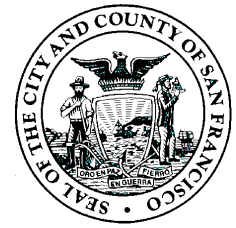


Dan Bernal
President
Laurie Green, M.D.
Vice President
Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner
Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
Commissioner
Cecilia Chung
Commissioner
Suzanne Giraud ED.D
Commissioner
Tessie M. Guillermo
Commissioner

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

**London N. Breed Mayor
Department of Public Health**



Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health
Mark Morewitz, M.S.W.
Executive Secretary

TEL (415) 554-2666
FAX (415) 554-2665
Web Site: <http://www.sfdph.org>

**MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday September 19, 2023 4:00 p.m.
101 Grove Street, Room 300
San Francisco, CA 94102 & via Webex**

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 Giraud, Ph.D
Commissioner Tessie Guillermo

Excused: Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.

The meeting was called to order at 4:03pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023.

Public Comment:

Patrick Monette Shaw made verbal comments and submitted the following summary:

The "Minutes" of this Commission's 9/5/2023 meeting report Dr. Colfax claimed LHH's Medicare application was submitted on 8/23/2023. But no explanation was given as to why the Board of Supervisors Budget and Legislative Analyst (BLA) had issued a report on September 6 about the emergency repairs at LHH in which the BLA asserted LHH's Medicare recertification application was going to be submitted on 9/17/2023. These minutes also report Dr. Terry Palmer and other members of the public are concerned about when admissions to LHH will resume. Subsequently Mr. Pickens claimed that LHH is waiting to resume admissions to LHH until more Activity Therapists and Food Service Workers are brought on board. It sounds distinctly as if LHH may have authority to resume admissions, but is claiming staff shortages are delaying the restart of admissions, despite the fact that LHH has retained consistent staffing but with 490 residents as of 8/22/2023.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the September 5, 2023 minutes.

3) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment.

4) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

Director Colfax stated that because LHH has been recertified by Medicaid, the settlement agreement with CMS related to that recertification effort is no longer in effect; therefore there will be no CMS mandated LHH resident discharges or transfers. He also stated that the DPH launched an Overdose Data Dashboard and information regarding the number of people accessing substance use treatment: [Drug overdose and treatment data and reports | San Francisco \(sf.gov\)](#)

LONG-TERM FUTURE OF LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL SECURE AS THE STATE GRANTS MEDICAID RECERTIFICATION

In a major victory for the City and County of San Francisco, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) approved Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH) for Medicaid recertification, meaning critical Medicaid dollars will continue to flow to the institution. With more than 95% of LHH's residents relying on Medicaid funding for their care, this ensures that LHH will continue to serve San Francisco's most vulnerable residents for generations to come.

Laguna Honda Hospital represents a significant and extensive commitment by San Francisco to publicly fund a long-term care facility and hospital for those with limited means. Representing more than 30% of all skilled nursing beds in San Francisco, LHH provides safety net healthcare services to hundreds of the City's most vulnerable individuals with complex medical and care needs. There are few facilities in the area capable of caring for these residents, and even fewer that will accept them.

In April 2022, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) terminated LHH's participation in Medicare and Medicaid Provider Program. Since that time, LHH staff have made the facility-wide improvements necessary to improve resident care and safety and the significant changes to meet the rigorous regulatory requirements and timelines set by CMS. Based on this progress, LHH applied for recertification into the Medicaid Provider Program on Friday, August 11, 2023.

CDPH and DHCS, which oversee the Medicaid recertification process for CMS, approved the application and granted recertification in the Medicaid Provider Program, restoring certainty to the system that supports LHH residents. The recertification of LHH provides relief to residents and their families who can now be secure about the future of Laguna Honda.

LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL UPDATE

In August, Laguna Honda Hospital was recertified in the Medicaid Provider Program, and also submitted an application for Medicare recertification. Both actions are critical to securing the long-term future of Laguna Honda, and demonstrate the significant progress that has been made in the areas of patient care, patient safety, fire and life safety, and operations.

