



THE STAKEHOLDER BRIEF

July - September 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. To subscribe or to unsubscribe from the list, visit the CDPH [Subscribe page](#). For questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact us at CDPHPress@cdph.ca.gov.

Table of Contents

Stakeholder Meetings	Page 1
Trainings & Conferences	Page 4
Regulatory Action	Page 8
Grants & Contracts	Page 9
Reports	Page 10
Speeches & Presentations	Page 12
Recent Activities & Achievements	Page 12

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

- **August 6 and September 3, 2015**, the California Conference of Local Health Officers (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 website](#).

Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

- **July 16, 2015**, the Biomonitoring California’s Scientific Guidance Panel will meet at the California Endowment Conference Center in Oakland. The agenda is posted on the program’s [website](#). 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 Californians, tracking exposure trends over time, and helping assess the effectiveness of existing public health and environmental programs in reducing exposures to toxic chemicals.

- **July 31, 2015**, the CDPH Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch (NEOPB) will convene a stakeholder meeting in Sacramento. 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 website](#). Please e-mail questions and comments to: NEOPBStakeholders@cdph.ca.gov.
- **September 15, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Problem Gambling's statewide Problem Gambling Advisory Group will convene in Sacramento, bringing together state agencies involved in regulating California's gambling industry and other key stakeholders. The Advisory Group provides information and recommendations for a statewide strategic plan to mitigate the negative impacts of gambling disorder. The meeting is open to the public.
- **September 20, 2015**, the Delta Mercury Exposure Reduction Program's (Delta MERP) Community Stakeholder Group meeting will be held at the Asian Pacific Self-Development and Residential Association in Stockton. The Delta MERP is a collaborative project of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta Conservancy, and CDPH Environmental Health Investigations Branch. The goal of the Delta MERP is to raise awareness about fish contamination in the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta. These quarterly meetings provide an opportunity for stakeholders, including community-based organizations, and local and state agencies, to stay informed and provide input. For more information, please visit the [MERP website](#).
- **September 28, 2015**, the CDPH Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch (NEOPB) will host a Partnership Summit at the Sierra Health Foundation in Sacramento. The purpose of this summit is to strengthen NEOPB's three-year Strategic Plan for obesity prevention by forming new partnerships, strengthening existing partnerships and synchronizing our initiatives with our statewide partners to collectively advance policy, systems, and environmental change efforts to increase health equity and reduce obesity, especially among low-income Californians. NEOPB will bring together approximately 30 local, regional and statewide stakeholders from multiple sectors, including public health, health care, education, retail, faith and agriculture to participate in the summit. As a part of the summit, NEOPB will be showcasing successful partnerships that have worked together in a mutually beneficial way to accomplish joint goals. For more information, please visit the [NEOPB website](#).

Center for Infectious Diseases

- **August 2015**, the CDPH Office of Refugee Health, in collaboration with the Department of Social Services' Refugee Programs Bureau, will hold four quarterly regional stakeholder meetings in Los Angeles, San Diego, Sacramento and Alameda. The goal is to 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.

Center for Health Care Quality

- **September 4, 2015**, the CDPH Center for Health Care Quality (CHCQ) will hold its semi-annual stakeholder forum in Sacramento. This meeting provides an opportunity for CHCQ to share its quarterly workload performance metrics and solicit feedback on improving the Licensing and Certification Program. Stakeholders may participate in person or via webinar. Webinar instructions and the agenda will be posted online in late August. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, including the most recent performance metrics posted May 8, 2015, please visit [CHCQ's Stakeholder Forum website](#). Please email questions and comments to CHCQStakeholderForum@cdph.ca.gov.

