decision” for the Supreme Court case *Dobbs v Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, in which Mississippi prohibited abortions after the 15th week of pregnancy, and the court held that the Constitution of the United States does not confer a right to an abortion. States are free to allow abortion, or to restrict it. Half the states are expected to outright ban abortion. One of the sobering pieces of information, visually, is the [map](#)

[showing what states are expected to do and how far people will have to travel for an abortion](#), if they can.

California has passed a \$125 million Reproductive Health Package of 13 bills. These were proposed by a stakeholder council called The Future of Abortion in California Council, or FAB Council, which actually began prior to the overturn of Roe v Wade. You can read their report [here](#). The legislature also introduced a constitutional amendment to protect the right to abortion in California, Proposition 1, that will be on the ballot in November.

The bills will help protect the right to an abortion and medical communication and doctors and providers helping people obtain abortion. The state will also allow trained nurse practitioner and nurse-midwives to perform first trimester abortions without a doctor present. Other measures would end criminal prosecutions and investigations for terminating a pregnancy, and set up a state website to help people navigate the process of finding and paying for an abortion.

The [California Abortion Access Website](#) [abortion.ca.gov] is officially LIVE! This was a Future of Abortion Council priority that was achieved this year through the State Budget process and in SB 1142. Check out the Governor's [video](#) launching the website.

It is unclear when and how funding for abortion services to people from outside California will be distributed. Stay tuned. Ms. Lopez-Ayala distributed additional resource [here](#) posted on our website for counseling, regional and national abortion fund services, and advocacy efforts. She can be reached at xochitl@accessrj.org

MCHA's Updated Flyer – Non-Medical Transportation Benefit

What is Medi-Cal's "non-medical transportation benefit"? NMT is transportation to and from a service that Medi-Cal covers. It's for people who have no other way to get to the service and back. A transportation company on the state's approved list may provide the transportation, or sometimes, bus, train, cab, Lyft, or Uber fare is covered.

MCHA has updated our [flyer](#) to include the fact that when Medi-Cal recipients have to travel long distances for a covered service, especially one like abortion, for which 22 counties have no provider, lodging and meals may have to be provided. This has not yet been set up, but see our flyer for information on contacting the state for fee for service Medi-Cal requests. For those in health plans, the plan should be contacted.

Good News! FINAL PUBLIC CHARGE RULING
On Thurs., Sept 8, the Biden administration posted its final public charge

The final rule, which takes effect on December 23, 2022, cements the public charge policy in the longstanding 1999 interim field guidance, and will continue to reduce the bias and harm resulting from the Trump public charge policy. From Protecting Immigrant Families coalition:

A [new “public charge” regulation](#) finalized on Thurs. Sept. 8 by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) adds critical protections to secure immigrant families’ access to the health and social services safety net. While the final regulation largely restores and improves upon the public charge policy in place for 20 years prior to the Trump administration, it also makes an improvement sought by [more than 1,000 organizations](#) coordinated by the [Protecting Immigrant Families coalition](#) (PIF): making it crystal-clear that DHS will not consider use of health care, nutrition, or housing programs when making immigration decisions.

See PIF’s updated Public Charge resources [here](#)

New since meeting:

Medi-Cal premiums eliminated for over 500,000 children and families

Thanks to the support from members of The Children’s Movement of California, state policymakers did the right thing by eliminating premiums for more than 500,000 California children and families with Medi-Cal health coverage. The change, effective July 1, removed one critical barrier to families’ ability to access and afford health care.

To learn more about how the change will impact members in your community, please see this information sheet to access in [English and Spanish](#). We encourage you to share this with your networks.

DHCS posts that third trimester of pregnancy is an exemption for managed care enrollment

In your third trimester of pregnancy? Not enrolled in managed care? You may not have to be if your provider is not part of a managed care plan; many midwives are not: link [here](#)

Open Enrollment 2023: Creating Coverage Opportunities Regional Workshops

Covered California will be hosting virtual regional workshops to discuss important topics you will want to be aware of for this upcoming Open Enrollment Period. The **Open Enrollment 2023: Creating Coverage Opportunities** regional workshops will each provide key regional and statewide updates on topics such as:

- Policy and Legislative Updates
- Keeping California Healthy
- Regional Rates and Plan Offerings
- CalHEERS Updates

[Los Angeles Registration](#)

Tuesday, September 27, 2022

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. PDT

Remember – Covered CA is open to enrollment now and through the end of the Public Health Emergency – this is somewhat hidden on the state’s [website](#) - See the drop-down for “Additional Categories”

Resources for Preventing Overdose – in recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is committed to preventing overdose deaths in communities throughout California. As we remember the 10,416 Californians lost to overdose in 2021, we wanted to provide resources available to prevent overdose deaths throughout the state.

If you think you’re at risk of an overdose or can help someone who is, connect with harm reduction services and carry naloxone, the opioid overdose antidote. Here’s how:

• Get naloxone from your local pharmacy or by using the National Harm Reduction Coalition’s naloxone access map: <https://bit.ly/naloxonemap>

• If you are struggling with drug use and want help to make positive change, call California’s statewide treatment referral line at 800-879-2772 or connect with a harm reduction organization through CDPH’s directory: <https://bit.ly/sspdirectory>

If you are part of an organization that is interested in distributing naloxone, read more about the DHCS Naloxone Distribution Project and learn how to apply: <https://bit.ly/3jwLZd>

Want a free vasectomy? California could soon have you covered – Los Angeles Times 8-22-22

California is trying to ease the pain of vasectomies by making them free for millions of residents.

