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President

Laurie Green, M.D.
Vice President

Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner

Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
Commissioner

Cecilia Chung
Commissioner

Suzanne Giraudo ED.D
Commissioner

Tessie M. Guillermo
Commissioner

**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO**

London N. Breed Mayor
Department of Public Health



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MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday December 21, 2021 4:00 p.m.

Remote Meeting via Webex Event

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner Dan Bernal President
Commissioner Laurie Green, MD, Vice President
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D.
Commissioner Cecilia Chung
Commissioner Suzanne Giraudo, Ph.D.
Commissioner Tessie Guillermo

Excused: Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm.

2) DPH EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS

The following DPH teams were recognized by the Health Commission for their dedication and impactful contributions to the health and well-being of all San Franciscans. The names of individual team members may be viewed at this link: <https://sf.gov/meeting/november-16-2021-health-commission-meeting>.

- LHH PHARMACY TEAM
- LHH PATIENT FLOW TEAM
- LHH SOCIAL SERVICES TEAM
- LHH NURSING OPERATIONS TEAM
- LHH EPIC CORE SUPER USERS
- LHH INFOMATICS TEAM
- LHH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING TEAM

3) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF DECEMBER 7, 2021

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the amended December 7, 2021 minutes.

4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Victoria Behrman, LHH physician, noted that she provided public comment to the Health Commission on 11/2/21 about privacy breaches related to the EPIC vaccination recording process for DPH staff. She noted that her worst fears were realized when 9 DPH doctors have had their identities stolen. She added that the physician's union would like to hire a cybercrime investigator to review the EPIC system to identify security risks to fix. She also requested that all DPH occupational records be stored on paper instead of EPIC to prevent this from happening in the future.

Director Colfax thanked the LHH leadership and all LHH staff, especially during the last challenging days of the pandemic.

5) LHH FY 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Michael T. Phillips, Chief Executive Officer, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Guillermo, LHH JCC chair, stated the annual report shows the incredible work done by all LHH staff over the past year. She thanked the LHH leadership for their vision and all the staff for their dedication. She added that there remain challenges of the ever-changing regulatory requirements and the pandemic. She thanked all LHH staff for their important and impactful work.

Commissioner Chow, LHH JCC member, stated that he was involved in the Blue Ribbon Commission reviewing LHH under Mayor Dianne Feinstein decades ago. He noted that the hospital has since developed systems and recruited leaders and staff providing excellent quality of care. He noted the incidents of privacy breaches and abuse of the LHH residents several years ago and gave credit to the LHH team for developing quality systems to improve the safety and care. He also stated that staff surveys indicate a higher level of staff satisfaction. He congratulated LHH for publications sharing its model.

Commissioner Chow stated that the Health Commission does not want another privacy breach and is aware the DPH is working to resolve the EPIC vaccination process issues. He looks forward to the Commission receiving an update on the progress of this process.

Commissioner Green, LHH JCC member, stated that she continues to be impressed with the extraordinary accomplishments of LHH, especially during the pandemic. She noted the collaborative spirit of the LHH staff and leadership.

6) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Grant Colfax, MD, DPH Director of Health, presented the data.

SF celebrates one-year anniversary of the first COVID-19 vaccine with 80% fully vaccinated

December 15 marked the one-year anniversary of the first COVID-19 vaccine administered in the City, a game-changing moment in the fight against the virus that put the City on a trajectory to recovery from the pandemic.

Since the first doses were administered, nearly 1.4 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been given out, inoculating about 750,000 San Franciscans with the best defense against the virus. The City also reached a new, important milestone with 80% of the total population fully vaccinated. The achievement is the result of a year's strategic effort in partnership with community groups and health systems to make the vaccine easily accessible at nearly 100 vaccination sites throughout the City and with dedicated outreach to highly impacted communities.

