

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**PREVENTIVE HEALTH AND HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT
(PHHSBG)**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE MEETING

HOSTED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, APRIL, 2025
10:00 A.M.

Reported by: Ramona Cota

APPEARANCES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lynnley Stern, DrPH, MPH, RD, Principal Investigator, Co-Chair, Alzheimer's Disease Section Chief, Center for Healthy Communities, California Department of Public Health

*Amber R. Cordola Hsu, PhD, MPH, Department of Medicine, Preventive Cardiology Program

Leah Northrop, MPA, Branch Director, Public Health, Sutter County Health & Human Services

Shira A. Schlesinger, MD, MPH, FACEP, Director of Education & Innovation, Los Angeles County EMS Agency, EMS & Disaster Medicine, Associate Fellowship Director & Core Faculty, Harbor-UCLA Department of Emergency Medicine, HS Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Jessica Schumer, MD, MPH, Assistant Deputy Director, Chronic Disease Prevention, Center for Healthy Communities, California Department of Public Health

Christine Wu, MD, MPH, Health Officer & Deputy Director - Public Health Napa County Health & Human Services Agency

*Joined after Roll Call

PHHSBG PROGRAM STAFF

Pete Ramirez, PHHSBG Unit Chief and Fiscal Lead

Phu Hoang, PHHSBG Health Program Specialist II

Amy Yan, PHHSBG Program Specialist

PROCEEDINGS

10:01 a.m.

AC CHAIR STERN: I want to welcome the Advisory Committee and any program staff or members of the public participating remotely.

First off, I would like to announce that Dr. Wes Alles has retired and stepped down from his role as Advisory Committee Co-Chair since 1995. I just wanted to take a moment to thank Dr. Alles for his contributions to this work and dedication in serving the past 30 years.

Now, before beginning the meeting I will turn it over to Pete Ramirez who will take roll of the Advisory Committee Members. So, take over, Pete.

MR. RAMIREZ: Thanks, Lynnley. Good day, everyone. Just want to go through the roll call here for all the Committee Members. I will start out by obviously announcing your name. Please answer present or here and we will notate the attendance.

Let's start off with Amber Hsu. Amber, you with us?

(No audible response.)

MR. RAMIREZ: Okay.

Leah Northrop? Leah Northrop?

AC MEMBER NORTHROP: I am here.

MR. RAMIREZ: Okay, thank you, Leah.

Shira Schlesinger?

AC MEMBER SCHLESINGER: Shira. Present.

MR. RAMIREZ: Donna Stone? Donna Stone?

(No audible response.)

1 MR. RAMIREZ: Christine Wu?

2 AC MEMBER WU: Present.

3 MR. RAMIREZ: Thank you.

4 Lynnley Stern?

5 AC CHAIR STERN: Hi, I am present, thank you.

6 MR. RAMIREZ: Jessica Schumer? Jessica Schumer?

7 (No audible response.)

8 MR. RAMIREZ: All right, that will complete our roll call.

9 I do want to make sure, a short announcement. Please review the

10 D1 and make sure that all contact information is accurate. If anything has

11 changed there please let us know immediately so we can update that important

12 information for everyone.

13 That will conclude our roll call for the Advisory Committee. Back to

14 you. Lynnley.

15 AC CHAIR STERN: Great. Thank you, Pete.

16 So, before we begin I want to acknowledge the court reporter is

17 transcribing the meeting. I would also like to remind participants to please state

18 your name before speaking to assist the court reporter.

19 To introduce myself, my name is Lynnley Stern. I am the Principal

20 Investigator for the Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant and

21 Chair of the Advisory Committee.

22 I would like to welcome all of the Advisory Committee Members

23 today and graciously thank you for your service on the Committee and for your

24 ongoing input, guidance and direction.

25 I declare that the purpose of today's Advisory Committee meeting is

1 to review and approve the June 20, 2024, Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.
2 We will also be reviewing the Federal Fiscal Year 2025 proposed funding
3 allocations for State Fiscal Year 25-26. And lastly, to obtain Advisory Committee
4 approval for those allocations.

