

Maternal and Child Health Access



Monthly Virtual Meeting
This Thursday, July 21, 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:

Xochitl Lopez-Ayala
ACCESS Reproductive
Justice

"California/Los Angeles
Response to Abortion
Access"

Sorry - had to cancel - we'll
reschedule

~~Greg Bonett, Staff Attorney~~
~~Community Development~~
~~Project~~
~~Public Counsel~~

~~"State and Local Eviction~~
~~and Renter Protections"~~

Notes from Monthly Meeting June 16, 2022

Guest speaker: Sagrario Neilsen, MS, RDN, Deputy Director Nutrition Services and Projects, Public Health Foundation Enterprises (PHFE) WIC

WIC Updates and the Crisis in Infant Formula (see slides and recording posted)

Ms. Neilsen provided rich, detailed information on the current issues with infant formula and what WC is doing about it. She started with basic facts and dispelling myths: families using formula are facing challenges; shortages are sporadic and not in all areas; WIC has made several temporary changes and more coming. Almost all brands of formula have been made available, including imported and store brands. As of June 13 these formulas numbered 140 different options and 17 brands in various combinations and types, including ready-to-feed.

In addition, Ms. Neilsen was able to tell us about a major change in state-purchased formulas for WIC taking place August 1, from Enfamil to Similac. WIC has multiple helpful handouts for this change, including a conversion chart – which formula would you use in Enfamil if you used X in Similac, for example, and the fact that for prescribed, therapeutic formulas there will be no change – they will stay Enfamil. Quantities of formula remain the same; only the brand is changing. Ms. Neilsen discussed the special formulas an what “hydrolyze” means and how protein chains are broken down and made easier to digest in some of these formulas – fascinating! She noted some important considerations: it is not necessary for infants to transition gradually. Most infants can switch formula without any problems and that some infants may notice and react to a change in the taste. That is normal and temporary.

The WIC app and website (PHFEWIC.ORG) were highlighted that they will add pictures of the new formulas and how much can be done with the app – to check food balances (how much is left to spend). The California WIC app can be downloaded from the App store and from the PHFE WIC website. The website is available in English and Spanish.

Asset Limit Changes

On **July 1, 2022** the asset limit for Medi-Cal programs for people who are 65 or older or disabled is increasing. These changes apply to things owned, which can be counted for Medi-Cal eligibility. These items include bank accounts, cash, second vehicles and homes, and other financial resources. The previous limits were \$2,000 for one person, and \$3,000 for a couple. The new limits are \$130,000 for one person, and an additional \$65,000 for each additional family member.

If your clients believe they may be eligible for Medi-Cal once the new limits start, they are encouraged to apply. If they are already in a Medi-Cal program which has asset limits, you will be able to keep more than you could before. Please contact your local county Medi-Cal office or MCHA if you have any questions.

Reminder: Pregnancy Extension to 12 months Post-Pregnancy
Lynn Kersey

Lynn reminded the attendees that Medi-Cal and MCAP coverage extends 12 months post-pregnancy. She requested that we all assist people who encounter difficulty or refusals to see or treat them. This often happens with undocumented people for whom the computer message or description in the Master Aid Code List might still read pregnancy-related or in some way contradict the message of full coverage post-pregnancy. Aid codes that are not strictly pregnancy-related, but may cover emergencies or cover people who weren't pregnant when they got the coverage, such as M4 for children's parents or caregivers, need to have a supplemental aid code added, aid code 76 (see MCHA's [flyer](#))

New since meeting:

Comprehensive Perinatal Services (CPSP) Post-Pregnancy - Update since June meeting

There are a lot of really important, wonderful things in the state budget this year, but, unfortunately and very disappointingly, the CPSP benefit for 12 months postpartum, the related stakeholder process to design the new postpartum benefit, and reimbursement for CPHWs when their services are provided in a person's home or other community setting were all left out.

