



THE STAKEHOLDER BRIEF

April - June 2015

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is pleased to present “The Stakeholder Brief,” a quarterly update of important upcoming activities, actions and accomplishments from CDPH and involving its partners. Updates include information about meetings, presentations, press announcements, and solicitations for input or services. Sign up to automatically receive this update or to unsubscribe from the list, visit the CDPH [Subscribe page](#). For questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact us at CDPHPress@cdph.ca.gov. Thank you.

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For further information on any of the items in the Stakeholder Brief, please visit the [specific website](#) of the Center, Office or Program.

Stakeholder Meetings

California Conference of Local Health Officers

- **April 2 and June 4, 2015**, the CCLHO Board will meet in Sacramento. CDPH Director and State Health Officer Dr. Karen Smith will provide a CDPH update. All CCLHO meeting information is available on the CDPH [CCLHO web page](#).
- **April 29 – May 1, 2015**, the CCLHO will hold its [semiannual meeting](#) in Long Beach. The meeting, “Communication and Beyond: Reaching a New Generation of Public Health Leaders,” includes a CCLHO business meeting and a continuing medical education program. CDPH Director and State Health Officer Dr. Karen Smith will provide a CDPH update. Jahmal Miller, deputy director, CDPH Office of Health Equity (OHE), will present on the OHE strategic plan and collaboration opportunities with local health jurisdictions. All CCLHO semiannual meeting information is available on the CDPH [CCLHO web page](#).



- **April 27, 2015**, the CDPH Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch (NEOPB) will convene a stakeholders' meeting at 1500 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, in training rooms A, B, and C. This meeting provides an opportunity for feedback and discussion on the status, development, integration and evaluation of nutrition education and obesity prevention programs under NEOPB, as select state-level Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program–Education (SNAP-Ed) work transitions from contracted vendors to the state civil service staff. Quarterly stakeholder meetings are specified under 2014 Trailer Bill Requirements (Senate Bill 857, Chapter 31, Statutes of 2014). Stakeholders may participate in-person or via webinar. Advanced registration is required. The meeting is open to the public.

For more information, please visit the NEOPB Partners and Stakeholders [Web page](#). Please e-mail questions and comments to: NEOPBStakeholders@cdph.ca.gov.

- **June 3, 2015**, the Tobacco Education and Research Oversight Committee (TEROC) will meet in Sacramento. The CDPH California Tobacco Control Program (CDPH/CTCP), the California Department of Education's Tobacco-Use Prevention Education Program (CDE/TUPE), and the University of California Office of the President's Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP) will provide program updates to TEROC based on the 2015-2017 TEROC Master Plan objectives. The California Department of Finance will provide updates relating to the Proposition (Prop) 99 accounts within the Governor's budget. Representatives from the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association and American Lung Association will provide an update on current tobacco-related funding, activities and legislation.

TEROC is a legislatively mandated oversight committee that monitors the use of Prop 99 tobacco tax revenues. TEROC advises the CDPH/CTCP; CDE/TUPE; and TRDRP on agency, policy, and budgetary issues. TEROC is also responsible for the development of a master plan for the future implementation of tobacco control efforts in California.

- **June 10, 2015**, in Anaheim, the Office of Problem Gambling's (OPG) statewide Problem Gambling Advisory Group will convene, bringing together state agencies involved in regulating California's gambling industry, industry and legislative representatives and other key stakeholders. This forum provides information that shapes the OPG strategic plan. The Advisory Group also serves as a forum for cross-communication among members regarding their agencies' respective problem gambling initiatives, resulting in the elimination of duplicative efforts and consolidation of resources, when appropriate for the achievement of common goals.
- **June 18 - 19, 2015**, the SACB Violence Prevention Unit is holding a statewide convening in Sacramento to share lessons learned from domestic violence and sexual violence prevention projects focusing on community mobilization and youth leadership development. Local program staff from domestic violence organizations, rape crisis centers and youth leaders will present their experiences in the implementation and evaluation of the Close to Home community mobilization model.

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- The CDPH California Epidemiologic Investigation Service (Cal-EIS) Advisory Committee (AC) needs new members. Cal-EIS is a one- or two-year program for epidemiologists who lack direct experience, so they can gain hands-on experience working with an epidemiologist preceptor in either local or state health departments in California. Fellows are primarily recent MPH graduates but also PhDs and DVMs. The AC advises the Cal-EIS program director on curriculum and training opportunities for Fellows, and evaluates applications for prospective trainees in the Cal-EIS program. AC members provide feedback and suggestions on the Fellows' major project presentations and may provide individual Fellows guidance on their learning experience. The committee meets semi-annually. Cal-EIS AC members currently include CDPH staff, other state agency staff, local health department representatives, Preceptors of Fellows and Fellow representatives. This opportunity is a valuable way to provide mentorship, give back to the field of epidemiology, and foster California's developing public health workforce.