5 So, I would like the Advisory Committee Members to please refer to
6 document D2 for the meeting today.

7 Programs in attendance. I know we only have a few, but if you
8 would quickly come off mute and introduce yourself, that would be great.

9 DR. CARRIE JONES: Hi. I am Dr. Carrie Jones and I am the new
10 Director of the Preventive Medicine Residency Program. Caroline Peck has
11 retired and I just started. Thanks.

12 AC CHAIR STERN: Thank you. Welcome, Carrie.

13 SPENCER THOMPSON: Hi. I am Spencer Thompson. I am the
14 Interim Grant Coordinator at EMSA, Emergency Medical Services Authority.

15 RAHENA KHAN: Hello, I am Rahena Khan, I am the Admin
16 Manager here at EMSA.

17 ARLENE GARCIA: Hello, I am Arlene Garcia. I am the Branch
18 Chief of Administration at EMSA.

19 YULIYA KRAVTSOV: Good morning --

20 VANESSA FONG: This is --

21 YULIYA KRAVTSOV: Oh, sorry. Go ahead.

22 VANESSA FONG: Go ahead. Okay, I'll go ahead. I'm Vanessa
23 Fong. I am the TB -- the Program Manager for the Tuberculosis Control Branch.
24 I know I have a couple colleagues joining me on the call today, Camille Cline,
25 Juanita Velasquez, and I think Dana Melgares. Thanks.

1 YULIYA KRAVTSOV: Hi, Yuliya Kravtsov, I work with Dr. Carrie
2 Jones in the Preventive Medicine Residency Program at CDPH.

3 EDWARD JACKSON: Good morning. Edward Jackson, Health
4 Program Specialist with the CDPH Office of School Health. I am the only one
5 from my team in attendance today but happy to report back. Thanks for having
6 me.

7 AMY PATTERSON: Hi. I am Amy Patterson. I am the
8 Accreditation Coordinator for CDPH and representing the Public Health
9 Accreditation Program. Thanks.

10 GIANNA DAVALOS: Hi. My name is Gianna Davalos. I work with
11 Amy Patterson at CDPH in the Accreditation and Performance Management Unit,
12 I am a Program Coordinator. Thank you.

13 JEFFERY ROSENHALL: Good morning, Jeffery Rosenhall,
14 Section Manager with the Injury and Violence Prevention Branch; and I am joined
15 here by Karissa Anderson representing our branch and program. Thank you.

16 TINA FUNG: Good morning. Tina Fung here, Manager for the
17 Alzheimer's Disease Program within the Chronic Disease Control Branch.

18 RYAN NATIVIDAD: Hi, everyone. Ryan Natividad, pronouns are
19 he/they. I am the Lead for the Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Program in
20 CDCB.

21 RUSS BARTLETT: Hi everyone. My name is Russ Bartlett. I lead
22 the Toxicological Outbreak Program in the Environmental Health Investigations
23 Branch.

24 AC CHAIR STERN: Is there anyone else from CDPH or EMSA as
25 well as the Advisory Committee that we missed? Okay. Lastly --

1 SPEAKER: Hello.

2 AC CHAIR STERN: Oh, sorry.

3 JEFF WAGNER: Sorry. Jeff Wagner, Chief, Environmental Health
4 Laboratory Branch from CDPH.

5 FELICIA WILLIAMS: Can you guys hear me okay?

6 SPEAKER: Yes.

7 FELICIA WILLIAMS: I am Felicia Williams. I am the RPE Local
8 Programs and Policy Coordinator with the Rape Prevention Education Program,
9 Injury and Violence Prevention Branch.

10 AC CHAIR STERN: Okay. So lastly then, any member of the
11 public who is electing to participate and wishes to introduce themselves, please
12 do so now.

13 (No audible response.)