We are now subject to a full survey by CMS, which could happen at any time, and without notice.

Thank you to everyone who put in the hard work to make these significant successes happen, including Mayor London Breed and our elected leaders, the Health Commission, union partners, and Laguna Honda staff.

Laguna Honda remains focused on achieving recertification with CMS, as well as sustaining the improvements that have been made so we can deliver a world-class skilled nursing facility for our residents and families.

CHANGES TO COVID-19 COMMUNITY TESTING

San Francisco remains a model for COVID-19 response, and we continue to respond effectively as we enter the endemic phase, continuing to slow the spread of the virus and care for our residents. San Francisco continues to see high rates of vaccination and low hospitalizations.

With the federal COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency declaration ended as of May 2023 and demand for services decreased, our efforts have moved from emergency response to providing robust COVID-19 prevention and care through our normal operations within DPH.

Utilizing a smaller COVID-19 budget than in previous years when San Francisco received federal and state funding to fight the pandemic, we are keenly focusing public health resources in ways that are most effective and impactful. We are continuing to explore options for vendor services to better meet the potential future needs of the community.

Currently, as we align services with available budget and as demand for daily COVID-19 testing and vaccination have dramatically decreased, effective September 1, 2023, DPH will:

1. Transition from PCR tests to rapid antigen tests at COVID-19 community-based testing sites.
2. Permanently close the following COVID-19 community testing sites:
 - 1099 Sunnysdale Ave, San Francisco, CA 94134
 - 2055 Sunnysdale Ave, San Francisco, CA 94134
 - GLIDE Memorial Church Parking Lot, 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, CA 94102

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the community testing sites have served their purpose as a resource for those most in need of testing services such as uninsured individuals. Over time, the community testing sites have been increasingly used by those with private insurance, who could obtain testing via their regular provider.

The update to the community testing sites is part of the approach to return to normal mechanisms of delivering healthcare, in hospitals and clinics. It is also an important step in focusing the City's public health efforts for COVID-19 as a safety net for those who are uninsured or under-insured and have difficulty accessing care.

San Franciscans who have been utilizing the testing sites will remain well-served. We will continue to prioritize BIPOC communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. DPH will continue to provide services at two community testing sites in or near priority neighborhoods.

DPH will initially start in-house services, with the goal to transfer back to vendor services. In addition, people will be able to pick up rapid test kits to take home, reducing need to leave the house to get a test while feeling ill. Tests will continue to be available at:

Ella Hill Hutch
1050 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94115
Monday and Thursday
9:00am-1:00pm

Southeast Health Center
2401 Keith St. San Francisco, CA 94124
Tuesday and Wednesday
9:00am-1:00pm

Rapid tests quickly identify higher levels of the virus through same day test results within 10-15 minutes. This is important to help guide people with the information they need to make decisions about their health. Getting tested and treated early for COVID-19 is the best way to prevent serious illness, and our testing sites will also provide information on how people can get treatment. We will continue to reach out to partner with community stakeholders to ensure continuous dialogue and transparency as information becomes available.

Please visit our website <https://sf.gov/find-out-about-your-covid-19-testing-options> to learn more about COVID-19 resources.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHINATOWN PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER'S TEEN HEAL INTERNSHIP GRADUATES

On August 5, Chinatown Public Health Center (CPHC) held its 2022-2023 Teen HEAL Graduation and 2023-2024 new intern induction ceremony. CPHC's Teen Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) Internship Program is sponsored by Gum Moon/Asian Women's Resource Center and CPHC/DPH, and is co-sponsored by Chinatown YMCA. It is designed to empower youths to improve their nutritional and physical well-being, as well as foster leadership skills. The program was started in 2019.

During the internship, interns were taught eight nutrition skills: building a healthy plate, shopping smart, making healthy snacks, eating out right, managing your weight, staying active, exploring the benefits of organic food and vegetarianism, managing stress, and healthy cooking. They also learned leadership skills, such as program planning, goal setting, public speaking, communication strategies, and social awareness. Interns utilized their nutrition and leadership training to serve their peers by leading HEAL clubs at their schools to promote healthy cooking, healthy eating habits and active lifestyles. This past year, five HEAL school clubs completed a total of 65 club meetings and 633 encounters. They also served their community by teaching children at Chinatown YMCA, summer camps at the Gum Moon/Asian Women's Resource Center, the seniors at Self Help for the Elderly, and senior housing units and SRO families.