If interested in becoming a Cal-EIS AC member or you have additional questions, please contact either Karen Ramstrom at Karen.Ramstrom@cdph.ca.gov or (916) 552-9968, or Esther Jones at Esther.Jones@cdph.ca.gov or (916) 552-9920.

Center for Environmental Health

- **April 7, 2015**, the CDPH Environmental Management Branch will conduct a technical advisory meeting in Fresno with medical waste transporters, treatment facilities, transfer stations and medical waste generators and has scheduled several regional stakeholders meetings to be held throughout the state during April and May. These meetings are required under provisions of Assembly Bill 333 (Chapter 564, Wieckowski, Statutes of 2014) to collect information necessary to prepare a report that will be submitted by CDPH to the Legislature by January 1, 2016. This report will describe the interaction of federal and state law for the transport of regulated medical waste. The dates and locations for the Technical Advisory and Regional Stakeholders meetings are posted on the CDPH Medical Waste Management Program's Web page at: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/medicalwaste/Pages/default.aspx>.
- **April 8, 2015**, the CDPH Radiologic Health Branch will hold its biannual Radiologic Technology Certification Committee (RTCC) public meeting in Los Angeles. The RTCC assists, advises and makes recommendations for the establishment of regulations necessary to ensure the proper administration and enforcement of the Radiologic Technology Act in accordance with California Health and Safety Code sections 114855 through 114865. The RTCC is composed of six physicians and surgeons, two individuals representing the field of radiologic technology, one radiological physicist, one podiatrist, and one chiropractic practitioner. RTCC members are appointed by the CDPH director. The RTCC meeting agenda and minutes will be posted on the CDPH website at: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/services/boards/Pages/RTCC.aspx>.
- **April 13, 2015**, the CDPH Environmental Health Specialist Registration (EHSR) Committee will meet during the California Environmental Health Association's Annual Educational Symposium being held in San Diego. The 10-member committee meets twice a year and is responsible for making recommendations to CDPH regarding the Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) program and to establish rules and regulations necessary for the proper administration of the Environmental Health Specialist. The committee will hear

updates from the Registration Process Subcommittee and the Educational and Professional Standards Subcommittee. The EHSR Committee meeting agenda and minutes will be posted on the [CDPH website](#).

Center for Family Health

- **April 13 - 14, 2015**, the CDPH, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division (MCAH) Regional Perinatal Programs of California (RPPC) will hold its semi-annual meeting in Los Angeles. Topics to be discussed include:
 - CDPH's participation in the Collaborative Improvement and Innovative Network to Reduce Infant Mortality surrounding Safe Sleep, Social Determinants of Health, and Perinatal Regionalization
 - Update on the Wellness Proposal to secure additional funding for RPPCs to assist hospitals to move toward baby-friendly or equivalent status including and updated hospital level data regarding breastfeeding
 - Feedback from the first 2015 Birth Data Quality Workshop and committee formation for developing the 2016 RPPC presentation
 - Updates to the RPPC orientation and reference materials
 - Committee formation and plans to develop a poster about the history and accomplishments of the Birth Data Quality Workshops and Vital Records Birth Registration Section for the March of Dimes conference in 2016
 - Neonatal and maternal transport, the California Perinatal and Maternal Quality Care Collaboratives
 - Maternal Risk Appropriate Care Project update
 - The upcoming Antenatal Corticosteroid Treatment Big 5 project
 - Review of proposals for reorganization of California Children Services

Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

- **May 7, 2015**, the Center for Health Statistics and Informatics' (CHSI) Vital Records (VR) will meet with county clerks, recorders and health departments at the quarterly Vision Group meeting in Sacramento. Items to be discussed include issues associated with the issuance and registration of births, deaths, fetal deaths and marriages. The Vision Group meeting is jointly sponsored by the County Recorder Association of California and CHSI-VR.

