



# THE STAKEHOLDER BRIEF

October - December 2014

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, 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](mailto: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.

### California Conference of Local Health Officers

- On **October 1 – 3, 2014**, the [California Conference of Local Health Officers](#) (CCLHO) will hold its [semiannual meeting](#) at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento. The three-day meeting, entitled “*The Promise of the Affordable Care Act*,” includes a CCLHO Business Meeting and a Continuing Education Program. All CCLHO meeting information is available on the [CDPH CCLHO web page](#).
- On **December 4**, the Board of the CCLHO will meet in Sacramento at the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). CDPH Director Dr. Ron Chapman will provide a CDPH update. Meeting information is available on the CDPH [CCLHO Web page](#).



## Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

- In the **fall of 2014**, Cal/OSHA plans to hold its next meeting regarding the revision of occupational lead standards to obtain further input from industry, labor, and other interested parties prior to a formal rulemaking process. Updating these standards, which are based on lead toxicity information from the 1970s, is an important occupational health policy effort in which CDPH is playing a key supportive role to Cal/OSHA. In October 2013, CDPH recommended a permissible exposure limit (PEL) of 0.5-2.1 micrograms per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) to keep most workers' blood lead levels low enough to prevent the health effects of chronic, low-level lead exposure over a working lifetime. Check the [Department of Industrial Relations website](#) for the date of the yet-to-be-scheduled meeting to discuss a draft revised standard for general industry.
- On **October 8, 2014**, CDPH Director Dr. Ron Chapman will join students, parents, school officials, teachers, and community residents in a Walk to School Day event at Thomas Edison Elementary School in Sacramento to highlight CDPH's leadership and support in promoting increased pedestrian and bicycle safety skills and physical activity among California's children. This is one of over 1,200 Walk to School events planned in communities across California during October. California's Walk to School activities are coordinated by Prevention First, a five-year program funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and jointly conducted by the CDPH Safe and Active Communities Branch, the Chronic Disease Control Branch, and the Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch, in partnership with the California Department of Education.
- On **October 30, 2014**, the Office of Problem Gambling (OPG) will hold the quarterly OPG Advisory Group meeting at the East End Complex in Sacramento. The Advisory Group will discuss the 2011-2015 Strategic Plan and OPG staff members will provide progress updates related to the plan and OPG initiatives. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, please visit the [OPG website](#).
- In **November 2014**, the California Tobacco Control Program (CTCP) plans to release Request for Applications (RFA), #CTCP 15-100, Achieving Tobacco-Related Health Equity among California's Diverse Populations, with the intent to fund approximately 25 to 50 projects to prevent and reduce tobacco use among groups with high rates of tobacco use. The term of the funded projects is anticipated to be July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020. Approximately \$5.3 million per year will be available from the Proposition 99 Tobacco Tax and Health Protection Act of 1988. Funding is contingent upon available revenues and appropriations by the Legislature and the Governor's Budget for fiscal year (FY) 2015-16 and subsequent FYs. Applications are due in January 2015 and the anticipated award date is February 2015. For more information, please visit the [CTCP website](#).
- On **November 6, 2014**, the Biomonitoring California's Scientific Guidance Panel will meet at the Cal/EPA Building in Sacramento. The afternoon session of this meeting will focus on diesel exhaust and biomonitoring. Biomonitoring California is a joint statutory program of CDPH and the California Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the Department of Toxic Substances Control, and is responsible for measuring toxic chemicals in California residents, tracking exposure trends

over time, and helping assess the effectiveness of existing public health and environmental programs in reducing exposures. For more information, please visit the [Biomonitoring California website](#).

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## Center for Environmental Health

