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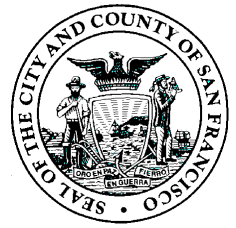
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Commissioner

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Commissioner

**Suzanne Girauo ED.D**  
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**MINUTES**

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

**Tuesday April 16, 2023 2:00 p.m.**

**101 Grove Street, Room 300  
San Francisco, CA 94102 & via Webex**

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

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

Excused: Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.

Commissioner Christian called the meeting to order at 2:01pm.

**2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2024 MEETING**

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

**3) JAIL HEALTH UPDATE**

Lisa Pratt, MD, Director, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chung asked for clarification of the average stay in the San Francisco County Jail. Dr. Pratt stated that everyone has to be arraigned within 72 hours of being arrested and many are released within 24 hours. After 7 days post arrest, 90% of people are discharged. The remaining population has longer stays in jail. There is no average stay for this population; a small portion of the jail population stays for years to due to serious charges and complex cases.

Commissioner Girauo asked for more information regarding Jail Health CalAim initiatives. Tanya Mera, Director of Jail Psychiatric Services stated that in October 2024, jails have to submit a readiness assessment showing that they are preparing 6 months in advance of the start of the new initiatives, which will provide better health outcomes and lower costs, provide pharmaceutical medications and necessary equipment upon release, and connection to community providers. She noted that the San Francisco County Jails already offer a

much higher quality of service than any other California County Jail. The biggest change is that DPH can bill Medi-Cal for services provided to those incarcerated. The billing requires that jails provide discharged planning and medications which will initiate a change in the current Sheriff Department and Jail Health processes. CalAIM requires that within 48 hours of a behavioral needs assessment, Jail staff must connect individuals with community health services. Jail Health will now begin planning for discharge at intakes. In addition, Medi-Cal will no longer be suspended when someone is incarcerated and people who are eligible for Medi-Cal can be signed up while in jail.

Commissioner Giraudo asked for a projection of the number of new positions that will be required to fulfill these new requirements. Ms. Mera stated that appropriately 12-15 new positions will be needed. She anticipates that revenue generated from Medi-Cal billing for services provided in jail will cover these costs on an ongoing basis. She noted that the biggest cost will be expanding pharmacy hours.

Commissioner Giraudo asked when San Francisco will begin these new initiatives. Ms. Mera stated that they will officially start in April 2025.

Commissioner Chung asked how effective treatment can be when someone has a short jail stay. Ms. Mera stated that short stays are challenging. Jail Health Services works with DPH Behavioral Health Services and community services to link an individual to care upon release. When there is time, Jail Health Services staff can develop care plans and robust discharge plans.

Commissioner Chung asked for items on the Jail Health wish list. Dr. Pratt stated that Navigators would be helpful in getting individuals to community appointments upon release. Transportation and housing are also needed by most people who are released.

Commissioner Giraudo encouraged the DPH Communications team to work with media to get coverage of the incredible services offered by Jail Health Services.

#### **4) NATIONAL HIV BEHAVIORAL SURVEILLANCE MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN 2023 PRELIMINARY RESULTS**

Willi McFarland, MD, PhD, Director, Center for Public Health Research, presented the item.

##### Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Chung asked for Dr. McFarland's thoughts on PrEP fatigue. Dr. McFarland stated that there is always a portion of the population that may not feel they are at risk, like those who are in monogamous relationships.

Commissioner Chung asked if age has any factor in this issue. Dr. McFarland stated that young people are always targeted for HIV prevention, but the usage of PrEP is higher for older people.

Commissioner Giraudo noted that Dr. McFarland's program is grant funded; she asked where he recruits for his team and how long do these individuals stay on his team. Dr. McFarland stated that the team is comprised about 30-40 people, with the largest number of people being research assistants. The turnover is very high, with 50% of staff leaving each year. He encourages people to leave and seek Master's level education. Some staff are retained and put on consecutive grants and eventually seek out the few full time DPH positions as investigators. Many people shift to UCSF because there are more research positions in that institution. He added that for physicians, the DPH classification system does not work well for research work.

#### **5) EMERGING ISSUES**

This item was not discussed.

**6) PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**7) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56pm.