14 AC CHAIR STERN: I don't see anyone. Just wanted to note for
15 any members of the public who may have elected to not introduce themselves, if
16 you do have a question there will be an opportunity to ask questions when
17 prompted throughout the meeting.

18 I would just like to remind everyone again that there is a court
19 reporter present. Therefore, if you are a member of the public and have a
20 question please identify yourself before speaking.

21 So, we will move on to Agenda Item number 2, which is the
22 Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant Advisory Committee review
23 and discussion of the June 20, 2024 meeting minutes. So, for all the Advisory
24 Committee Members, please refer to D3 where the court reporter transcript from
25 our last meeting on June 20, 2024, is located. So please note D3 was also

1 provided before this meeting so you should be able, you should have that and I
2 believe that Amy is sharing that on the screen as well.

3 Advisory Committee Members, you can now refer to D4. That is
4 specifically where the summary and meeting minutes live. I will allow for just a
5 few minutes for the Advisory Committee to quickly review the main points of D4.

6 AC MEMBER WU: I move that we approve the minutes from June
7 20th.

8 AC MEMBER SCHLESINGER: I will second that.

9 AC MEMBER WU: And sorry, this is Christine Wu.

10 AC MEMBER SCHLESINGER: This is Shira Schlesinger.

11 AC CHAIR STERN: Great, thanks, Christine. Thanks, Shira. You
12 are moving forward quickly, I appreciate that.

13 Just before we move to the motion I just want to give a moment for
14 public comment. Does anyone from the public have a comment that they would
15 like to say? And is anyone, also from the Advisory Committee, do you have any
16 items to discuss or suggested revisions? Because if not then we can move to
17 the motion.

18 AC MEMBER NORTHROP: No changes from me. This is Leah.

19 AC CHAIR STERN: All right. So, I just need to state that the action
20 item is to approve the June 20, 2024 minutes; and so we now have to vote to
21 approve the June 20, 2024 meeting minutes.

22 And as Christine said -- can I get a motion to approve for the
23 Advisory Committee? That was Christine.

24 And then can I get a second? And that was Shira.

25 And then all in favor say, aye.

1 (Ayes.)

2 AC CHAIR STERN: And does anyone abstain or oppose?

3 (No audible response.)

4 AC CHAIR STERN: We can move forward. Let's move down to
5 Agenda Item number 3. And we have the Preventative Health and Health
6 Services Block Grant 2025 updates.

7 So, there have been updates to the CDPH team. As many of you
8 know, as of late January this year Dr. Aragon has retired and Dr. Erica Pan will
9 serve as CDPH's next Director and State Public Health Officer. She currently
10 serves in that role.

11 To give a little background to all of you about Dr. Pan, before
12 joining CDPH Dr. Pan worked for Alameda County Public Health Department in
13 various roles including the Interim Health Officer for about two years. Prior to
14 that she worked at the San Francisco Department of Public Health in various
15 roles. She has also been a clinical professor for Pediatric Infectious Diseases at
16 the University of California San Francisco since about 2015. She earned her
17 Doctor of Medicine degree and a master's of public health from Tufts University,
18 and a Bachelor of Arts in human biology from Stanford University. So, welcome
19 Dr. Pan, we are excited to have you.

20 Other CDPH changes. I would also like to introduce Dr. Jessica
21 Schumer. She is one of our new Advisory Committee Members and she will be
22 replacing Dr. Rita Nguyen. Is Dr. Schumer on? I will just pass it to over to her
23 briefly to introduce herself.

24 AC MEMBER SCHUMER: Hi, everybody. Dr. Jessica Schumer,
25 pronouns are she and her. And I am a pediatrician by training and have worked

1 at the local level at a federally qualified health center doing primary care
2 pediatrics. And then I transitioned to public health working for the Long Beach --
3 the city of Long Beach, which is one of the 61 health jurisdictions across the
4 state, doing -- as their -- as their Assistant Director. So that's where I got my
5 chops in local public health around the time of the last part of the pandemic. And
6 I am really thrilled to be part of the state's efforts in overseeing our chronic
7 disease portfolio within the Center for Healthy Communities. Thanks, Lynnley.