- On **October 8, 2014** (tentative), the CDPH Center for Environmental Health, Food and Drug Branch (FDB) will participate in a U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Eastern District California Health Care Fraud Task Force Meeting for law enforcement, government agencies, and private insurance companies to share information on health care fraud in Northern California. The scope of the meeting is to discuss ways on how to abate fraud in Medicare, Medi-Cal, and private health insurance. FDB's role includes licensing of providers of health care within the Home Medical Device Retail license program. FDB will have the opportunity to discuss health fraud cases that might be relevant to other agencies on the task force.
- On **October 29, 2014**, the CDPH Radiologic Health Branch will hold its bi-annual Radiologic Technology Certification Committee (RTCC) public meeting in Sacramento. 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. RTCC members are appointed by the CDPH Director. Membership is comprised of six physicians and surgeons, two individuals representing the field of radiologic technology, one radiological physicist, one podiatrist, and one chiropractic practitioner. For more information, please visit the [CDPH RTCC website](#).
- On **October 31, 2014**, CDPH anticipates rescinding its [annual mussel quarantine](#) for the sport-harvesting of mussels in all coastal California counties. CDPH usually issues the annual quarantine on May 1st every year. This quarantine is intended to protect the public from paralytic shellfish poisoning (PSP) and domoic acid poisoning (DAP). Both of these toxins are linked to plankton consumed by filter-feeding animals such as bivalve shellfish, like mussels and clams. The majority of human cases of PSP illnesses occur between spring and fall. The annual mussel quarantine applies only to sport-harvested mussels along the entire California coastline, including all bays and estuaries. Routine biotoxin monitoring is maintained throughout this period. The annual quarantine does not affect the certified commercial shellfish growing areas in California. Shellfish sold by certified harvesters and dealers are subject to frequent mandatory testing.

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## Center for Family Health

- On **October 17, 2014**, the CDPH, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division (MCAH) will convene the 33rd Annual California Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Program Fall Conference at the CDPH East End Complex, 1500 Capital Avenue, Sacramento. The conference is for clergy, coroners, daycare providers, emergency personnel, families,

family physicians, fire department personnel, foster parents, funeral directors, general practitioners, grandparents, health care administrators, hospital personnel, law enforcement personnel, medical examiners, nurses, parents, pathologists, pediatricians, public health nurses, SIDS coordinators, social workers, students, and those individuals interested in learning more about SIDS and other sleep-related infant deaths. The conference goals are to provide attendees ways to cope with grief using hope and to rediscover life, love and laughter; understand grief, its' impact on families/relationships and how to effectively cope with the loss of an infant; acquire knowledge about current theories/research surrounding SIDS and other sleep related infant deaths; learn techniques and interventions to promote healing and empowerment. In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to interact with SIDS experts and network with the California SIDS community to exchange information and explore healing modalities. For more information on SIDS, please visit the [CDPH SIDS website](#).

- On **October 27-30, 2014**, the CDPH, Genetic Disease Screening Program will co-sponsor the 2014 Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) Newborn Screening and Genetic Testing Symposium along with APHL and the International Society for Neonatal Screening in Anaheim. Dr. Paul Kimsey, state laboratory director, will be on hand to welcome attendees to California and to open the meeting. This year's theme, "Newborn Screening: Reassessing Business as Usual," is sure to focus attention on the rapidly changing nature of testing for genetic disorders. This meeting brings together more than 500 clinicians, laboratorians, nurses, genetic counselors, public health professionals and maternal and child health service providers from nearly every state and many countries. At this meeting, attendees will explore and discuss a variety of important topics related to newborn screening such as policy, education, clinical outcomes, laboratory innovations, short and long term follow-up of patients, health information technology and numerous other cutting edge developments. For more information, please visit the [APHL website](#).
- On **November 5-6, 2014**, the CDPH, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Division will hosts the Perinatal Service Coordinator Annual Meeting at the CDPH East End Complex in Sacramento. The meeting convenes Perinatal Service Coordinators from MCAH's 61 Local Health Jurisdictions. The agenda will include workshops on *Immunization for Pregnant Women*, *Perinatal Mental Health*, *Best Practices in Gestational Diabetes*, and *The Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (ACES) Study and Perinatal Service Coordinators*. Attendees will have an opportunity to share best practices and network. For more information, please visit the [CDPH Comprehensive Perinatal Services Program website](#).

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## Center for Health Care Quality

- On **September 4, 2014**, the CDPH Center for Health Care Quality (CHCQ) hosted its first semi-annual stakeholder meeting in Sacramento and via WebX. The Center received stakeholder questions and comments regarding Licensing and Certification Program's recently published comprehensive Program Evaluation reports. Links to the Program Evaluation reports, a video of the September 4, 2014 meeting, updates, and future meeting announcements are available at the [Center's new online Stakeholder Forum](#). The website will serve as a one-stop communication portal and invites stakeholders to communicate

directly through use of a dedicated email address for their concerns: [CHCQStakeholderForum@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:CHCQStakeholderForum@cdph.ca.gov). The next semi-annual forum is planned for February 26, 2015. Details to be posted at the online forum.