Among our "Vaxiversary" highlights:

- 55% children ages 5-11 with at least one dose in just over a month
- 70% of Black/African Americans and over 80% of Latina/o/x fully vaccinated
- 54% of people experiencing homelessness fully vaccinated
- 600+ mobile vaccination events to the elderly, home bound individuals, people experiencing homelessness, and other vulnerable communities
- 30+ community partnerships

On December 15, 2020, amid a surge in COVID cases and hospitalizations and with a regional stay at home order limiting holiday gatherings, San Francisco received its initial 12,675 doses from state and federal allocations. First to receive the vaccines were frontline health care workers at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, as well as residents of long-term care facilities, including nursing homes.

As San Francisco waited for more supply, hundreds of City staff deployed as Disaster Service Workers to the COVID Command Center (CCC) strategized and planned on getting vaccines into as many arms as possible. This objective resulted in standing up high-volume vaccine sites throughout the city with City College of San Francisco becoming the first high volume site in January 2021, followed by Moscone Center and SF Market in the Bayview in early February. Recognizing there would be access challenges for many people getting to high-volume vaccine sites and clinics, the CCC stood up low-barrier efforts to bring vaccines more directly to people. This included dispatching mobile vaccine teams to reach our most at-risk populations, including people with disabilities and other access and functional needs, and our unsheltered residents.

Meanwhile, in partnership with community-based organizations, DPH launched eight community vaccination hubs becoming cornerstones in the City's efforts to ensure that highly impacted communities had equitable access to vaccines at a rate of 10,000 doses per day.

As the vaccine rollout continued and more groups became eligible, San Francisco's efforts paid off as it emerged as a leader in the state and nation in high vaccination rates. In partnership with more than 30 community-based organizations and health system partners, the City supported numerous creative, community-led efforts to get shots in arms and further lower barriers to the vaccine. These efforts included pop-up vaccine events, door-to-door outreach, education, information, and listening sessions, and ongoing presence to make people feel heard and supported with information to support their vaccine decision.

A year later, San Francisco is clearly in a different, and arguably much better place as a result of our high vaccination rates, as well as other common-sense measures like testing and masking. While we face new challenges, such as the arrival of new and potentially more virulent strains, and waning immunity from the primary doses, the City remains vigilant and driven by science and data. A new effort is underway across our health system and community sites to administer boosters at a rapid clip, with more than 250,000 doses reaching 43% of the vaccinated population so far, and 68% of our seniors 65 and over who are at high risk.

COVID-19 may be with us for the long term, but San Francisco showed how it's possible to stay safe and healthy by working together and with the help of vaccines.

CA masking requirements update

On December 14, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) further [refined its indoor masking requirements](#). CDPH is allowing counties like San Francisco, which have kept masking in place for most indoor settings since August in order to slow the spread of COVID-19, to maintain their existing health orders around masking.

This refinement acknowledges the hard work of the people of San Francisco throughout the pandemic, including the ways in which we have maintained reasonable protections heading into the holiday season. This means that [stable cohorts of 100% fully vaccinated](#) people in select settings like workspaces and gyms will

continue to be allowed to remove masks when the necessary safety measures have been met. Other aspects of the City's health order requiring indoor masking in most indoor public settings remain in effect.

The City updated its main health order to conform to changes the State made this week regarding testing for children under 12 in Mega-Event settings and with other minor clarifications.

We will continue following the data especially around severe disease/hospitalizations and will make further adjustments to San Francisco's health order if needed. Please refer to other changes in state requirements around testing for mega-events, and recommendations for travelers returning to California at [this link](#).

Acquisition of two Tenderloin properties for expansion of Behavioral Health Services

On December 15, Mayor Breed announced the acquisition of two adjacent properties at 822 Geary Street and 629 Hyde Street that will expand behavioral health services in the Tenderloin neighborhood. This expansion is part of San Francisco's plan to add 400 new residential treatment spaces and overnight beds, 88 of which have already opened this year to support people with mental health and substance use disorders.

This site will be used for programs that get people with mental health and substance use issues off the street and connected to wraparound services. To meet this goal, DPH is considering using the two properties as a "crisis diversion unit" with up to 15 beds for people experiencing mental health crises. A separate possible use for the properties would be a safe consumption site to help prevent overdoses, prevent public drug use, and get people the care and treatment they need to deal with their addiction the moment they are ready. The crisis diversion unit and the safe consumption site would operate as independent programs, but both would work in close coordination to help address substance use and mental health crises.