Center for Family Health

- **August and September 2015**, the California Regional Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Council will meet August 13 in Santa Ana and September 18 in Walnut Creek. These council meetings provide a forum for the SIDS community to work together and use education and encouragement to alleviate the tragedies surrounding SIDS. The regional councils update the California SIDS Advisory Council, a nine-member state-appointed council established in 1989 to advise CDPH of the most current issues and information related to SIDS. For more information, please visit the [SIDS website](#).
- **September 3, 2015**, the CDPH California Home Visiting Program's (CHVP) State Interagency Team (SIT) Workgroup will hold its quarterly meeting in Sacramento. The workgroup strives to improve home visiting through interagency collaboration. The workgroup's current focus is on mental health services and transition of families to post-home-visiting services. Workgroup members include the California departments of Education, Health Care Services, Developmental Services, Housing & Community Development and Social Services, the CDPH Women, Infants and Children Program, the American Academy of Pediatrics, First 5 California, the Domestic Violence Leadership Group, and Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Action representatives. For more information, please visit the [SIT CHVP website](#).
- **September 8 - 10, 2015**, the CDPH Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Division will host an annual meeting in Sacramento on Adolescent Sexual Health. This year's theme is "*Reaching & Teaching Diverse Populations*." This annual event provides opportunities for agencies implementing the MCAH programs to come together, share ideas and build collaborative opportunities.

Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

- **August 6, 2015**, the CDPH Center for Health Statistics and Informatics-Vital Records (CHSI-VR) will meet with county clerks, recorders and health departments at the quarterly Vision Group meeting in Sacramento. Items to be discussed include 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.

Office of Health Equity

- **August 5, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Health Equity will hold a stakeholder forum entitled “Stakeholders in Equity” in Los Angeles. At this forum, stakeholders will receive an overview of *Portrait of Promise: The California Statewide Plan to Promote Health and Mental Health Equity*. During this interactive forum, stakeholders will be invited to contribute ideas to the implementation of the plan. Space is limited to 40 participants, who will be selected in order of registration requests. Please send your requests to ohc@cdph.ca.gov and write “Stakeholders in Equity” in the subject line.
- **September 29, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Health Equity (OHE) Advisory Committee will hold its quarterly meeting in Sacramento. The Advisory Committee was created to advance the goals of OHE and is comprised of up to 26 representatives from state agencies and departments, local health departments, community-based organizations, vulnerable communities and stakeholder communities. The public is encouraged to attend or call-in to the meeting. For more information, please visit the [OHE website](#).

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

Trainings & Conferences

Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

- **June 29 - July 2, 2015**, the 8th Biennial Childhood Obesity Conference took 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. 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.
- **July 2015**, the CDPH Safe and Active Communities Branch Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Technical Assistance Resource Center will begin releasing a series of documents to assist school and community stakeholders in promoting safe, active transportation options for California’s students and their families. These include: the *California School Crossing*

Guard Training Guidelines and online training; *Building Leaders through Safe Routes to School*, *Facilitator's Guide to Engaging Middle School Youth*; *Safe Routes to School Programs in Rural California*, *A Guide for Communities and Partners*; and *Creating Safe Routes to School Programs in Tribal Communities in California*. These documents were developed with funding from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). For more information, please visit the [SRTS website](#).

- **August 19 - 21, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Problem Gambling (OPG) will host California Gambling Education and Treatment Services training in Sacramento. This training provides 30 hours of continuing education units to marriage and family therapists, licensed clinical social workers and psychologists. Providers who complete this training are also eligible to become authorized by OPG to receive reimbursement for the provision of treatment for gambling disorder. Participants will learn how to screen, assess and treat gambling disorders. For more information or to register, please visit the [OPG website](#).
- **September 29 - 30, 2015**, CDPH, the California Department of Education and the American Heart Association are co-hosting a statewide conference in Sacramento on Nutrition Guidelines and Sodium Reduction. This conference will advance the nutrition and sodium-related objectives of the California Wellness Plan, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-funded chronic disease prevention programs in CDPH, and the Health in All Policies Task Force. The conference goals are to: highlight best practices, strategies, and challenges for the adoption of strong comprehensive procurement policies; food service guidelines; and nutrition standards throughout California.

Center for Environmental Health

- **August and September 2015**, the CDPH Food and Drug Branch, Food Industry Education and Training Unit (FDB-IETU) will host food safety trainings August 4 - 5 in San Diego and September 23 - 25 in Irwindale. The training is for registered food processors on the topics of good manufacturing practices, food recalls, and food labeling requirements. For more information or to register, please visit the [FDB-IETU website](#).