8 AC CHAIR STERN: Thank you, Dr. Schumer.

9 Lastly, I would like to introduce Pete Ramirez. He is our new
10 Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant Unit Chief and Fiscal Lead
11 so I will just quickly pass it over to Pete to introduce himself. Oh, Pete, you are
12 on mute.

13 MR. RAMIREZ: Thanks, Lynnley. Thank you. So again, I am
14 new to CDPH and I am welcome aboard. I am actually working with the fiscal
15 and admin branch, Amy and Phu and Matt Herreid, in oversight of the programs
16 and dealing with the Block Grant funds. Thank you.

17 AC CHAIR STERN: Thank you, Pete.

18 Myself and Dr. Schumer, we are going to just really discuss very
19 briefly federal updates. As everyone is aware, there's been many ongoing and
20 quickly changing federal changes to funding that has impacted a lot of different
21 programs. But in regards specifically to federal updates with the Preventative
22 Health and Health Services Block Grant, we are continuing to move forward
23 without any major federal impacts. And as we are made aware of any changes
24 we will continue to communicate with programs. So, I just wanted to let
25 everybody know that. And I will just now quickly turn it over to Dr. Schumer to

1 say a brief word on CDPH and the current federal funding climate.

2 AC MEMBER SCHUMER: Thank you. So, you know, California all
3 the way through CDPH up into our HHS Agency and the Governor's Office
4 continues to work collaboratively with federal partners to ensure that families in
5 our state are healthy and our communities are vibrant places to live and work.
6 And all the way through the chain we remain committed to protecting
7 Californians' access to critical services and programs they need.

8 I think the other more specific piece for public health is to say that
9 all Californians deserve to live in healthy and thriving communities, which is the
10 role of public health. And CDPH remains committed to seeking the resources
11 required to support the critical lifesaving infrastructure needed to keep people
12 healthy and protect them against infectious disease, vaccine preventable
13 diseases and health emergencies.

14 So, that is unwavering. We are continuing to monitor closely and
15 we will continue our work in the meantime. And as Lynnley said, we will be sure
16 to give updates as they come. Thank you.

17 AC CHAIR STERN: Thank you, Dr. Schumer. With that being
18 said, that concludes the CDPH updates. So, do any Advisory Committee
19 Members have any questions or comments?

20 I don't see any right now.

21 Now, do any members of the public or any of the programs
22 participating have any questions or comments?

23 Okay, we will move right along to Agenda Item number 4. So, this
24 is the Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Programs and Allocations.

25 The preliminary allocation for federal fiscal year 2025 is based on

1 level funding at the federal fiscal year 2024 award amount of \$12,048,841. We
2 will adjust each program's allocation proportionally pending the CDC's final
3 allocation for federal fiscal year 2025. It may go up or down slightly, we don't
4 know yet.

5 So, for the Advisory Committee Members I would like you to please
6 all refer to document D5, that is the Preventative Health and Health Services
7 Block Grant Program Descriptions, and I believe Amy has it up on the screen,
8 and document D6 which is the Preliminary Program Allocations.

9 I would just like to note as that's put up on the screen that there is a
10 program name update. So, the Advancing Climate Change and Health Programs
11 at local health departments, tribes and within CDPH is now known as Advancing
12 Extreme Weather and Health Programs at local health departments, tribes and
13 within CDPH. So please note that name change.

14 And looking at document D6 if Advisory Committee Members can
15 turn to that. I will just briefly summarize the allocations that are listed there,
16 some of the major high points.