Center for Infectious Diseases

- **April 2015**, the CDPH Office of Refugee Health, in collaboration with the Department of Social Services' Refugee Programs Bureau, will hold four regional quarterly consultation meetings/teleconferences with stakeholders as follows: Los Angeles on **April 1**, San Diego on **April 8**, Sacramento on **April 21**, and Santa Clara on **April 29**. The goal is to help promote community engagement and improve self-sufficiency, adjustment and integration for newly arriving refugees by sharing information on refugee processing and arrivals, health concerns, available funding and resources, and other timely issues affecting refugee placement.

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- **April 13 - 14, 2015**, the CDPH IDB will participate in a meeting of the steering group for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Emerging Infections Program. CDPH is one of only 10 state health departments that are members of the national Emerging Infections Program. This meeting, in Atlanta, was requested by the CDC to plan and set priorities to address emerging infections for the next three years.
- **April 24, 2015**, the California Association of Public Health Laboratory Directors (CAPHLD) will meet to discuss topics on common concerns and interests, such as laboratory preparedness and response to outbreaks and surges, electronic laboratory reporting, training and business management. VRDL chief will give an update of the laboratory activities since the 2014 fall meeting, including laboratory preparation for LRN-B Ebola testing and response to measles surges in the spring of 2015 in California. This meeting will be held via webinar.
- **May 6 and 7, 2015**, in Sacramento, the CDPH Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Branch, together with the Office of AIDS, will participate in the annual meeting of the California STD Controllers Association and the California Conference of Local AIDS Directors. This meeting brings together the directors of STD and HIV programs from around the state and CDPH staff to discuss areas of common interest, identify efficiencies and promote best practices.
- **June 2, 2015**, the CDPH IDB will participate in the Southern California Epidemiology Exchange in Long Beach. This is a quarterly meeting for local health jurisdictions to share their experiences and participate in roundtable discussions on current public health topics.
- **June 8 - 11, 2015**, the annual conference of the National TB Controllers Association will be held in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Jennifer Flood, past president of the National Association and chief of the CDPH Tuberculosis Control Branch, has been invited to attend.

Office of Health Equity

- **May 13, 2015**, the CDPH OHE Advisory Committee will hold its quarterly meeting (currently scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Sierra Health Foundation, 1321 Garden Hwy., Sacramento). The OHE Advisory Committee was created to advance the goals of OHE, and is comprised of 25 representatives from state agencies and departments, local health departments, community-based organizations, vulnerable communities and stakeholder communities. There are currently six openings for new members. More information about the membership application process is currently available at [OHE's Web page](#). Information about the May meeting will also be posted at this site at least 10 days in advance. The meeting is open to the public.

Office of the State Laboratory Health Director

- At the last CLTAC meeting on **March 6, 2015**, a new member of the committee was installed and Ronda Becker was elected as the next chair. Dr. James Watt, chief, Division of Communicable Disease Control, gave an update on the measles outbreak in California and the status of the Ebola outbreak in Africa. CDPH staff also presented updates on pending legislation (Assembly Bills 258, 599 and 940) and areas of personnel licensing,

facility licensing and inspection, tissue bank and biologics and the federal Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments program.

- One of the strategic goals of CDPH for 2012-2014 is to strengthen statewide infrastructure to improve health. This is being accomplished through multiple avenues. The Public Health Laboratory System Working Group (PHLSWG) was created and tasked to target PHL sustainability as one component of addressing this goal. The working group is made up of two member representatives each from CDPH, County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC), California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO), and the California Association of Public Health Laboratory Directors (CAPHLD). These entities are the main stakeholders that determine and deliver public health laboratory services at the state and local levels. The perspectives provided by representatives from these three groups provide a comprehensive understanding of the requirements needed to provide laboratory services in California. The next working group meeting will be April 20th.
- **June 5, 2015**, the Clinical Laboratory Technology Advisory Committee (CLTAC) will meet via videoconference in Richmond and Los Angeles. CLTAC, which is the advisory committee for the CDPH Laboratory Field Services (LFS), has formed a subcommittee to review current Assembly Bill 599 (Bonilla) regarding Cytotechnologists. AB 599 would authorize a licensed cytotechnologist to perform all tests and procedures pertaining to cytology, including, but not limited to microscopic and non-microscopic methodologies and tests and procedures that utilize molecular or genetic methodologies. In addition, the subcommittee that was convened to review the state and CLIA 2003 crosswalk expects to present a recommendation to the full committee on adoption or non-adoption of those parts of CLIA 2003 that are less stringent than current state law.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

- **April 8, 2015**, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) will host a California Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) on Public Health Emergency Preparedness with a two-hour conference call. The JAC advises CDPH on setting statewide preparedness strategies for public health and medical care during disasters. Such strategies strengthen coordination within the public health and medical system during unusual events and emergencies that have public health or medical impact. Members who comprise the JAC are subject matter experts and representatives from local, regional, state, and federal levels, as well as local health departments, healthcare providers, first responders, hospitals and non-governmental organizations. These partners are responsible for bringing their respective expertise to coordinate and develop public health and medical preparedness efforts and strategies on the local, state and national level.