The interns completed a 2022-2023 Teen HEAL Yearbook on their Champion stories and recipes that they have modified themselves to display both their understanding of making healthy substitutes and creativity with different flavors, along with a reflection of the self-growth they have experienced as a result of the program. For more info and get your copy of the HEAL yearbook, please contact Catherine Wong, Nutrition Manager, CPHC at Catherine.wong@sfdph.org.

DPH LEADERS RECOGNIZED WITH ACHE REGENT'S AWARDS

The American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) is an international professional society of more than 48,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE's mission is to advance members and healthcare leadership excellence who are committed to integrity, lifelong learning, leadership, diversity, and inclusion. ACHE is also the only organization to provide the prestigious FACHE® credential, signifying board certification in healthcare management. Yearly, the ACHE Regent, along with Healthcare Leaders across Northern and Central California, select senior-level healthcare executives and early career healthcare executives to receive the highly competitive ACHE Regent's Award. This year, two of the San Francisco Health Network's executives were recognized on August 24, 2023.

- Corina Clark, who currently serves as the San Francisco Health Network's Executive Administrator/VP for Health at Home and Integrated Rehabilitation Services, was recognized with the ACHE Regent's Early Careerist Award. This recognition is awarded to leaders who model the ACHE Code of Ethics, have demonstrated leadership in advancing and sustaining Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, both in healthcare and the community, and participate in ACHE national chapter activities as well as in hospital or health association activities (local/regional/state/national) and civic/community activities and projects.
- Baljeet S. Sangha, FACHE who currently serves as the San Francisco Health Network's Chief Operating Officer and LHH Recertification Co-Incident Commander, was recognized with ACHE's Senior Level Careerist Award. This recognition is awarded to leaders who are board certified Fellows of ACHE,

hold a senior level executive role in their current organization, model the ACHE Code of Ethics, have demonstrated leadership in advancing and sustaining Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, both in healthcare and the community, work to actively develop one's organization and promote its growth and stature in the community, participate in and lead ACHE (national and chapter) activities, provide leadership in hospital or health association activities (local/regional/state/national) and civic/community activities and projects, and actively contribute to the development of leaders in the healthcare profession.

Congratulations to Corina and Baljeet on their awards! DPH is lucky to have leaders like them on our team.

SECURITY ESCORT PROGRAM LAUNCHES AT ZSFG

In response to feedback we received from this year's Employee Engagement and Safety Survey, ZSFG Hospital has launched a new Security Escort Pilot Program in collaboration with Allied Security, Care Experience and DPH Security. The safety of our staff is among our highest priorities, and as a safety improvement, trained security officers are now stationed at strategic locations across ZSFG campus, such as the employee lot, Vermont Street, and the lot at 23rd Street to provide escorts for employees to their vehicles. This program helps ensure staff safety during shift changes. The program augments the services provided by the City's Sheriff's department on campus who are available to staff by request to escort them to their vehicle.

ZSFG RECEIVES MATERNITY CARE HONOR ROLL AWARD

The California Health & Human Services and Cal Hospital Compare recognized ZSFG as a hospital that consistently demonstrates a strong culture of safety across multiple departments in the Maternity Care Honor Roll. The 2023 Maternity Care Honor Roll recognized hospitals that meet or surpass the statewide target aimed at reducing births via c-section in first-time mothers with low-risk pregnancies. This year's award reflects calendar year 2022 hospital discharge and birth certificate data from 211 California hospitals that offer maternity services and participate in the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative's Maternal Data Center (CMQCC's MDC). Great work, ZSFG!