Office of Quality Performance and Accreditation

- **August and September 2015**, the CDPH Office of Quality Performance and Accreditation invites local and tribal health programs and community partners to the 2015 Public Health Accreditation Readiness Conference, "*Moving Forward Together: California's Journey to Public Health Accreditation*," to be held August 26 - 27 in Sacramento and September 9 - 10 in Ontario. The conference provides opportunities for cross-jurisdictional collaboration, and shares tools and resources to support local and tribal health programs at their level of accreditation readiness. The conference aims to further improve the health and well-being of Californians by increasing local and tribal capacity to pursue and achieve national public health accreditation. For more information, please visit the conference websites: [Sacramento](#) and [Ontario](#).

Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

- **July, August, and September 2015**, the Center for Health Statistics and Informatics-Vital Records will conduct birth-data quality workshops on July 9 (webinar), August 26

(Sacramento), and September 10 (Santa Clara) 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 workshops offer a forum for sharing ideas and information.

- **July 13 – 17, 2015**, the 107th Annual California Association of Clerks & Election Officials Conference will take place in Sonoma County with the theme, “I Heard it Through the Grapevine... A Change is Gonna Come.” On July 16, 2015, the CDPH Center for Health Statistics and Informatics (CHSI) staff will provide an update on CHSI’s vision and mission, branch functions, accomplishments and other updates for the past year. Additionally, marriage registration topics will be discussed with the county clerks.

Center for Infectious Diseases

- **June 29, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health, in partnership with the San Diego County Office of Border Health and the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission-Mexico Section, coordinated the Binational Childhood Obesity Symposium during the 8th Biennial Childhood Obesity Conference 2015 in San Diego. CDPH co-hosted the Biennial Childhood Obesity Conference, which is the nation’s largest, most influential collaboration of professionals dedicated to combating pediatric obesity. *Please see “Training and Conferences” for more information about this conference.*

Currently, Mexico has the world’s highest rate of childhood obesity (more than 25 percent of children 5-11 years old) with the United States coming in at a close second (nearly 20 percent). The goal of this binational symposium is to present an overview of childhood obesity in the California-Baja California Border region with a look at successful projects, partnerships and promising practices. Experts from California and Baja California will share data, strategies and engage conference participants in a discussion around possible solutions and opportunities for binational collaboration. For more information call 1-800-858-7743 or visit the [conference website](#).

- **July 9 - 10, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health will participate in the first Binational Reunion of the United States-Mexico Binational Technical Workgroup in Mexico City, Mexico, to address “Actions in Response to Outbreaks of Infectious Diseases of Public Health Significance for the United States and Mexico.” The meeting is sponsored by the United States-Mexico Unit/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and by the General Directorate of Epidemiology/National Center for Disease Prevention and Control Programs/Federal Commission for Sanitary Risk Protection. The general objective is to establish a binational cooperation mechanism to detect, control and prevent outbreaks of infectious disease that are significant for the public health of the populations of the United States and Mexico.
- **July 10, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health, as a member of the San Diego County Promotores Coalition, is coordinating the 2015 Adelante Promotores Conference in Chula Vista. The aim of the conference is to provide annual training opportunities for Promotores/Community Health Workers (CHWs) in San Diego County. During the conference, Promotores/CHWs can attend personal and professional training workshops as well as discussions focused on health topics requested by them.