But we are not done advocating for CPSP-- the companion policy bill, [AB 1930 Text](#), has made it out of the Health Committees in both houses and got off Suspense and the Floor in the Assembly, with **strong bipartisan support**. AB 1930 is now on Suspense in Senate Appropriations. **We need calls starting now and no later than August 3.**

Given the Senate Appropriations Committee membership, Los Angeles County and Orange County senators are particularly important. *Can people in these Districts reach out and ask these offices for support for AB 1930 to pass out of Senate Appropriations?*

Again, calls are needed starting now and no later than August 3, to their Sacramento office:

[Senator Anthony J. Portantino \(Chair\)](#) L.A. County (Democrat) Phone #: (916) 651-4025

[Senator Patricia C. Bates \(Vice Chair\)](#) Orange County (Republican) Phone #: (916) 651-4036

[Senator Steven Bradford](#) L.A. County (Dem) Phone #: (916) 651-4035

[Senator Sydney Kamlager](#) Los Angeles County (Dem) Phone #: (916) 651-4030

also: [Senator Brian W. Jones](#) San Diego County (Rep) Phone #: (916) 651-4038

[The Time is Now: Ensuring Reproductive Health Access, Justice + Equity Beyond Roe v. Wade](#)

Please join the Los Angeles County Women's Health Equity Coalition on **Thursday, August 4th 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM** for our virtual forum ". [Register here](#).

The Supreme Court of the United States has reversed 50 years of legal precedent and eliminated the Constitutional right to abortion care. Overnight, millions of people in states hostile to reproductive health services lost access to abortion care and California could see an almost 3,000% increase in people driving to our state to access abortion services. Given that Los Angeles County is a major metropolitan transportation hub, it is highly anticipated that people from across the country will come to Los Angeles to obtain the abortion care and other reproductive health services they will not be able to access in their home states or counties.

The time is NOW. We must prepare and ensure that reproductive health care and abortion services in Los Angeles County becomes equitably accessible for all.
[Register today!](#)

www.bit.ly/TheTimelsNowLACounty

****Those who previously registered through Eventbrite must re-register via Zoom!*****

[Abortion Map 2022: U.S. State Laws After Overturning Roe](#)

On Saturday three more states' trigger laws will go into effect, expanding national abortion restrictions and increasing the number of states in which abortion is illegal to 12. Here's a look at the laws in each state.

[Read more...](#)

Extension of Federal Public Health Emergency

In response to continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, today the U.S. Health and Human Services Agency extended the federal [Public Health Emergency was extended](#) an additional 90 days through October 13, 2022. DHCS says it will not start processing renewals for another 60 days after that, bringing our period of extension close to the end of the year now.

As a reminder, states that administer Medicaid (Medi-Cal in California) and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), cannot terminate a beneficiary's enrollment during the PHE unless they move out of state, become deceased, or the beneficiary requests a voluntary termination of eligibility from their local county social services. The extension also means that pandemic-related CalFresh emergency allotments and administrative flexibilities remain in place

The 988 Lifeline Began July 16!!

On July 16, 2022, California will join the rest of the United States in beginning to use the 988 dialing code. 988 will be the new three-digit number for call (multiple languages), text or chat (English only) that connects people to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, where compassionate, accessible care and support are available for anyone experiencing mental health–related distress. The chat feature will be available through the Lifeline’s [website](https://988lifeline.org/chat/).

<https://988lifeline.org/chat/> People can use 988 if they are having thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crises, or any other kind of emotional distress. People can also dial 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.

COVID-19 Vaccines for Ages Six Months and Older Rolled Out in June

On Saturday, June 18, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices is expected to approve COVID-19 vaccines for ages six months and older.

With this approval, LA County will have over 900 locations to administer vaccines, with most starting next week. This includes almost 180 healthcare provider facilities such as pediatricians, over 200 pharmacies, over 500 mobile sites, and seven POD sites.

Parents and guardians who plan to vaccinate their children at Public Health sites should be aware of the following:

- The COVID-19 vaccine is free.
- If insured, individuals should bring their health insurance card (COVID-19 vaccines remain free regardless of insurance status).
- Individuals will not be asked about their immigration status when getting vaccinated.
- No appointment is needed at many locations.

Parents and guardians should also note that most pharmacies are only authorized to vaccinate persons aged 3 and older, but there may be a few locations where this varies. The following Public Health locations will be open for walk-ins:

Market Street Center 22900 Market St., Santa Clarita Wed. – Sun. 12 PM – 7 PM	Commerce Senior Citizens Center 2555 Commerce Way Wed. – Sun. 11 AM – 6 PM
Balboa Sports Complex 17015 Burbank Blvd. Wed. – Sun. 11 AM – 6 PM	Ted Watkins Memorial Park 1335 E 103 rd St. Wed. – Sun. 11 AM – 6 PM
Palmdale Oasis Park Recreation Center 3850-A East Ave. S. Wed. – Sun. 11 AM – 6 PM	Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex 13000 Clarkdale Ave. Wed. – Sun. 11 AM – 6 PM
Obregon Park 4021 E 1 st St. Wed. – Sun. 11 AM – 6 PM	Call 833-540-0473 to request a ride to your appointment or request homebound service.