ZSFG RECEIVES OPIOID TEAM HONOR ROLL AWARD

California HSS and Cal Hospital Compare also recognized ZSFG for the hospital's efforts to increase access to addiction treatment for patients and the reduction of opioid-related deaths by placing the hospital on the state's HSS Opioid Care Honor Roll. All California adult, acute care hospitals were invited to participate. ZSFG was one of 110 hospitals that submitted data sharing our progress on implementing evidence-based practices to address the opioid crisis. Participation in the Opioid Care Honor Roll is a signal to California's health care community that all 110 hospitals are actively accelerating and strengthening their opioid stewardship programs. ZSFG was one of 35 hospitals that achieved "Excellent Progress." Hospitals achieving Excellent Progress have taken steps to spread and scale appropriate opioid prescribing guidelines, opioid use disorder treatment, and overdose prevention strategies across one or more service lines that reduce the use and risk of opioids for patients who visit emergency rooms, new patients with pain, and patients being discharged to reduce the likelihood of chronic use. Congratulations to ZSFG on this additional achievement!

WELLNESS/ANIMAL THERAPY AT ZSFG

The Staff Experience team at ZSFG Hospital has been hard at work with their efforts leading up to the recent re-opening of the Wellness Center, which had been closed to in-person events since the onset of the COVID pandemic. The team leveraged August's theme of National Wellness Month as a foundation to coordinate a variety of wellness events for staff. In addition to weekly virtual classes and in-person Zumba, Bootcamp and Yoga, well-being pop-ups and the official "Restore" opening event of the Wellness Center, they also hosted an Animal Therapy Day. The pet therapy session at the Wellness Center allowed staff to spend time with three volunteer service dogs and their humans. Spending time with companion animals has proven health benefits and this event at ZSFG brought smiles to many!

COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 8/31:

- San Francisco's 7-day rolling average of new COVID cases per day is 68 and there are 52 COVID hospitalizations.
- Eighty-six percent of all SF residents have been vaccinated and 65% have received booster dose(s). Forty-one percent of residents have received a bivalent booster.
-

[DPH in the News](#)

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal stated that he is heartened to see an increase in admissions for residential treatment beds.

Commissioner Chow noted that there is a lot of discussion in the media about the new COVID-19 vaccine and asked if there are recommended criteria to determine who should get the shot. Director Colfax stated that anyone over 6 months of age is recommended to get the new vaccine.

5) **RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GIFT OF \$57,264 FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION**

Gregory Wong, Administrative Analyst, presented the item.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the resolution. (See attachment)

6) **LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION CENTER (LHH) CLOSURE PLAN AND CMS RECERTIFICATION UPDATE**

Sandra Simon, LHH Nursing Administrator and Chief Executive Officer, presented the item.

Public Comment:

Ann Colichidas, Gerontologist and Gray Panther member, made verbal comments and submitted the following written comments:

Thank you for using your position to pursue the best long-term care at LHH for all San Franciscans. For the San Francisco Gray Panthers, Laguna Honda Hospital has been and continues to be a core issue. The nursing home of San Francisco and merciful last resort for the most vulnerable elders, LHH is an institution with a historical mission worth preserving. Of highest priority: Certification, Admissions Resume, Obtain waiver for the 120 beds, Priority admission for San Francisco residents, Oversight, and More mental health services in an appropriate setting.

Patrick Monette Shaw made verbal comments and submitted the following summary:

It's disturbing hearing in Mr. Pickens' Executive Team report LHH submitted the wrong application for Medicare recertification on August 23. It's inconceivable CMS would have told LHH to submit a "change of information" application" instead of an application to obtain recertification. It's more disturbing Mr. Pickens stated during the LHH-JCC meeting on 9/5/23 "*LHH and the QIE have mutually agreed to pause milestone reviews, effective 8/24/23, during the current CMS Medicare Survey window, ...*" Now more than ever, those milestones corrective actions should be consistently on-going. After all, each subsequent "*Root Cause Analysis*" report, and each subsequent "*Monthly Status Report*" on the 10th of each month, keep documenting LHH staff member failures to adhere to and sustain milestones that have been underway since January 2023, particularly noncompliance with infection control "*Plans of Correction*" that have been underway ever since LHH was decertified in April 2022.