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Trainings & Conferences

Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

- **April 2015**, staff from the CDPH Safe and Active Communities Branch's (SACB) Safe Routes to School Technical Assistance Resource Center (TARC) will help conduct a series

of one-day workshops for local entities interested in applying for funding from Cycle 2 of the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) [Active Transportation Program](#) (ATP). The funding announcement will be released March 26, 2015, with applications due in June 2015. The ATP specifically addresses public health concerns, and awards points to applicants for demonstrating the ability to decrease pedestrian and bicycle injuries and fatalities, increase physical activity, decrease childhood obesity, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and directly benefit disadvantaged communities to improve safe and active transportation.

- **April 14, 2015**, the SACB Violence Prevention Unit will collaborate with the state sexual assault coalition, the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault, to provide statewide training on a nationally recognized program entitled *Shifting Boundaries: Lessons on Relationships for Students in Middle School* at the Sierra Health Foundation in Sacramento. This evidence-based, multi-level prevention program on sexual harassment and precursors to dating violence is unique in that it embraces an environmental approach to support young people, utilizing both school-wide interventions and classroom lessons. Approximately 35 participants representing rape crisis centers and school personnel will attend.
- **June 8 - 10, 2015**, the Spotlight Festival - A Youth Conference on Underage and Problem Gambling, will take place in Anaheim, in collaboration with the Office of Problem Gambling (OPG) and California for Youth Development and Health Promotion (CYDHP). Youth participants and their adult allies will meet to showcase their Betting on Our Future (BOOF) projects. Projects include public service announcements, videos, Web banners, posters and newspaper advertisements which may be used in OPG's media campaign promoting problem gambling awareness. Festival attendees will participate in workshops, general sessions and a hands-on activity and/or tour of a facility that focuses on media arts. Conference attendees will also participate in an event that will allow peers to judge the projects in a variety of categories.
- **June 29 - July 2, 2015**, the [8th Biennial Childhood Obesity Conference](#) will take place in San Diego with the theme "Collective Impact: Developing a Shared Vision to Achieve Greater Success." Conference hosts include CDPH, California Department of Education, University of California, Berkeley, Dr. Robert C. and Veronica Atkins Center for Weight and Health, The California Endowment and Kaiser Permanente. The Biennial Childhood Obesity Conference is the nation's largest, most influential collaboration of professionals dedicated to combating pediatric obesity. Nearly 2,000 attendees from across the country are expected to attend. The purpose of the conference is to share and discuss emerging research, best practices, community-based efforts and effective policy strategies that promote and sustain healthy eating and physical activity practices for children, adolescents and their families.

The CDPH Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch helps to facilitate the organization and direction of the conference through participation on an executive level committee (as one of the five co-hosts), and assists in developing the agenda through track workgroups and subcommittees. Additional CDPH branches, including the Women, Infants and Children program, the Office of Binational Border Health, Safe and Active Communities Branch, and the Prevention First team (CDC-funded grant implemented by multiple CDPH

branches), also play a role in the conference through planning committees and presenting their work through oral and poster presentations.

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Center for Environmental Health

- **April and May 2015**, the CDPH Food and Drug Branch will host food safety trainings for registered food processors on the topics of good manufacturing practices, food recalls, allergen control for food processors and food labeling requirements. Courses are offered on April 8 and 9 in San Francisco, and May 20 and 21 in Chico. These courses will be offered in other venues around the state throughout the year. Food processors can register for these free trainings: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/services/Documents/fdbRIqde53.pdf>.
- **April 26 – 30 2015**, CDPH Center for Environmental Health staff will attend the 25th Annual National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Sacramento. The conference is a professional forum for individuals and agencies involved in radiological emergency preparedness and response. Attendees include federal, state and local government agencies, radiological health programs, and nuclear power utilities from across the country.