The crisis diversion unit is one of the areas of need identified in the 2020 Behavioral Health Bed Optimization Project conducted by Dr. Anton Nigusse Bland, who served as the Mayor's Director of Mental Health Reform. The crisis diversion unit beds would fill gaps in San Francisco's crisis services and serve as an important short-term intervention for those experiencing an escalating psychiatric crisis and those who require rapid engagement, assessment, and intervention. It would also support in reducing arrests, emergency room visits, and hospitalizations, and be a location where the Street Crisis Response Team can bring people in need off the streets and into care.

For the latest update on San Francisco's residential care and treatment expansion, please visit: sf.gov/residential-care-and-treatment.

DPH and community organizations host Feeding 5,000 holiday giveaway

DPH in partnership with the San Francisco African American Faith-Based Coalition and other local community-based organizations hosted a holiday giveaway event called "Feeding 5000" on Saturday, December 11 to provide holiday resources to some of San Francisco's most vulnerable residents.

At the event, staff and volunteers distributed turkeys and trimming bags, gift cards, culturally appropriate foods, and other resources to community and faith-based organizations to be delivered to more than 5,000 households in San Francisco identified by the effort's partners as families in need of assistance. Items were distributed via a drive-through service at City College of San Francisco with strict COVID-19 safety procedures in place.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, one in four San Francisco residents were at risk of hunger due to income shortage. With an increased number of residents out of work, the number of people struggling to afford enough nutritious food is also increasing and the City's nonprofit partners have reported a surge in demand for food. In this effort, DPH is joined by the African American Faith Based Coalition, SF New Deal, and Together SF to bring these greatly needed services to the community.

Feeding 5000 builds on the longstanding efforts of many faith-based congregations to host weekly food pantries. When the pandemic hit, the pastors received DPH guidance on how they could protect their congregants and still meet the needs of the congregation. The Coalition pastors immediately began to develop remote worship services to support their congregants, and quickly pivoted into providing direct food support. Coalition Pastors and Liaisons have been delivering to 860+ households each week, and in 2021 distributed 30,000 grocery bags of food and staples, and 350,000 prepared meals, as well as holiday gift-cards.

[The San Francisco African American Faith-Based Coalition](#) is a health and wellness collaborative of over 21 churches in San Francisco. The Coalition is committed to advocating for the needs of the underserved African American community city-wide. Collectively, the members of the Coalition represent over 6,000 African American residents. The Coalition was launched in November of 2016, to address high priority health needs identified in the [2016 San Francisco Community Health Needs Assessment](#).

The SF African American Faith-Based Coalition leveraged partnerships with a variety of food providers (Arcadio's, Dixon Catering, Earl's Organics, Glide Memorial, Pacific Agri-Products Inc., SF New Deal, TogetherSF, and SF Marin-Food Bank) to obtain high quality, meals and groceries.

This collaborative effort includes: African American Arts and Cultural Center, A. Philip Randolph, B-Magic, Bayview Rotary, Bayview Senior Services, Bayview YMCA, Community Awareness Resources Entity, Community Living Campaign, Delta Sigma Theta, Department of Aging and Adult Services, Dream Keeper Initiative, Five-Point, Hirsch Philanthropy Partners, HOPESF, Imani Breast Cancer Group, Inner City Youth, Mother Browns, Office of Education and Workforce Development, Rafiki Coalition, Recology, Regional Pacific Islander, Related Management Company, Requity/Peace Parks, Salesforce, Samoan Community Development Center, The San Francisco Chapter of The Links Inc, San Francisco City College, San Francisco Rec & Park, San Francisco City College Police Department, San Francisco Fire Department, San Francisco Human Rights Commission, San Francisco Police Department, San Francisco Unified School District, Southwest Community Corp, Sojourner Truth Foster Family Services, Stand in Peace International, Taskforce, 3rd Street Youth Center, UCSF, Uniti Resources, and USF.