- In **September 2014**, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) recognized the CDPH Center for Health Care Quality's Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program with 2nd place in Category A of its 2014 Vision Awards. The HAI Program received the award for being a model program in defining the role for state public health in improving delivery of health care in hospitals and other inpatient facilities. Created to oversee the prevention, surveillance and reporting of health care-associated infections in California's general acute care hospitals, the HAI Program produces annual public reports of hospital HAI data to inform choices of health care consumers and prompt providers to take actions to prevent infections; actively engages in HAI prevention by performing site visits to hospitals with high infection rates, convening prevention collaboratives, and providing infection prevention education; and provided consultation and assistance to local public health for infection outbreaks that occur in health care facilities. The vision of the HAI Program is to eliminate HAIs for all Californians, which it supports through operating on a balanced scorecard performance management strategy that holds staff accountable individually and as a team for health impact goals, customer-driven goals, learning and growth goals, internal process goals and financial stewardship goals. For more information, please visit the [CDPH HAI Program website](#).

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## Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

- The CDPH Center for Health Statistics and Informatics continues to assist programs in posting data tables to the [CDPH Open Data Portal](#), initiated on August 8, 2014. The goal is to publish five new data tables on the Portal each month. Data tables currently on the Portal include vital statistics, resources such as Women, Infants, and Children authorized vendors, diseases and conditions such as West Nile Virus and smoking, and items of general interest such as baby names and poverty rates. In the first two months of its public launch, the site has been viewed more than 70,000 times with more than 250 data tables downloaded. Subscriptions to the Open Data LISTSERV to receive updates on published data have grown to over 275 subscribers, doubling in size in September alone. The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development plans to contribute data tables to the California Health and Services Agency Open Data Pilot Project in October 2014.
- On **October 7, 2014**, the [Center for Health Statistics and Informatics](#) will conduct birth data quality workshops in Los Angeles County for birth clerks, nurse managers and health departments to discuss the importance of timely and quality birth-data collection. Presenters include regional perinatal program coordinators and the Paternity Opportunity Program. The workshop offers a forum for sharing ideas and information.
- On **November 6, 2014**, 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. A panel consisting of members from the Department of Motor Vehicles, Social Security Administration, and U.S. Department of State (Passports) will be present to discuss 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.

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## Center for Infectious Diseases

- In **September 2014**, the CDPH Tuberculosis (TB) Control Branch gave two presentations on “Applying Genome Sequencing to Tuberculosis Outbreak Investigations.” The CDPH TB Control Branch was an early adopter in applying whole genome sequencing to TB outbreak investigations. The branch has been invited to present on the use of this emerging technology to confirm or refute TB outbreaks and to focus TB investigations at the New York City Annual TB Genotyping Update on September 12 and at a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)-sponsored TB Outbreak Detection Workgroup meeting in Atlanta on September 19. As part of the Advanced Molecular Detection Initiative, the CDC invited the TB Control Branch to help produce an educational video clip describing a case study in California that illustrates the added public health benefit of whole genome sequencing to TB outbreak investigations. For more information, please visit the [CDPH TB Control Branch website](#).
- In **September and November 2014**, in collaboration with the University of California San Francisco Curry International Tuberculosis Center, the CDPH Tuberculosis (TB) Control Branch will present two national webinars: the diagnosis, management and treatment of latent tuberculosis infection (September 30), and epidemiology, diagnosis and treatment of *Mycobacterium Bovis* (November 7). For more information, please visit the [CDPH TB Control Branch website](#).
- On **October 14, 2014**, the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE) Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) Project Manager will present at the California Association of Public Health Laboratory Directors’ multi-day meeting in Monterey County in support of increasing the number of public health laboratories in California using ELR to report notifiable laboratory test results to public health.
- In **October 2014**, the [CDPH Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory \(VRDL\)](#) staff will participate in an online, web-based informatics self-assessment and data visualization tool presentation organized by the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL). CDPH will provide feedback to APHL on application functionality, design and usability.
- In **October 2014**, the CDPH Office of Refugee Health (ORH), in collaboration with the Department of Social Services’ Refugee Programs Bureau, will hold four regional quarterly consultation meetings with refugee stakeholders via conference calls. The goals of these meetings are to help promote sensible 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. For more information, please visit the [CDPH ORH website](#).
- On **October 1, 2014**, the CDPH Office of AIDS (OA) will convene the second meeting of its California Planning Group (CPG) in San Diego. OA will present *California’s Integrated HIV*

*Surveillance, Prevention, and Care Plan* and share current OA activities to meet plan goals and objectives. The plan is a requirement from OA federal funders, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration (Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program administrator). The October meeting is open to the public. For more information, please visit the [OA website](#).