Federal and state law require most health insurers to cover prescription contraceptives at no cost to the patient. But those provisions apply to only 18 Food and Drug

Administration-approved birth control options for women, so anyone with testicles is out of luck.

California lawmakers are now considering a bill that would expand that requirement to male sterilization. If the [Contraceptive Equity Act of 2022](#) passes (it's on the Governor's desk), commercial insurance plans regulated by the state won't be allowed to impose out-of-pocket costs, such as copays, coinsurance or deductibles, for vasectomies. Read more [here](#);

California to become 1st state to offer free school lunches for all students

On average, 1 out of every 5 Californians does not know where their next meal will come from.

<https://abc7.com/california-free-lunches-school-lunch-food-access/12119010/>

SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday Sept 20, 10 AM- 4 PM - The Right to Heal: Centering Mental Health Multi-Racial Equity in California is back for a second year! Join CPEHN and other organizations as we gather together to talk about mental health and wellness in communities of color and share the amazing regional mobilization efforts of local partners. This event is co-hosted by the California Black Health Network, Latino Coalition for a Healthy California, California Consortium for Urban Indian Health, South East Asia Resource and Action Center, and the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. Register [HERE](#):

Note: *After September 8, 2022 at 5pm, you may register but CPEHN will be unable to accommodate any other interpretation or other requests. Interpretation will be provided in Spanish and Khmer and materials will be available in Spanish, Vietnamese, Lao, and English. English closed captions will also be available.*

Also Tuesday Sept 20, 10-11 AM PT – “Maternal Mortality and New Risks to Women’s Reproductive Health” National Institute for Health Care Management Foundation

This webinar will explore overall maternal mortality, the impact of changes to reproductive rights, and new approaches and possible solutions that may improve maternal health outcomes.

Register [HERE](#):

September 21 at 1pm PT - an overview of the legal requirements on Medi-Cal and private health plans in California to provide gender-affirming care to Transgender, Gender Diverse, and Non-Binary Californians. [Register here](#)! NHeLP is a State Bar of California-approved MCLE provider. This event has been approved for 1 hour of California MCLE credit. (Attorneys licensed in other states, please check with your state

bar.) This webinar will be recorded. The recording and slides will be sent to all registrants approximately 48 hours after the conclusion of the webinar. The slides will also be sent to all registrants 48 hours prior to the webinar. Please contact our Operations Team (webinars@healthlaw.org) if you have any accommodation requests for the webinar.

October 4, 2022, 11-11:45 AM — “A Conversation with Dr. Anthony Fauci” - USC Annenberg Center for Health Journalism

As Dr. Fauci approaches retirement in December, he'll join us for a conversation with national health reporter Dan Diamond of The Washington Post.

We'll talk about the emerging threat posed by monkeypox, the current state of the COVID pandemic, and broader lessons on how we respond to emerging infectious diseases moving forward.

Register [here](#):

Lactation Education Course – OCTOBER - Breastfeed LA

With funding provided by the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, BreastfeedLA is offering both FULL and PARTIAL scholarships to October's LES course! Please join us as we break down barriers and build up our communities. [APPLY TODAY!](#) Scholarship opportunity is limited to current residents of CA only) If you or someone you know is ready to take their lactation education to the next level, join us and apply today.

RESOURCES

Are you familiar with LA County's Nutrition and Physical Activity Program Newsletter? Every monthly edition is chock-full of News and Updates, Webinars, Funding Opportunities, Readings and Trainings. See the [August edition](#)

Maternal Mental Health NOW has a direct link to a Queer and Trans Perinatal Mental Health Toolkit and can be downloaded [here](#) The CADPH also has a page on the Every Woman California page dedicated to LGBTQ+: <https://www.everywomancalifornia.org/healthy-mind/>

Poison Safety Tip: It's Baby Safety month! Babies learn by sight, touch and taste. Avoid a baby poisoning emergency by learning safety tips [here](#):

Tool Empowers Los Angeles County Tenants to Enforce Their Legal Right to Safe and Healthy Housing

As rental housing is increasingly corporatized, digital tools are both necessary and essential to helping tenants understand their legal rights and communicate quickly, clearly, and transparently to landlords, especially those who may not be based in the region. For this reason, Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE) has launched the [LA Tenant Action Center](#) for Los Angeles County renters struggling with habitability issues. This digital tool streamlines and automates the often confusing and cumbersome process of sending a certified Notice of Habitability Repairs to a property

owner or management company. Tenants who use the tool are able to generate a letter tailored to their needs that is legally vetted, and send it for free via certified mail.

Metro's GoPass program expands to Inglewood Unified School District - Just in time for back to school season, Metro announces a partnership with Target, which has agreed to sponsor Inglewood Unified School District's GoPass participation for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. This will mean that nearly 8,000 students enrolled in Inglewood Unified School District will be eligible for the GoPass Tap Card that allows them unlimited free rides on Metro buses and trains and 12 other participating transit agencies.

To learn more about getting a GoPass and to see if your school and/or district is in GoPass, please click [here](#)..

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