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**HEALTH COMMISSION
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MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday September 19, 2023 2:00 p.m.
101 Grove Street, Room 300
San Francisco, CA 94102 & via Webex

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner Suzanne Giraudo, Ph.D , Chair
Commissioner Cecilia Chung, Member

Excused: Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.

The meeting was called to order at 4:07pm. The order of items 3 and 4 were switched due to the delay of one of the presenters.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING OF AUGUST 15, 2023 MEETING

Action Taken: The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

3) CURRENT RESEARCH & EPIDEMIOLOGY OF SUBSTANCE USE AT THE CENTER ON SUBSTANCE USE AND HEALTH

Phillip Coffin, MD MIA, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Giraudo asked if there is research on the increase of opioid use and fentanyl-laced substances in younger populations. Dr. Coffin stated that there is not separate studies on a younger population. He noted that through the SORT program data, they study unintentional fentanyl exposure to understand why and how often this is happening. He noted that Fentanyl is in pills, cocaine, MDMA, and methamphetamine. He added that stimulants can be put into Fentanyl to help cut the sedative quality of the drug.

Commissioner Giraudo asked if Fentanyl strips are useful in detecting the drug. Dr. Coffin stated that these strips are a good intervention for those who do not use heavy drugs on a regular basis; they are not as viable for those who use heavy drugs regularly. He noted that the strips can sometimes show a false positive.

4) HIV HEATH SERVICES UPDATE

Bill Blum, LCSW, Director, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chung noted that Ryan White funded residential care facilities for the elderly (RCFE) will not continue and asked how the DPH is funding these services now. Mr. Blum stated that these services were begun about 15 years ago through Ryan White Part B. They were designed as a medical model. As people with HIV became more stable, a social model was added to assist with mental health and substance use issues. The state wanted to stop running these services; San Francisco wanted to continue these services but had the challenge of not having housing to refer clients to after discharge.

Commissioner Chung noted that people with HIV are aging and asked what planning is happening to address the need for integrated care for this population. Mr. Blum stated that San Francisco has one program for elders with HIV. The DPH is looking to augment mental health services for long term survivors.

Commissioner Giraudo asked how the limited number of staff in HIV Health Services monitor so many contracts and programs. Mr. Blum stated that the DPH Business Office monitors contracts but has limited awareness of issues in the community. He noted that any unit of service from an HIV Health Services contract must be entered into a separate state database to ensure tracking and non-duplication of services.

Commissioner Giraudo asked how HIV Health Services works with other DPH sections that deal with HIV. Mr. Blum stated that all DPH entities that relate to HIV meet monthly and also meet with the Getting to Zero team. Commissioner Giraudo stated that she is concerned about silos and that there be communication between sections that relate to similar topics.

5) EMERGING ISSUES

This issue was not discussed.

6) PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

7) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:27pm.