Center for Family Health

- **April 15, 2015**, the CDPH MCAH Division will hold the Southern California Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) training for emergency personnel and public health professionals in Long Beach. The training will provide an overview of SIDS theories and current research findings, SIDS risk-reduction and infant safe-sleep recommendations, a SIDS parent panel, the tasks of grieving, the role of the first responder, coroner and medical examiner, and the SIDS home visit. The training is for law enforcement, emergency medical technicians and paramedics, county public health nurses and SIDS coordinators; coroners and coroner investigators; pathologists; emergency room physicians, nurses, and other staff; child care providers; medical examiners; training of trainers for emergency personnel; hospital staff; Department of Social Services; and mortuary personnel.
- **June 23 - 26, 2015**, the CDPH Black Infant Health (BIH) program will hold training for local health jurisdiction staff at the Covered California Headquarters in Sacramento. The training will focus on the recent revisions for implementing the BIH Program. Training topics include scope of work, policies and procedures, group curriculum, case management, and staffing roles and duties. The training will provide an opportunity for local health jurisdiction staff to obtain guidance from MCAH BIH on implementing the revisions.
- **June 29 - July 2, 2015**, CDPH MCAH staff will present a research poster on perinatal weight at the Childhood Obesity Conference in San Diego. MCAH staff will attend the conference and host an MCAH information table. MCAH staff will also host a breakfast roundtable discussion on how data can strengthen nutrition, physical activity and breastfeeding interventions.

Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

- **April 29, 2015**, the Center for Health Statistics and Informatics' (CHSI) Vital Records (VR) will hold a Birth Data Quality Workshop in Madera, California to discuss the importance of accurately reporting birth data and to provide an opportunity for birth clerks, nurse managers and local registrars to ask questions and share information and ideas. The Regional Perinatal Program Coordinators and Paternity Opportunity Program will also present at the workshop.
- **May 20, 2015**, the Center for Health Statistics and Informatics' (CHSI) Vital Records (VR) will hold a Birth Data Quality Workshop in Redding, California to discuss the importance of accurately reporting birth data and to provide an opportunity for birth clerks, nurse managers and local registrars to ask questions and share information and ideas. The Regional Perinatal Program Coordinators and Paternity Opportunity Program will also present at the workshop.
- **May 31, 2015** through June 3, 2015, the Center for Health Statistics and Informatics will be attending the annual conference of the National Association of Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS). NAPHSIS is a national nonprofit organization representing the state vital records and public health statistics office in the United States. NAPHSIS provides national leadership for both vital records and related information systems in order to establish and protect individual identity and improve population health.
- **June 5, 2015**, the Center for Health Statistics and Informatics' (CHSI) Vital Records (VR) will hold a Birth Data Quality Workshop in Loma Linda, California to discuss the importance of accurately reporting birth data and to provide an opportunity for birth clerks, nurse managers, and local registrars to ask questions and share information and ideas. The Regional Perinatal Program Coordinators and Paternity Opportunity Program will also present at the workshop.

Center for Infectious Diseases

- **April 14 - 17, 2015**, the CDPH Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) will co-host a 3 ½ -day laboratory-focused training workshop entitled "Laboratory Methods for Detecting Rabies Virus." This intermediate-level hands-on workshop, co-developed by VRDL, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Laboratory Training Network (NLTN) and funded by a CDC/ELC grant, is designed for public health microbiologists with responsibilities for rabies bench-testing or supervising the rabies laboratory and will include participants from both California local and US state public health laboratories. Expert faculty from CDC Rabies Lab, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene and CDPH staff will use lectures and lab exercises to provide participants with a comprehensive update on the aspects of rabies testing. Emphasis will be placed on implementation of the National Standard Protocol for detection of rabies in animals by the direct fluorescent antibody (DFA) test. Lectures will highlight new and emerging technologies for rabies testing and the latest information on rabies epidemiology.
- **April 20 - 21, 2015**, the California Tuberculosis Controllers Association will hold its annual conference in Sacramento. CDPH TB Control Branch presentations include options for a state-based drug formulary by Dr. Neha Shah, CDC Medical Officer assigned to California;

a keynote address on national TB elimination efforts by Dr. Philip LoBue, director of the CDC Division of TB Elimination; a plenary talk by Dr. Pennan Barry, surveillance and epidemiology chief, on California TB epidemiology and a workshop by Dr. Lisa Pascopella, senior epidemiologist, on TB in HIV-infected patients.