Parents are encouraged to reach out to their pediatricians to learn more about the COVID-19 vaccines.

Visit Public health's website at VaccinateLACounty.com or VacunateLosAngeles.com (Spanish) to learn about locations, and schedules for clinics offering these and other COVID-19 vaccines.

WHAT'S THE 2-1-1?

The Los Angeles Times Editorial Board has weighed in on the 2-1-1 contract situation, raising serious issues about the direction of the 2-1-1 services toward automation and the decision to select Deloitte as a provider given their record with EDD. This is huge - and with the growing public awareness about the peril facing the 2-1-1 service, we are asking our supporters to help get the word out and send a message to the Board of Supervisors that 211 LA has the community's support for continuing to provide the 211 service and working with the community to set the new vision for the future.

Join us for our Day of Action - see below for details!

OPINION



Editorial: Don't leave 211 callers hanging



The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is preparing to change contractors for the 211 phone service, a key resource line for constituents needing social services. (Kent Nishimura / Los Angeles Times)

SUBSCRIBERS ARE READING >

FOR SUBSCRIBERS

Plaschke: Why has USC forgotten Charles White? Haunted Heisman winner hopes relationship heals

Pregnant, homeless and living in a tent: Meet McKenzie

Move thousands of homeless people into landmark L.A. Sears building? Some say no way

FOR SUBSCRIBERS

The man who played Hollywood: Inside Randall Emmett's crumbling empire

FOR SUBSCRIBERS

Which L.A. grocery store chain is most

Editorial: Don't leave 211 callers hanging

Los Angeles Times - July 19th, 2022

BY THE TIMES EDITORIAL BOARD

Los Angeles County supervisors are preparing to turn the operation and management of a key resource information service over to a firm that took on a similar job for the state Employment Development Department early in the pandemic, when business closures and layoffs were rampant — and did it poorly. Deloitte's EDD phone center left millions of calls unanswered and hundreds of thousands of newly unemployed Californians with no connection to information about their missing payments.

Deloitte's proposal relies on automation of 211 calls. Even if the consulting firm has worked out whatever kinks led it to mishandle so many state EDD calls, automation may not be the right approach to a service that historically has relied on the human touch for successfully linking callers to services.

211 is a phone line that's little known to people who don't need it and an essential lifeline to many who do — the county's most vulnerable residents, including the elderly, the unemployed, shelter residents and the unhoused.

In L.A. County, 80% of the nearly 400,000 calls came from women and 85% from people of color. A quarter of all callers dialed the number every month, according to a study commissioned by the county of a five-year period concluding in 2017. Anecdotal but unverified evidence suggests that figure remained steady through the pandemic...

[Read More](#)

If you would like to read the full article above in PDF format, please [click here.](#)

SAVE 2-1-1 DAY OF ACTION STAND WITH 211 LA

When: Thursday, July 21st, 9 am- 4 pm

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1) Call the Board of Supervisors (see below and our [Day of Action Guidance](#))

2) Spread the word - forward this email to your networks and recruit more people to join the Day of Action! This change to the 2-1-1 service will affect so many people, and they need to know before it is too late.

3) Post and share on social media - 211 LA will be launching a social media campaign on Thursday - be ready to join the action on Twitter and Facebook! (find us [@211LACounty](#))

QUICK GUIDE TO CALLING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Lookup which Supervisor represents you. [District Lookup](#).

Call that Supervisor's office first (see next steps below, and when you call, make sure to mention that you are a constituent living in their district).

MESSAGE:

"Hi, my name is [say your full name], and I am calling to ask the Supervisor to save the 211 service our community relies upon. [If you live in that Supervisor's district, say that!]