17 Of the \$12,048,841 allocated to California you will see CDPH's
18 subtotal is \$8,565,322.

19 The subtotal for the federal Rape Prevention set-aside is \$825,408.

20 And the subtotal for EMSA is \$2,658,111.

21 So that kind of gives you the brief highlights of where the money is
22 allocated to.

23 The Federal Fiscal Year 2025 award will be expended during the
24 budget period from October 1, 2024, through September 30th of 2026. Please
25 keep in mind California is a second-year spender, so all programs will expend

1 their allocation during State Fiscal Year '25 or 2025 to 2026. So that time period
2 is, again, July 1, 2025, to June 30th of 2026.

3 Okay. In summary, the existing programs that will be funded to
4 continue or expand their projects include, and I will just list all the names here:
5 Advancing Extreme Weather and Health Programs at local health departments,
6 tribes and within CDPH, the Alzheimer's Disease Program, California Asylum
7 Seeker Health Surveillance and Linkage to Care, California Behavioral Risk
8 Factor Surveillance System or BRFSS program, the Cardiovascular Disease
9 Prevention Program, the Emergency Medical Services Prehospital Data and
10 Information Services and Quality Improvement Program, the EMS Systems
11 Operations, Planning and Specialty Care.

12 I do see somebody's hand is up so I will get to it really shortly.

13 The Healthy People 2030 Program, Injury Prevention Program, the
14 Office of Policy Planning, Public Health Accreditation Program, Public School
15 Health Center Support Program, excuse me, or PSHCSP, the Rape Prevention
16 Program, Toxicology Outbreaks Program, Tuberculosis Free California, Wildfire
17 Smoke Mitigation Program, and then the Workforce Development in Preventative
18 Medicine Residency and the California Epidemiologic Investigation Service, or
19 Cal-EIS Fellowship.

20 So, I do see a hand up and I am going to open it up to the Advisory
21 Committee Members for discussion on the allocations. I believe that's Leah's
22 hand up.

23 AC MEMBER NORTHROP: Thanks. I had a question about the
24 Alzheimer's Disease Program and if any local funding or -- basically, has that
25 program changed? Because I understood there was not going to be any future

1 local funding in that program. So, is this just at the state level and what are those
2 activities?

3 MS. FUNG: Good morning, this is Tina Fung from the Alzheimer's
4 Disease Program. For the Block Grant specifically, local assistance will include
5 an agreement with the UC -- with UCSF on their geriatric Workforce
6 Enhancement Program. So, it is a local effort but not county health department
7 specific.

8 AC MEMBER NORTHROP: Okay. I guess I would recommend
9 updating the description of the program.

10 MS. FUNG: Great. Thank you.

11 AC MEMBER NORTHROP: That was my main question.

12 AC CHAIR STERN: Thank you, Leah.

13 Any other questions or items for discussion on the allocations for
14 the Advisory Committee? I see Shira's hand.

15 AC MEMBER SCHLESINGER: Hi. I just want to confirm. I pulled
16 up last year's. It looks like there have been no changes to any of the programs, it
17 looks like an identical budget. And I just want to make sure that that is, in fact,
18 the case.

19 MR. HOANG: Hi, Phu Hoang, Program Coordinator. That is a
20 great observation, Shira. The 2025 budget is based on level funding until CDC
21 releases the actual funding. But as Lynnley mentioned earlier, if there is an
22 increase or a decrease we would ratchet proportionately across the board.

23 AC MEMBER SCHLESINGER: Got it. Okay, that's what I wanted
24 to confirm. Thank you.

25 MR. HOANG: Thank you.

1 AC CHAIR STERN: Great. If there is nothing else from the
2 Advisory Committee, I will open it up to members of the public for any comments.
3 I am not sure if anyone from the public is present, but if you have comments
4 please come off mute and introduce yourself.

5 I don't see anyone or any additional comments or hands raised so
6 I'll keep moving forward.

7 I just wanted to please note the Advisory Committee and CDPH
8 have done our due diligence to discuss these allocations and finalize them today.
9 So, before we take a vote on the allocations we want to note for the record that
10 since we serve as an advisory body to the Preventative Health and Health
11 Services Block Grant for California, in the event that any unanticipated changes
12 are needed to the individual program allocations we will defer to CDPH and allow
13 for those changes to be made. We would not require an additional meeting for
14 approval. So just wanted to put that out there.