Janice E. Cohen, MD, Pacific Institute for Health Innovation, submitted the following written comments:

Who in SF leadership is responsible for the continuing mismanagement of LHH, which if not immediately reversed, will inevitably result in its closure. Who in SF leadership is responsible for accurate, timely responses to critical questions being asked by primary stakeholders and Grey Panthers' public health advocate and community leader Dr. Teresa Palmer. Who is responsible for the incorrect Medicare application having been submitted? And when will the correct one be submitted? What new clinical admission protocols do you plan to establish to prevent the inappropriate admission of acutely behaviorally unstable patients from ZSFG - patients whose violent, dangerous and/or illegal behaviors led to harm to other LHH residents and decertification. Will you/would you ask CDPH for immediate assistance with the waiver on the 120 bed cut? How will CDPH rectify their failure to keep up with responses to LHH complaints?

Carol Bettencourt submitted the following written public comment:

I am concerned the recent announcement that Laguna Honda did not submit the correct form in seeking Medicare recertification demonstrates continued mismanagement. This raises the question of how to increase oversight so that repeated mismanagement does not doom Laguna Honda to closure. I am also concerned by something that I don't see in the Executive Report. At the September 12, 2023, Health Commission meeting, Mr. Pickens basically said that Laguna Honda is not ready to resume admissions, including due to inadequate staffing. I am afraid that an increasing number of discharge notices, which I have heard about, is an effort to reduce further and inappropriately the population at Laguna Honda in a misguided attempt to address the staffing shortage. As we saw with the deaths after the transfers when certification ended, residents pay a high price for this mismanagement. Patient needs must come first!

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Bernal acknowledged the work of the entire LHH team and DPH leadership in getting LHH to this place in its recertification processes. He noted that CMS instructed LHH to use an application; LHH submitted that application and CMS later indicated that LHH must use a different application. CMS sent a consultant to assist LHH in transferring information to the new application. He acknowledged the frustration of the situation for LHH staff and leaders.

Commissioner Guillermo thanked Ms. Simon for making her first presentation before the Health Commission. She asked if there is any indication of the timing of the survey team and whether it will be comprised of CMS or CDPH staff, or possibly a mix of both entities. Troy Williams, LHH CMS Recertification Co-Incident Commander, stated that the survey is completely unannounced and LHH is not notified of who will make up the survey team until they arrive onsite.

Commissioner Chow noted that because LHH is doing continuous quality improvement, the pausing of the milestones does not signify a pause in quality improvement activities. Ms. Simon stated that quality improvement at LHH is continuous; many quality improvement activities of the LHH QAPI programs mirror activities related to milestones. She added that LHH continues to be survey ready by doing ongoing quality improvement work. She also stated that LHH has implemented a interdisciplinary system to monitor and sustain quality improvement work.

Director Colfax stated that the incident command structure continues to be in place at LHH. He recently visited the facility and observed an interdisciplinary meeting; he was impressed with the different teams working together to solve problems, set up systems, assign metrics, and assign timelines for quality improvement work.

7) JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AND OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Tessie Guillermo LHH JCC Chair, stated that at the September 12th Laguna Honda Joint Conference Committee, the members reviewed standard reports including the Regulatory Affairs Report, Human Resources Report, and reviewed an early version of the hospital update presented at today’s meeting. The committee also reviewed and recommended that the full Commission approve the policies on the Consent Calendar with the caveat that LHH respond to Commissioner questions through acceptable revisions. LHH staff have responded to our requests with acceptable revisions.

Public Comment:

Patrick Monette Shaw made verbal comments and submitted the following summary:

Missing from Commissioner Guillermo’s LHH-JCC 9/12/2023 meeting update report is any mention that during the 9/12/2023 Executive Team report I submitted 1,627 signatures initially collected during a Change.org on-line petition drive addressed to Board of Supervisors President Aaron Peskin and Health Commission president Daniel Bernal. The signatures demonstrate broad community support to submit the waiver application, including 410 (25%) collected from San Franciscans and our neighbors in the Greater Bay Area. 570 (35%) came from all California jurisdictions. I testified acting CEO Roland Pickens told San Francisco’s Board of Supervisors on May 9 there’s a waiver process, and CMS/CDPH expressed it’s open to the waiver. Pickens was confident LHH meets the waiver requirements, a decision Tomás Aragón, Director of CDPH, can approve. Has this LHH-JCC directed Sandra Simon to immediately submit LHH’s waiver request directly to CDPH’s Tomás Aragón, yet? If not, why the further delay submitting the waiver application?