- **May 11, 2015**, in partnership with the California TB Controllers Association and the University of California, San Francisco, the TB Control Branch will convene a scientific task- force to identify potential strategies for TB elimination in California. The meeting proceedings will form the basis of a Fall 2015 stakeholders' meeting to devise a TB elimination plan.
- On **May 26, 2015**, the CDPH IDB and the U. S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will conduct a training in Riverside County to improve response to foodborne outbreaks, using the toolkit and following the guidelines of the Council to Improve Foodborne Outbreak Response (CIFOR). The training will focus on the sections of the CIFOR guidelines pertaining to planning and preparation, epidemiologic investigations and control measures. IDB and FDA staff will give presentations on the CIFOR process and monitor breakout sessions and workgroups. IDB staff will also present some recent foodborne outbreak investigations.

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Office of Health Equity

- **April 8 - 9, 2015**, Jahmal Miller, deputy director, CDPH Office of Health Equity, will attend the 2015 Telehealth Summit in Olympic Valley, CA. The Summit is sponsored by the California Telehealth Network (CTN) and California Telehealth Resource Center and this year's theme is "Building Connections, Breaking Barriers." In its third year, the statewide telehealth summit offers a forum to share best practices around telehealth and broadband adoption, discuss the latest information on telehealth topics, current issues in healthcare, and acts as a gathering place for like-minded individuals to meet, network and build connections. Mr. Miller was recently appointed to the CTN Board of Directors where he will serve on the Audit Committee.
- **June 18 - 19, 2015**, Jahmal Miller, deputy director, Office of Health Equity (OHE), will represent California as part of the Defending Childhood Initiative and attend the state policy meeting in Washington D.C. California was recently selected as one of five states to participate in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's "Essentials for Childhood Framework" initiative. As part of this initiative, the state has convened a cross-sector group of agencies to explore and implement the Framework. Participation in this initiative has allowed California state agencies to explore new ways to leverage resources and work collaboratively to develop strategies to address child maltreatment.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

- **May 11 – 14, 2015**, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) will participate in the California Capstone 2015 exercise, a coordinated state/federal exercise in response to a catastrophic earthquake in Southern California. It consists of a series of seminars, workshops, and tabletop exercises leading up to a functional exercise. The Southern

California Catastrophic Earthquake Response Plan (January 1, 2011) will be used to drive the exercise scenario. This plan describes strategies to address the effects of a magnitude 7.8 earthquake on the southernmost segment of the San Andreas Fault, impacting eight counties in Southern California. CDPH will participate in the four-day exercise and will lead a two-hour facilitated discussion with CDPH programs on their response activities. CDPH will also participate in a National Hospital Available Beds for Emergencies and Disasters (HAvBED Drill) on May 12, 2015.

- **June 22 – 24, 2015**, CDPH, EMSA, and their partners will conduct the 2015 Emergency Preparedness Training Workshop at the DoubleTree Hotel in Sacramento, California. With this year’s theme of “Building Bridges Together,” the goal is to bridge gaps within public health and medical emergency preparedness and response capabilities by strengthening our foundations and sharing best practices with partner agencies. The workshop will feature case studies and lessons learned from real emergencies, local and regional approaches to building response capacity, and best practices and tools for risk communication, emergency declarations, medical countermeasures, continuity, and alerting and notification. Additional information is available by emailing epworkshopCDPH@cdph.ca.gov.

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Regulatory Action

Center for Environmental Health

- **April 1, 2015**, CDPH will implement revised regulations regarding the post-harvest treatment of raw gulf oysters. The regulations restrict their sale between April 1 and October 31 of each year to those that have been treated to reduce the levels of *Vibrio vulnificus*, a bacterial pathogen that is prevalent in gulf waters during the warmer months. The regulations were amended to adjust the level of post-harvest treatment required for *Vibrio vulnificus* in raw gulf oysters from < 3 MPN/gram to <30 MPN/gram, so that it conforms to the standards set forth in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program and currently available science. This change will likely have minimal impact on California shellfish dealers.

Grants & Contracts

Center for Family Health

- **June 2015**, the CDPH Women Infants and Children (WIC) Division will formally release a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) services. CDPH/WIC Division is partnering with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program/CalFresh on this procurement. WIC is moving to replace its current paper vouchers with EBT cards, per U.S. Department of Agriculture’s mandate that all states move to EBT by October 1, 2020. When California moves to EBT for WIC, participants will continue to have regular appointments at the WIC sites to receive the same services that local agencies currently provide. Although SNAP and WIC are joining efforts for the RFP, the two programs will have separate EBT cards for their recipients.