- On **October 3, 2014**, the CDPH Office of AIDS, represented by its AIDS Injection Drug Use Specialist, will lead a roundtable discussion at the United States Conference on AIDS (USCA) in San Diego. The presentation will center on effective ways to respond to the most common concerns about syringe access programs. The USCA is one of the largest gatherings of people working and volunteering in the field of HIV/AIDS. It brings together people living with HIV/AIDS, advocates, policy makers, and public health workers to present and discuss new scientific knowledge, supporting peer technical assistance, and sharing best practices and promising new developments in the work to end the AIDS pandemic. For more information, please visit the [OA website](#).
- On **October 3, 2014**, the United States–México Border Health Commission (BHC) is holding the Breast and Cervical Cancers Binational Congress during Binational Health Week (BBHW) in San Diego. The purpose of the event is to educate physicians from Mexico and the United States about early cancer detection programs and the latest advances in cancer treatment. The BHC’s mission is to provide international leadership to optimize health and quality of life along the United States-México border. The BBHW was established in 2004 to help accomplish this mission. BBHW’s goal is to promote sustainable partnerships that can address border health problems. Intended outcomes include increased community and inter-agency networking relationships, information sharing and educational opportunities, and awareness of the BHC and other state and local initiatives. This year BBHW will take place during October to promote healthy lifestyles through different activities, including trainings, health fairs, and other community events. For more information, please visit the [CDPH Office of Binational Border Health website](#).
- On **October 4, 2014**, in coordination with the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health (OBBH), including the United States–México Border Health Commission (BHC), the Braille Institute and other partner agencies are planning an event called “El Poder Sin Ver” Expo 2014 in San Diego. This event is targeting the Latino Community and others who are suffering from low vision and/or blindness due to diabetes or other medical conditions. There will be resource tables, free services e.g., podiatrist services, glucose testing, free retinal screenings and eye glasses, among many activities. For more information, please visit the [CDPH OBBH website](#).
- On **October 10, 2014**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health (OBBH), including the United States–México Border Health Commission (BHC), in coordination with the San Diego Promotoras Education Committee, will hold two mental health trainings in Spanish for Promotoras at San Diego City College. The first training, “Mental Health FIRST AID” is for promotoras to recognize the signs and symptoms and response to a mental health crisis e.g., panic attacks, while in the field. In addition, it will teach promotoras on how to provide first aid assistance and refer clients to appropriate mental health services in the community. The second training, “Blanco y Negro a Colores: Entendiendo la Depresión” will train promotoras to provide culturally-sensitive and relevant information to the Latino

population regarding depression. For more information, please visit the [CDPH OBBH website](#).

- On **October 15-17, 2014**, the CDPH Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) chief and other representatives will attend the California Association of Public Health Laboratory Directors' meeting in Carmel, California and will make presentations on laboratory activities including an overview of the surge of measles cases in California earlier this year, as well as several posters regarding laboratory responses to communicable diseases.
- On **October 16, 2014**, the CDPH Infectious Diseases Branch staff will give presentations at annual meetings of two partner associations. Staff will present in Oxnard at the annual California Environmental Health Association meeting regarding "Epidemiology & Environmental Health Coordination in Foodborne Outbreak Investigations." Additionally, staff will present in Monterey to the California Association of Public Health Laboratory Directors regarding "Mosquito-borne Infections in International Travelers." For more information, please visit the [CDPH Infectious Diseases Branch website](#).
- On **October 23-24, 2014**, CDPH Vector-Borne Disease Section (VBDS) will provide an overview of activities conducted by CDPH pertaining to the prevention, surveillance, and control of West Nile virus and invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes at the Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California's quarterly board meeting in Sacramento. For more information, please visit the [CDPH VBDS website](#).
- In **November 2014**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health (OBBH) will hold its bi-annual OBBH Advisory Group Meeting in San Diego. The Advisory Group is composed of 12 members representing the California Conference of Local Health Officers, local governments, health plans, hospitals, community-based organizations, health consumers, universities, in different geographic regions of California, urban, and rural communities. The Advisory Group's purpose is to support the OBBH mission by developing and monitoring a strategic plan for OBBH to address border and binational health issues. It also advises CDPH and the California members of the U.S. – Mexico Border Health Commission on critical health issues. For more information, please visit the [CDPH OBBH website](#).
- In **November 2014**, the State Public Health Veterinarian will give a presentation on Animal Bites at the Annual Conference of the California Association of Communicable Disease Controllers in Oakland. For more information, please visit the [CDPH Veterinary Public Health Section website](#).
- On **November 6, 2014**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health (OBBH), in coordination with several agencies representing government, academia, and nonprofit organizations in the California - Baja California border region, will hold its second General Border Health Consortium of the California's Binational (BHCC) Meeting in San Diego. The goals of the BHCC Binational Group are to create networking opportunities in order to improve communication, strengthen collaboration and streamline coordination, share knowledge, best practices, and disseminate information amongst groups/organizations/individuals working in public health in the California - Baja California border region, facilitate access to trainings and capacity building for individuals and organizations working in public health in the California - Baja California border region, and educate local, state, and federal legislators regarding public health issues affecting the