- **July 14 - 16, 2015**, the CDPH Tuberculosis (TB) Control Branch Registry staff will provide trainings on completion of the Report of Verified Case of Tuberculosis, the required national TB surveillance form, via webinar, to surveillance staff in local health departments. These data are used to monitor national TB trends, identify priority needs, and create the surveillance reports.
- **July 15, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health, in coordination with the County of San Diego's Office of Border Health and Office of Emergency Services, the UC Berkeley School of Public Health's Health Initiative of the Americas, and Project Concern International, a non-profit humanitarian non-governmental organization based in San Diego, will hold its first public health and emergency preparedness training in San Diego. The purpose of the training is to engage community leaders and organizations that serve the San Diego County Latino population on life-saving information in the event of a public health emergency or disaster.
- **July 15, 2015**, the CDPH Sexually Transmitted Diseases Control Branch (STDCB) and the California Family Health Council will co-sponsor an annual meeting in Oakland on the Chlamydia Screening (ClaSP) Project. ClaSP is a STDCB-supported chlamydia and gonorrhea screening and treatment project for females entering local juvenile detention facilities within 12 California counties. ClaSP project managers and clinical staff are invited to attend this meeting that explores best practices in reproductive health care for systems-involved youth.
- **July 15, August 19 and September 16, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health, as part of the San Diego County Promotores Coalition (SDCPC), is convening the monthly SDCPC meeting in San Diego. SDCPC aims to advance the work of Promotores to reach underserved populations and decrease health disparities. SDCPC's mission is to advance the work of Promotores and to support organizations that work with Promotores to increase access and services to residents of San Diego County.
- **August 4 - 7, 2015**, the CDPH Communicable Disease Emergency Response staff will attend the "Enhanced All-Hazards Incident Management/Unified Command" Course in College Station, Texas. This training is sponsored by the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service.
- **August 19, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health will convene the second California/Baja California Quarterly Epidemiology meeting in Tijuana, Mexico. Participants include key local and state public health officials from California and Baja California. The purpose of the meeting is to enhance situational awareness as it relates to infectious disease matters in the border region. This meeting provides a platform for sharing information on current infectious disease cases and/or outbreaks in the border region.
- **August 20, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Binational Border Health, in coordination with the County of San Diego Public Health Services, will convene a Consortium of the Californias' meeting in San Diego. The Consortium consists of agencies representing government, academia and nonprofit organizations in the California - Baja California border region with the aim of creating networking opportunities to improve communication, strengthen collaboration, streamline coordination, sharing knowledge and best practices, and

disseminating information amongst groups/organizations/individuals working in public health in the California - Baja California border region.

- **September 2015**, the CDPH Sexually Transmitted Disease Control Branch and the Fresno County Department of Public Health will co-sponsor a statewide meeting in Fresno on congenital syphilis prevention. The meeting will bring together representatives from local health jurisdictions to share information and best practices, and strengthen inter-jurisdictional collaboration.
- **September 17 - 18, 2015**, the CDPH Tuberculosis (TB) Control Branch staff will attend a national meeting of the TB Epidemiologic Study Consortium in Atlanta, Georgia to review findings and set direction on a national multisite study of latent TB infection. CDPH is one of 12 sites funded across the United States in this 10-year study consortium.
- **September 23 - 24, 2015**, the CDPH Tuberculosis (TB) Control Branch has been invited by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's TB Control Branch to present on the use of genotyping and whole genome sequencing to detect and investigate TB outbreaks in California. This presentation will be in Atlanta, Georgia.
- **Summer 2015**, California is one of five states selected to participate as a pilot jurisdiction in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) planned efforts for the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System Modernization Initiative. CDPH's Division of Communicable Disease Control will be partnering with other organizations, including the Association of Public Health Laboratories, the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists and the CDC.
- **September 2015**, the California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE) plans to host a Southern California regional training for state and local CalREDIE staff in local health departments.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

Regulatory Action

Center for Family Health

- **Summer 2015**, the CDPH Women, Infants and Children (CDPH/WIC) Division plans to release a regulatory alert to adopt a revised WIC Authorized Food List Shopping Guide (WAFL SG) into state regulation, per California Health and Safety Code Section 123322. The WAFL SG is the official list of authorized supplemental foods for CDPH/WIC and details the requirements for these foods. The revised guide will amend current regulations and make various changes to several CDPH/WIC food categories, including the addition of new foods, such as yogurt and canned mackerel. The new WAFL SG will become effective once the WIC regulatory alert process is completed, which includes releasing a regulatory alert, conducting a stakeholder workgroup, receiving and responding to public comment, and releasing a final action via regulatory bulletin.