Dr. Teresa Palmer asked if there has been a discussion about how to give sufficient oversight to LHH to avoid this from happening again. LHH needs to employ leaders who know how to operate a nursing home, not just a hospital. There will be intense political pressure to use LHH beds for non-skilled nursing home care, but nursing home beds are needed for the elderly and disabled.

8) CONSENT CALENDAR

Action taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the following:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>Policy No.</u>	<u>Policy Title</u>
1	Facility-wide	N/A	Acute Patient Classification System (PCS) and Staffing Requirements
2	Facility-wide	20-06	Out on Pass
3	Facility-wide	20-14	Leave of Absence and bed Hold
4	Facility-wide	22-07-A01	Restraint Free Environment
5	Facility-wide	23-01	Resident Care Plan, Resident Care Team, and Resident Care Conference
6	Facility-wide	22-19	Family Council
7	Facility-wide	22-03	Resident/Patient Rights
8	Facility-wide	22-03_Appx A	List of Resident/Patient Rights
9	Facility-wide	23-03	Screening and Response to Suicidal Ideation
10	Facility-wide	70-01 C2	Spill Response Plan
11	Facility-wide	70-01 C5	Emergency Responder Antibiotic Dispensing Plan
12	Facility-wide	70-01 C7	Power Outage Response Plan
13	Facility-wide	70-01 C10	Code-Silver-Active Shooter
14	Facility-wide	73-01	Injury and Illness Prevention Program

15	Facility-wide	73-02	Asbestos and Lead Management Plan
16	Facility-wide	73-05	Workplace Violence Prevention Program
17	Facility-wide	73-06	Bloodborne Pathogen Expos
18	Facility-wide	73-10	Handling and Storage of Medical Gases
19	Facility-wide	73-11	Medical Waste Management Program
20	Facility-wide	73-12	Safe Resident Handling
21	Facility-wide	73-13	Employee Annual Health Examination
22	Facility-wide	73-14	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Policy
23	Facility-wide	73-17	Hazardous Energy Control Procedure (Lock Out/Tag Out)
24	EVS	XI	Environmental Services Policy & Procedures
25	Nursing	D1 2.0	Residents Activities of Daily Living
26	Nursing	D2 3.0 Att. 1a	Tub Bath and Showers
27	Nursing	D5 4.0	Arm Sling
28	Nursing	D6 1.1	Battery Operated Lift Transfer
29	Nursing	D6 2.0	Transfer Techniques
30	Nursing	D6 5.0	Ambulation
31	Nursing	D9 2.0	Bed Making
32	Nursing	D9 6.0	Water pitchers
33	Nursing	F1.0	Assistance with elimination
34	Nursing	G 4.0	Measuring Height and Weight
35	Nursing	G5.0	Blood Glucose Monitoring
36	Nursing	K 9.0	Management of Residents on Hemodialysis
37	Nursing	D2 2.0	Bathing Alternatives
38	Nursing	M 15.0	Remove Portable Bed Alarm Skills Checklist

9) **DPH HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE**

Luenna Kim, DPH Human Resources Director, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Guillermo noted that there seems to have been tremendous progress in the DPH Human Resource Department. She asked if it is more difficult to hire experienced licensed professionals or newly licensed professionals. Ms. Kim stated that newly hired nurses are assigned the night shift; this can be a barrier to hiring experienced nurses who do not want to work the night shift. She noted that recently 200 experienced nurses and 700 new nurses applied recently for DPH positions.

Commissioner Guillermo asked if there is a sense of competition from other entities hiring from the same group. Ms. Kim stated that salaries are determined by the City Charter. DPH Human Resources is doing a deeper dive into the situation to better understand obstacles to hiring and how best to utilize clinical and administrative positions. Commissioner Guillermo noted that the cost of living in the Bay area is an issue for folks moving here.