Office of Health Equity

- **Early May of 2015**, CDPH anticipates the release of multi-component solicitations for the California Reducing Disparities Project (CRDP), Phase II. Phase II will provide four years of funding, totaling \$60 million to implement the practices and strategies identified in the CRDP Strategic Plan. The focus of Phase II will be on demonstrating the effectiveness of community-defined evidence in reducing mental health disparities. The CDPH plans to fund selected approaches across the five CRDP-targeted populations: Native Americans, Latinos, Asian/Pacific Islanders, African Americans, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning with strong evaluation, technical assistance, and infrastructure support components. More information is available [on the CRDP Web page](#).

Reports

Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

- **April 1, 2015**, the TARC will release the *California Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Curriculum for Grades 4 and 5* to coincide with Bike to School activities held during May 2015. The curriculum emphasizes the importance of physical activity, encourages students to develop healthy habits that benefit both their physical and academic development, and teaches skills and knowledge to decrease pedestrian and bicyclist injuries and fatalities. To facilitate teaching of the curriculum, each of the nine lessons are aligned with the California Common Core State Standards, the National Health Education Standards, and the California Health Education Standards, and are integrated with English language arts, mathematics, science, health and physical education. The Curriculum will be the first of its kind to be approved by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), CDPH, and the California Department of Education. The [Curriculum](#) will be available after April 1.

Center for Family Health

- **May 2015**, the CDPH MCAH expects to release the Maternal and Infant Health Assessment (MIHA) survey data snapshots for county and regional subgroups based on race/ethnicity, prenatal health insurance, maternal age, income and education. MIHA is a population-based survey of women with a recent live birth in California that collects information about maternal experiences, attitudes and behaviors before, during and shortly after pregnancy. The three-year snapshot (2010-2012) will include indicators of health status, nutrition, weight, health insurance, service utilization and content, breastfeeding, infant sleep, pregnancy intention, family planning, intimate partner violence, substance use, hardships and income.
- **May 18 - 29, 2015**, the CDPH MCAH and the California Department of Health Care Services, Systems of Care Division are planning to release a draft annual application/report in compliance with Title V of the Social Security Act. The draft application/report presents information about planned activities in the state and data on relevant health indicators. Title V serves all pregnant women, mothers, infants, children and adolescents, including children

with special needs. The draft Title V application/report will be available online for review and public comments. A notification will be sent out once the draft report is posted online. To be added to the distribution list, contact CaliforniaTitleV@cdph.ca.gov.

Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

- **April 6, 2015**, the Center for Health Statistics and Informatics will release County Health Status Profiles 2015 for National Public Health Week, which presents selected public health indicators that have been jointly developed by the California Department of Public Health and the California Conference of Local Health Officers. The report provides California and county age-adjusted rates or percentages for mortality, infant mortality, and morbidity conditions, ranked and compared with the target rates established for Healthy People 2020 (HP 2020) National Objectives, where available. This body of reports represents a broad historical perspective on the health of California's counties over a span of 22 years.

Office of Health Equity

- **Late June, 2015**, CDPH anticipates releasing the California Reducing Disparities Project (CRDP) Strategic Plan to Reduce Mental Health Disparities. The community-authored strategic plan identifies 25 strategies for transforming the California public mental health system into one that better meets the needs of unserved, underserved and inappropriately served communities. To receive an announcement when the plan is released to the public, sign up for announcements at OHE@cdph.ca.gov.

Office of the State Laboratory Health Director

- It is the mission of the PHLSWG to strengthen California's PHL system and achieve sustainability of laboratories through retention and recruitment of the laboratory workforce, and enhancement of facilities, capabilities and capacity for testing. To fulfill this mission, the PHLSWG has created a guide for assessing and implementing PHL service change(s) specific to California. This guide is modeled after the national guide for assessing and planning implementation of PHL services sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Association of Public Health. The guide will be available on the OSPHLD website after August 20th.