15 So, moving on. The action item is to approve the federal fiscal year
16 2025 programs and funding allocations for state fiscal year 25-26. And we now
17 have a vote to approve the federal fiscal year 2025 programs and funding
18 allocations for our state fiscal year 25-26. Can I get a motion to approve from the
19 Advisory Committee?

20 AC MEMBER SCHLESINGER: I will motion that, motion to
21 approve.

22 AC CHAIR STERN: Okay. And then can I get a second?

23 AC MEMBER WU: I can second, thank you. This is Christine Wu.

24 AC CHAIR STERN: Thank you. So, all in favor say, aye.

25 (Ayes.)

1 AC CHAIR STERN: Does anyone abstain or oppose?

2 (No audible response.)

3 AC CHAIR STERN: All right. We are moving through this quickly.

4 Okay.

5 So, Agenda Item number 5, Adjournment. Before we adjourn are

6 there any remaining questions from Advisory Committee Members they want to

7 address?

8 AC MEMBER SCHLESINGER: I have a question. This is Shira

9 Schlesinger. I know, you know, we all know that the current fiscal environment in

10 terms of federal funding is somewhat unpredictable. I guess I am curious about

11 how the communication will go to the Advisory Committee if there is significant

12 changes to the block grant allocations as a block grant from HHS. Will there

13 be -- I understand there was some question about decreasing everything

14 proportionally. However, will that -- will we be informed? Will there need to be

15 another meeting? Do we anticipate that happening prior to our May final meeting

16 or after? I am just curious to how you are anticipating that process to proceed.

17 AC CHAIR STERN: Phu, do you want to respond to that, or Amy?

18 MR. HOANG: Yes. I'm Phu Hoang, Program Coordinator. So, if

19 there is a significant change our CDC project officer would give us a pretty early

20 heads up. At that point I think the process would be for us to present it to CDPH

21 executive leadership and from there they would either make a decision

22 depending on the timeline. But if there is time to consult with the AC Advisory

23 Committee Members I think our team would recommend that to the execs for

24 them to at least send an email notification and offer a last minute meeting if there

25 is time for that. But, yes, it is just so unpredictable with when we will receive the

1 actual allocations. But we will be sure to at least recommend that to our
2 executive leadership.

3 AC MEMBER SCHLESINGER: Thank you.

4 MR. HOANG: Thank you, Shira.

5 AC CHAIR STERN: Are there any remaining questions from
6 members of the public?

7 So, our final action item today is to ask for a motion to adjourn. We
8 now have to vote for a motion to adjourn. Can I get a motion to approve from
9 the -- or to adjourn from the Advisory Committee.

10 AC MEMBER NORTHROP: I will motion to adjourn. This is Leah
11 Northrop.

12 AC CHAIR STERN: Okay, thank you, Leah.

13 Can I get a second?

14 AC MEMBER SCHLESINGER: I will second that.

15 AC CHAIR STERN: Thank you, Shira.

16 All in favor, say aye.

17 (Ayes.)

18 AC CHAIR STERN: Does anyone abstain or oppose?

19 (No audible response.)

20 AC CHAIR STERN: Okay. Thank you, everyone. It's adjourned
21 and I hope you have a great rest of your day.

22 (The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.)

23

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18

I, RAMONA COTA, an Electronic Reporter and Transcriber, do

hereby certify:

That I am a disinterested person herein; that the foregoing
California Department of Public Health, Preventive Health and Health Services
Block Grant Advisory Committee meeting was electronically reported by me, and
I thereafter transcribed the recording to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am not counsel or attorney for any of the
parties in this matter, or in any way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 11th
day of April, 2025.



RAMONA COTA, CERT*478