DPH wins prestigious Quality Leaders Award

DPH won the prestigious [2021 CAPH/SNI Quality Leaders Award \(QLA\)](#) for our entry *San Francisco's Safe Return to In-Person Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic* in the **Innovation** category. The Innovation Award is for new or cutting-edge examples of technology, models of care, and/or system transformation that improves health outcomes and care delivery. This award reflects the groundbreaking work to reopen schools safely in San Francisco during the COVID-19 pandemic. At the awards ceremony, DPH staff including Dr. Naveena Bobba, Ana Validzic, Jenna Bilinski, and Danielle Taylor made comments and accepted the award in this [video](#). Congratulations to our Schools Team on this honor!

[DPH in the News](#)

LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION CENTER

December 2021

Health Commission - Director of Health Report

(December 2, 2021 Medical Exec Committee)

	December	(FY 2021-2022) Year-to-Date
<i>New Appointments</i>	1	11
Reinstatements	0	0
<i>Reappointments</i>	2	27
Delinquencies:	0	0
Reappointment Denials:	0	0
Resigned/Retired/Separated	0	9
<i>Disciplinary Actions</i>	0	0
<i>Restriction/Limitation-Privileges</i>	0	0
Deceased	0	1
<i>Changes in Privileges</i>		
Additions	0	0
Voluntary Relinquishments	0	0
Proctorship Completed	0	1
Proctorship Extension	0	0

<i>Current Statistics – as of 11/30/2021</i>		
Active Medical Staff	36	
As-Needed Medical Staff	14	
<i>External Consultant Medical Staff</i>	45	
<i>Courtesy Medical Staff</i>	2	
<i>Affiliated Health Practitioners</i>	8	
TOTAL MEMBERS	105	

<i>Applications in Process</i>	1
<i>Applications Withdrawn this month</i>	0

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Bernal thanked Director Colfax for the report.

Health Commission

December 21, 2021

7) COVID-19 UPDATE

Grant Colfax, MD, DPH Director of Health, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Green asked for more information regarding the reason California exempted the mask requirement for San Francisco. Dr. Susan Philip, San Francisco Health Officer, stated that California stated that any jurisdiction that already had its own masking requirement could maintain their own policies in place.

Commissioner Green asked for more information regarding where the public can find out what to do after they receive a positive COVID test. Dr. Philip stated that anyone interested in information regarding vaccine sites may find it on the DPH website. She also recommended that when someone receives a positive result on a rapid test, to isolate for 10 days per the CDC recommendation. She sent the following link after the meeting, noting that the tab "Stay Healthy has information for what to do after receiving a positive COVID test,"

<https://sf.gov/topics/coronavirus-covid-19>.

Commissioner Bernal asked for more information regarding instructions for someone who has a known exposure. Dr. Philip stated that for those who are vaccinated, and remain asymptomatic, there is no recommendation to quarantine. If someone experiences any symptoms, the individual should quarantine and continue to test until a negative test result is given. She noted that this area is rapidly changing in regarding to CDC and state recommendations.

8) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Commissioner Giraudo stated that the committee discussed a presentation on DPH Food Insecurity activities. She noted that the pandemic has resulted in a serious increase in food insecurity for many San Franciscans. The DPH is doing incredible and effective work within many communities to assist with this issue. The Committee requested that the presenters send specific program goals for 2022 to the Committee so these can be tracked throughout the year.

9) OTHER BUSINESS:

This item was not discussed.

10) CLOSED SESSION

- A) Public comments on All Matters Pertaining to the Closed Session
- B) Vote on whether to hold a Closed Session (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.11)
- C) Closed Session Pursuant to Evidence Code Sections 1156, 1156.1, 1157, 1157.5 and 1157.6; Health and Safety Code Section 1461; and California Constitution, Article I, Section 1.

CONSIDERATION OF ZSFG CREDENTIALING MATTERS

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

1. Possible report on action taken in closed session (Government Code Section 54957.1(a)2 and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(b)(2).)
2. *Vote to elect whether to disclose any or all discussions held in closed session (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a).)*

Action Taken: The Health Commission voted unanimously to not disclose the discussion held in closed session.

11) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05pm.