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Speeches & Presentations

Center for Family Health

- **May 7, 2015**, the CDPH California Home Visiting Program will make a presentation at the fifth National Summit on Quality in Home Visiting Programs, a HRSA-mandated meeting, in Washington, D.C. The presentation is entitled, "Home Visiting in an Early Childhood System: Using a Systems Perspective in Local & State-Level Evaluation & Collaboration Efforts." The summit is organized by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Center for Infectious Diseases

- **April 11, 2015**, the CDPH Infectious Diseases Branch (IDB) will participate in the 59th annual Coccidioidomycosis Study Group meeting in San Diego. Coccidioidomycosis, also known as valley fever (VF), is an illness caused by a fungus found in the soil in many areas of the San Joaquin Valley, Arizona and other southwestern states. This VF Study Group is a multidisciplinary organization that brings together academic researchers, public health professionals and others to advance the science and understanding of VF. CDPH IDB staff will present on a past outbreak of coccidioidomycosis among workers at two solar farm construction projects in California.
- **April 22, 2015**, Karen Mark, MD, PhD, chief, CDPH Office of AIDS (OA), and Amy Kile-Puente, chief, HIV Prevention Branch, OA will present at the UC Irvine School of Medicine's and Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center's conference "HIV-AIDS, On the Front Line." Dr. Mark will provide a "state Office of AIDS update" and Ms. Kile-Puente will lead a breakout session on "HIV Expanded Testing." Julie Stoltey, MD, MPH, public health officer of the Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Control Branch, Division of Communicable Disease Control, CDPH will provide an STD Update. This conference will gather licensed health care providers, substance abuse professionals, case managers and the general public to provide stakeholders with knowledge and skills necessary to provide outstanding HIV care.
- **April 22, 2015**, TB Control Branch staff will present at the Curry International Tuberculosis Center course, Tools for TB Elimination: Early Case Finding and Prevention, to be held in Sacramento. Tambi Shaw, outbreak prevention and control section chief, will present on the use of social media to locate contacts; and Ms. Carol Greene, program liaison, will present on contact investigations in correctional facilities.
- **May 15, 2015**, the CDPH IDB and Food and Drug Branch (FDB) will participate in the S3 (Safe, Secure, and Sustainable) 2015 Symposium on Food Systems and Public Health (<http://www.californiafood.org/>) in Sacramento. The symposium is a collaborative of environmental health professionals, regulators, food producers, academia and others interested in enhancing their understanding of the links between agricultural production, food processing, food security, food safety and environmental sustainability. IDB and FDB staff will give presentations about foodborne illness outbreaks and interventions.
- **May 15 - 20, 2015**, Dr. Neha Shah, CDC medical officer assigned to California, will present on the utility of screening of health care workers for TB. This presentation will occur at the American Thoracic Society annual conference in Denver, Colorado.

Recent Activities & Achievements

Center for Chronic Disease Prevention & Health Promotion

- Staff in the Site Assessment Section (SAS) of the Environmental Health Investigations Branch (EHIB) is conducting public health assessments at two Superfund sites in the city of South Gate (Los Angeles County). Subsequent to receiving requests from the community

to include additional environmental stressors in the reviews, and to increase the community's capacity to identify and address environmental health concerns, the SAS is implementing the "Protocol for the Assessment of Community Excellence in Environmental Health" (PACE-EH), developed in part by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This is the first implementation of PACE-EH in California. SAS staff are preparing for monthly meetings of the Community Environmental Health Assessment Team (CEHAT), which is at the core of the PACE-EH process. Since January, CDPH has recruited and assembled members for the CEHAT, including community members, nonprofit organizations (Community for a Better Environment), elected officials (city council member) and representatives of public agencies (city administration, South Gate Police Department, Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The first CEHAT meetings took place January 12 and February 23, 2015. Dates will be determined for subsequent 2015 meetings, including for **April, May and June**.

Center for Infectious Diseases

- In **March 2015**, the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CaREDIE) Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) team moved its seventh cohort of ELR submitters into production, increasing the total to more than 200 submitting laboratories. Through April, May and June 2015, CaREDIE ELR will focus on getting additional laboratories participating and technical refinements aimed at facilitating HIV reporting through ELR.

Office of Quality Performance and Accreditation

- CDPH recently achieved national public health accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). Public health accreditation is a new, national and voluntary process for state, local, tribal and territorial health departments. The goal of the national public health accreditation program is to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of state, local, territorial and tribal health departments. Accreditation measures a department's performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused and evidenced-based standards. Accreditation will drive public health departments to continuously improve the quality of the services they deliver to the community. Achieving accreditation means CDPH stands out among the best in the nation. It means that more than 38 million people are assured that their state health department is committed to assessing its performance against national standards, addressing opportunities for improvement and continuing to comply with all measures of quality, now and in the future. In order to maintain accreditation, CDPH will submit an annual report to PHAB to show continued compliance with 105 measures of quality and a commitment to continuous quality improvement. The accreditation is for five years, at which time CDPH will be required to reapply.

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