It is important to me that the Supervisor:

- *Keep the 211 service with 211 LA - they are trusted, reliable, and provide high-quality service.*
- *Protect local, experienced live answer for people who need help - we don't want an automated service for 211.*
- *Get input from the community on what we need from our 211 service and how to improve it - don't make a huge change without our input.*
- *Protect the communities that need 211 most.*

Giving the 211 service to a for-profit corporation with a record of failure would be a disaster for our communities. Please tell the Supervisor to save our 211. Thank you."

END OF MESSAGE.

Board of Supervisor Office Phone Numbers:

- **FIRST DISTRICT - SUPERVISOR HILDA SOLIS**
- (213) 974-4111

- **SECOND DISTRICT - SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL**
(213) 974-2222
- **THIRD DISTRICT - SUPERVISOR SHEILA KUEHL**
(213) 974-3333
- **FOURTH DISTRICT - SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN**
(213) 974-4444
- **FIFTH DISTRICT - SUPERVISOR KATHRYN BARGER**
(213) 974-5555

VIEW THE [FULL DAY OF ACTION GUIDANCE](#)

Send a letter to the Board of Supervisors.

- Use our [Letter of Support Guidance](#) document to write and submit your letter (tips and template included, but personalized messages are always best!)
- If you have been holding onto your letter, please send it now (note - send it directly to the Board offices, see Guidance for email addresses).

Volunteer to help save LA 2-1-1.

- If you would like to get more involved with efforts in helping to save LA 2-1-1 services, please sign up by [clicking here](#).

[SAVE LA 211](#)

From the Coalition for Economic Survival
**362 More Affordable Rent Controlled
Units Lost in 2022 Due to Ellis Act Filings!
28,013 Units in Los Angeles!**

COVID-19 has made our affordable housing crisis so much worse. On top of that, for the second straight quarter the City of Los Angeles saw a significant increase in [Ellis Act Eviction](#) applications filed by landlords, speculators and developers. The Ellis Act is a California state law that allows landlords to evict tenants in rent-controlled units if they are planning to “go out of business.” To take advantage of the Ellis Act, a landlord must evict all tenants in the building while offering some modest relocation payments.

During April through June 2022, 196 more rent controlled units were targeted for destruction by big developers and speculators. That brings the total to 362 units in 2022, which is 2 rent control units lost every single day!

The [Coalition for Economic Survival \(CES\)](#), in conjunction with the [Anti-Eviction Mapping Project](#), releases quarterly updates of our web-based interaction map. The map shows where 28,013 rent stabilized affordable units have been destroyed in the City of LA from 2001 through June 30, 2022 due to the Ellis Act.

[The map](#), using data provided by the [Los Angeles Housing Department \(LAHD\)](#), visually shows the devastating impact the Ellis Act has had on tenants being displaced and affordable rent controlled housing lost. One can view the address of the buildings and the number of units lost there, due to the Ellis Act, by hovering over the dot using a computer mouse or laptop touch pad.

City Only Accepting Ellis Act Applications for Vacant Buildings

Even though tenants in the City of LA cannot be evicted due to the Ellis Act during the pandemic emergency, developers can still file for the Ellis Act if the building is empty. This provides developers a tremendous incentive for landlords to get tenants to move, through Cash for Keys offers, harassment, intimidate or any means necessary, legal or not.

State Legislature Sits on Its Hands and Does NOTHING!

The State Legislature had two opportunities to curb Ellis Act eviction but refused to do so even with Democrats having super majority control. On two occasions they failed to pass bills by Assembly Member Alex Lee (D-San Jose), co-sponsored by the [Coalition for Economic Survival](#) and the Tenderloin Housing Clinic.

The bills would have prohibited Ellis Act evictions for 5 years after the purchase of a building. This would have curbed the ability of speculators and developers from buying a building and immediately evicting tenants to convert the building to luxury high rent housing. Most Ellis Act evictions are by speculators and developers who have owned the building for a year or less.

Luckily, Assembly Member Lee is refusing to give up the fight and plans to introduce yet another bill.

New report looks at the health, mental health, and social service needs of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders

June 23, 2022: Today, AAPI Data, in partnership with the [UCLA Center for Health Policy Research](#), released a [groundbreaking study](#) that highlights disparities in the access and utilization of health, mental health, and social services by Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities.

Key findings of the report include:

- Asians, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were slightly less likely to be enrolled in public programs such as CalFresh, Medicare, and Medi-Cal compared to other racial and ethnic groups. Enrollment among detailed Asian, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander groups showed wider variation, including much larger gaps among groups such as Indians, Japanese, and Taiwanese.

- Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders were less likely than whites to have a usual source of care, have visited a doctor in the last 12 months, and be able to schedule a doctor's appointment in a timely manner.
- While Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities reported the lowest rates of suicide ideation overall, disaggregated data reveal Japanese, Korean, and U.S.-born Asians are more likely to have said they had ever thought of committing suicide.
- Among those who reported needing help for emotional, mental, or addiction problems in the past year, Asians, along with Black and Latinx Californians, were significantly less likely to receive needed mental, emotional, or addiction treatment than whites. Disaggregated data for Asians show similar challenges in accessing mental health services, especially for Vietnamese.
- Asian, Black, and Latinx women were less likely than white women to use birth control. Asian teens were significantly less likely to have received counseling about birth control in the past year.
- While Asians in general were less likely to report non-consensual sex or sexual assault in the survey, Japanese and Koreans were more likely to report it than Asians in general, with Japanese reporting at the highest rate among the groups surveyed.
- While Asians in general were less likely to provide care to family or friends with a disability or serious illness than members of other major racial and ethnic groups, Japanese, Filipinos, and Vietnamese were much more likely to be caregivers.
- Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander caregivers were more likely to cite financial stress from caregiving.
- While Asians in general reported relatively low levels of physical and mental health problems due to caregiving, Koreans and South Asians were significantly more likely to report those problems compared to all Asians.

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday August 3, 2022, 1:00pm-2:30pm (PDT)

Virtual Event. "Being a Guest in Prismatic Homes: Understanding and Supporting LBGTQ and Other Marginalized Families" with Linda Banks and Jill Stansbury. Sponsored by the Infant Development Association of California. \$25-\$50; limited scholarships available. CE hours available. Register [HERE](https://idac.memberclicks.net/prismatic_homes_august_3#/)
[https://idac.memberclicks.net/prismatic_homes_august_3#/?](https://idac.memberclicks.net/prismatic_homes_august_3#/)

RESOURCES

ASK LAFLA is a new outreach program giving the community an opportunity to stop in, learn more about the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles's services, and ASK LAFLA questions.

See flyer [HERE](#):

Get Legal Help: [HERE](#)

Housing Resources

Project Place is a free monthly listing of rental properties for low-income, senior, and veteran residents throughout Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Information on COVID-19 renter protections, rental assistance, and transitional housing is also included. See the latest listing and sign up at: <https://www.housingrightscenter.org/rental-listing>

ATTENTION ALL RENTERS!

Attend the

Coalition for Economic Survival Tenants' Rights Zoom Clinic

To sign up for the next [Coalition for Economic Survival Tenants' Rights Clinic](#) via ZOOM
Request a Link by emailing:
HelpingLarenters@gmail.com

The Clinic serves the entire Southern California area.
Accommodations for Spanish, Russian, Farsi & Hebrew speakers are provided.

CES holds the Clinic Every Saturday via Zoom at 10 am.
and every Wednesday at 6 pm for West Hollywood Renter
To request a link to register for any Clinic email: HelpingLarenters@gmail.com.

NEW EBT REPLACEMENT CARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

If your EBT was issued BEFORE October 2019, a NEW EBT card with enhanced security was mailed to you between February and May of 2022. Please begin using your new EBT card right away. EBT cards issued BEFORE October 2019 were declined as of June 20, 2022. Questions about your EBT card? Please call the EBT customer service line at (877) 328-9677.

FREE GOLDEN BEAR PASS FOR CALWORKS FAMILIES

To support the State of California's "Outdoors for All" initiative, the State Parks and Recreation and California Department of Social Services have made it easier for CalWORKs families to receive a Golden Bear Pass allowing FREE access to over 200 state beaches and parks through 2022. For more information visit [Golden Bear Pass \(ca.gov\)](#).

Job opportunities available!

Please click on the job title you are interested in to view the full job description and the application process. Provide a cover letter and current resume with your application that specifically outlines your employment history experience and educational background for the job for which you're applying.

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

- [Health Care Navigator/Enrollment Specialist - Health Coverage Programs](#)
- [IT Support Technician](#)
- [Health Programs and Benefits Trainer](#)

Maternal and Child Health Access

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