Commissioner Green asked if the DPH has a sense of the amount of time it takes Kaiser or Sutter to hire nurses and behavioral health clinicians. She also noted that it is important to understand retention best practices at local institutions too. Ms. Kim stated that she assigned a new DPH recruiter to look at other local institutions' hiring and recruiting practices. She also noted that the DPH is part of a group of Bay area public hospitals which discusses hiring issues so everyone can learn together.

Commissioner Green asked what type of latitude the DPH has to ensure behavioral health clinicians work at the top of their licenses. Ms. Kim stated that all DPH staff must work within the scope of their city classification.

Commissioner Giraudo suggested that DPH Human Resources connect to the existing DPH Behavioral Health Services pipeline because the interns and students in the pipeline have already been trained and acculturated to DPH culture.

Commissioner Bernal thanked Ms. Kim for the progress she has made during her relatively short tenure. Director Colfax thanked Ms. Kim and the DPH Human Resources team; he noted that under her leadership, DPH Human Resources has progressed tremendously.

10) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Commissioner Giraudo stated that the Community and Public Health Committee discussed presentations on HIV Health Services, which gets 82% of its funding through Ryan White Part A. The section manages 65 contracts and 78 programs. She added that the committee also discussed a presentation on current research and epidemiology data on substance use from the Center on Substance Use and Public Health. She noted the center reported on studies looking at stimulant use, opioid use, and alcohol use. She noted that the Center Director reported that 90% of opioid deaths in San Francisco are Fentanyl-related.

Public Comment

Dr. Teresa Palmer stated that at the last committee meeting there was a rich discussion of issues related to the Hunter's Point Shipyard. She would like to hear more about this topic and know how the community is going to be helped.

Ann Colichidas asked if the committee can help adopt practical solutions that Dr. Sumchai offered such as the mining curtain. The federal and state regulatory bodies are very limited in what they offer the community. She wonders if the Health Commission might have a broader influence and would appreciate hearing more on the issue.

11) OTHER BUSINESS:

Director Colfax noted that there were air quality issues at the time of the meeting and that the DPH is working in close collaboration with the Department of Emergency Management. The DPH will use the "Alert SF" and other mechanisms to communicate with the public.

Commissioner Giraudo noted that the SFGH Foundation is having its annual retreat on Thursday, September 26.

12) CLOSED SESSION

- A) Public comments on all matters pertaining to the Closed Session. (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.15).
- B) Vote on whether to hold a Closed Session.
- C) Closed Session pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957(b) and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(b):

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:
HEALTH COMMISSION EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, MARK MOREWITZ (ACTION)

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

1. Discussion and Vote to elect whether to disclose any portion of the closed session discussion that is not confidential under Federal or State law, The Charter, or Non-Waivable Privilege (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a).)
2. Possible report on action taken in closed session (Government Code Sections 54957.1(a) and 54957.7(b) and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(b).

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

13) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39pm.

Health Commission
City and County of San Francisco
Resolution No. 23_09

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GIFT OF \$57,264.40 FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Public Health Foundation (Foundation) supports the Department of Public Health (Department) by offering educational programs, organizational, and operational activities for the physical and mental health of the residents of the City and County of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Foundation donated \$57,264.40 to fund the Department's programs, services, and operations; and

WHEREAS, The Department will obtain approval from the Board of Supervisors to accept this donation from the Foundation as required by the San Francisco Administrative Code; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Health Commission recommends that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Department to accept and expend a gift of cash of up to fifty-seven thousand, two hundred and sixty-four dollars and forty cents (\$57,264.40) to support the goal of helping the residents of the City and County of San Francisco; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the gift will be accepted and expended consistent with San Francisco Administrative Code Sections governing the acceptance of gifts to the City and County of San Francisco, including San Francisco Administrative Code Section 10.100-305.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting on September 19, 2023, adopted the foregoing resolution.

Mark Morewitz, MSW
Health Commission Executive Secretary