border region and advocate for resources or policies to address these concerns. For more information, please visit the [CDPH OBBH website](#).

- On **November 13, 2014**, the CDPH Vector-Borne Disease Section will host the Lyme Disease Advisory Committee meeting in Sacramento to discuss and promote public education to reduce the risk of exposure to ticks and Lyme disease. For more information, please visit the [Lyme Disease Advisory Committee website](#).
- On **November 14, 2014**, the CDPH Office of AIDS will partner with the California HIV/AIDS Research Program (CHRP) and other community organizations to host a meeting to strategize on how to support health care providers (providers) and their patients to utilize pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for HIV prevention. PrEP, the daily use of a specific HIV medication by those who are not infected but at high risk of HIV exposure, can reduce the risk of acquiring HIV infection by up to 92 percent when taken consistently. This “PrEP Think Tank” will bring together PrEP researchers, local public health department staff, providers, advocates, and consumers to share information on PrEP demonstration projects taking place across the state, identify issues and best practices for service delivery, and discuss how to best meet challenges related to PrEP service delivery and update among key affected populations. For more information, please visit the [CDPH OA website](#).
- On **December 16, 2014**, the CDPH Communicable Disease Emergency Response Branch (CDER) will host the California Statewide BioWatch Advisory Committee quarterly meeting at the CDPH Richmond Campus. Committee members, including BioWatch jurisdictional coordinators, will discuss and work on standardizing California’s statewide notification plans and procedures for BioWatch.

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## Office of Health Equity

- In **fall of 2014**, CDPH anticipates the release of multi-component solicitations for the California Reducing Disparities Project, Phase II. Phase II will direct \$60 million toward helping five targeted communities: Native Americans, Latinos, Asian/Pacific Islanders, African Americans, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning, to demonstrate the effectiveness of promising community practices to elevate health equity and mental health access for the five specified vulnerable communities. Further information can be obtained by signing up for announcements at [OHE@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:OHE@cdph.ca.gov).
- In **August 2014**, the CDPH Office of Health Equity’s Climate and Health Team launched its “*Outsideln SLO: We Take Health and Climate Change Personally*” campaign in partnership with the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department. This pilot, *Outsideln SLO*, provides an opportunity for CDPH to increase awareness of climate change as a critical public health issue and enhance support for health-oriented climate actions efforts in San Luis Obispo County.
- On **September 30, 2014**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., the Office of Health Equity Advisory Committee will hold its quarterly meeting. 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. This meeting will be held by phone, but there will be five sites throughout California where the Advisory Committee members will be convening and those sites will also be open to the public. The sites will be in Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco, Fresno, and Los Angeles. For those choosing to call in rather than attend in person, please dial either 312-470-7394 or 800-779-1749; the participant passcode for the operator is “equity.” Public comment is welcome and encouraged. Please check the [OHE website](#) for additional details, including the agenda and addresses for the on-site locations.

- On **October 6, 2014**, the Health in All Policies (HiAP) Task Force will give a presentation highlighting key elements of a new Active Transportation Implementation Plan during the Governor’s Strategic Growth Council (SGC) meeting in Sacramento. The HiAP Task Force works under the auspices of the SGC, in collaboration with the CDPH Office of Health Equity (OHE). The goal of the presentation is to update SGC members on upcoming cross-sectoral opportunities for enhancing active transportation in California, provide agency testimonies about the value of the work, and gain SGC endorsement of the plan. The presentation will include an opportunity for public comment. The meeting agenda and materials will be available at [SGC’s website](#).
- On **October 8, 2014**, the Climate and Health Team will host the Climate Action Team - Public Health Working Group quarterly meeting from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Sierra Room in the California Environmental Protection Agency building in Sacramento. This meeting will focus on Promoting Active Transportation: The Health and Climate Benefits. Invited speakers include Caltrans, UC Davis Sustainable Transportation Center, and two local health departments. Meeting participants include CDPH staff, staff of other Climate Action Team member agencies, local health department staff, and stakeholders representing various public health, environmental and policy organizations. This meeting is open to the public in person and webcast. For more information, please visit the [Air Resources Board’s website](#).
- In **October and November 2014**, the CDPH Office of Health Equity’s Climate and Health Team will participate in California Pan-Ethnic Health Network’s (CPEHN) regional community convening, *A Forecast for Equity: Climate Change and Health in California*. The focus of this convening is to discuss the intersection of public health, environmental justice, and climate change, and strategize on next steps towards addressing the challenges facing our state. Meetings will be held in: Oakland – October 28, 2014; Fresno – October 29, 2014; Los Angeles – November 5, 2014; and San Diego – November 6, 2014. Each convening will run from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Climate Change and Health Team works on policy, land use and transportation planning, epidemiology, environmental health, health education and risk communication, emergency preparedness and other areas relating to climate change and health. Our partners include programs across CDPH, a variety of agencies in the state’s Climate Action Team, regional and local public health and human services agencies and stakeholders, health and medical care providers, planning and transportation entities, regional and local governments and health equity groups. Registration and more information will be available in late September at [www.cpehn.org](http://www.cpehn.org).

- On **December 5, 2014**, the CDPH Office of Health Equity (OHE) will participate on the statewide Student Mental Health Policy Workgroup (SMHPW). The State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SSPI) Tom Torlakson has convened a Student Mental Health Policy Workgroup (SMHPW) for the purposes of assessing the current mental health needs of California students and to gather evidence to support its policy recommendations to the SSPI and to the California Legislature. Meetings are open to the public and are held at the California Department of Education (CDE), 1430 N Street, Sacramento. For more information, please visit the [CDE website](#).

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### Office of Legal Services

- On **November 13, 2014**, Gregory Holtom, senior counsel, will give a presentation entitled “Emergency Declarations and Their Effects,” at the California Health and Welfare County Counsels Conference in San Francisco.

### Office of Quality Performance and Accreditation

- In **December 2014**, the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) is expected to issue a site visit report and render a final accreditation decision for CDPH. On August 19-21, 2014, PHAB conducted a site visit of CDPH. The site visit is the fourth step in the process to achieve national public health accreditation. The purpose of the visit was to evaluate and validate CDPH’s submitted evidence of conformity for 105 Standards and Measures, obtain answers to questions regarding the submitted documentation, and to provide an opportunity for discussion and further clarification.

### Public Health Emergency Preparedness

- On **August 24, 2014**, a 6.0 magnitude earthquake struck approximately five miles south of Napa, California at 3:20 am. A total of 281 injuries were reported in Napa and Solano Counties and one earthquake-related death. One community clinic and one hospital are still recovering from structural damage. Governor Brown requested a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration that would trigger the release of federal funds to help communities recover. CDPH has been active in responding to the needs of the impacted communities, including: staffing the State Operations Center (SOC) from 6:00 am Sunday, August 24, 2014 through 6:00 pm Friday, August 29, 2014 to coordinate communication and updates from CDPH Centers/Programs active in the field, and providing information directly to Cal OES through daily situation reports; tracking Women, Infants and Children (WIC) sites’ status for Napa and Solano Counties. Some WIC sites were impacted by the earthquake, including Solano County Health and Human Services Department in Vallejo, which reopened September 8, 2014; participating in the State’s Functional Assessment and Service Team (FAST) sent to Napa County to support the American Red Cross in staffing an Integrated Care Team. The State FAST members accompanied the team as it surveyed the communities affected by the earthquake. The mission of the FAST members was to identify any individuals with access and functional needs and persons with disabilities needing assistance; monitoring licensed health care facilities to assess damage or loss of utilities, and providing ongoing situational awareness; working with Napa County

Recorder's office to ensure availability of vital records; and assisting Napa County Public Health in conducting a Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) survey to assess emergency preparedness, mental health issues, chronic disease exacerbation and injuries following the earthquake.

- On **October 15, 2014**, CDPH will host its quarterly meeting of the California Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) on Public Health Emergency Preparedness. The JAC advises CDPH on statewide preparedness strategies for public health and medical care during disasters. The JAC works to 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, health care 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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