Grants & Contracts

Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

- **September 2015**, the CDPH Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Branch will release guidance for local health departments (LHDs) in the development of a four-year subvention agreement to conduct Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education services beginning in Federal Fiscal Year 2017. Letters of intent will be requested from all LHDs to ascertain interest in receiving funds from CDPH.

Center for Family Health

- **Fall 2015**, the CDPH Maternal Child and Adolescent Health staff anticipates the release of a Request for Application for the Information & Education contracts. These contracts focus on providing sexual reproductive health information to males ages 12-19 with the goal of avoiding unintended pregnancies and decreasing sexually transmitted infections. Current Information & Education contracts will expire June 30, 2016. New cooperative agreements will be issued for three years for the new contract cycle that starts July 1, 2016.
- The CDPH California Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Program provides education in SIDS awareness, grief counseling and risk reduction strategies to all Californians. To facilitate this program, CDPH contracts with a private entity that develops materials and works with communities statewide to ensure SIDS programs are being properly trained and staffed and state mandates are being met. Effective July 1, 2015, the SIDS program will have a new contractor. During the transition, the [SIDS Program website](#) will continue to be made available to local health jurisdictions and the SIDS community.

Additionally, all reporting and documentation by both the coroner's office and local public health department for all sudden, unexpected infant deaths continues. Effective June 1, 2015, Coroner Notification Card, Public Health Services Reports, and other reporting documents must be sent to: CDPH/Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health, ATTN: SIDS Program, California Department of Public Health, PO Box 997420, MS 8304, Sacramento, CA 95899-7420

Center for Infectious Diseases

- **July 2015**, the CDPH Office of AIDS' AIDS Drug Assistance Program (CDPH/OA/ADAP) will release two Requests for Proposals (RFPs): one for Enrollment Benefits Management services in collaboration with the Department of General Services (DGS), and another for Health Insurance Premium Payment and Medical Out-of-Pocket Payment services. In 2014, ADAP received approval from the Administration and the Legislature to pay for medical out-of-pocket costs for clients enrolled in OA's Health Insurance Premium Payment (OA-HIPP) Program. OA's goal is to implement payment of medical out-of-pocket costs for clients enrolled in OA-HIPP by January 2016. ADAP, in collaboration with DGS,

also anticipates releasing a third RFP, for pharmacy benefits management services, in the fall 2015. For more information, please visit the [OA website](#).

Office of Health Equity

- **Summer 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. CDPH plans to fund selected approaches that have strong evaluation, technical assistance, and infrastructure support components across the five CRDP-targeted populations: Native Americans, Latinos, Asian/Pacific Islanders, African Americans, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning. For more information, please visit the [CRDP website](#).

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

Reports

Center for Family Health

- **July 10, 2015**, the CDPH Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Division and Department of Health Care Services' Systems of Care Division will submit to the federal government the annual report in compliance with Title V of the Social Security Act which presents information about planned Title V activities in the state and data on relevant health indicators. The Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant is federally administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration and provides core funding to California to improve the health of mothers and children. Title V programs serve all pregnant women, mothers, infants, children and adolescents, including children with special needs. The draft Title V report will be available [online](#) for review and public comments.
- The CDPH Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division recently published local-level data tables of Maternal and Infant Health Assessment (MIHA) indicators stratified by race, income, prenatal health insurance, age and education. MIHA is a population-based survey of women with a recent live birth in California. The MIHA survey collects information on a variety of health-related indicators including nutrition, weight, health insurance, service utilization, breastfeeding intention, infant sleep, intimate partner violence, substance use, hardships, income and demographics. Data will be available for multi-county regions and also for the 20 counties that have the greatest number of births. These data will be published on the [MIHA website](#). Publication of these MIHA data tables provides local public health programs with a tool to use to plan, target and assess public health interventions.
- CDPH recently released the [2013 adolescent birth rates \(ABR\)](#). California's ABR decreased by 11 percent from the 2012 rate of 26.2 per 1,000 females aged 15 - 19 to 23.2 in 2013. The ABR by age and race/ethnic groups were lower in 2013 than ever reported in California. However, despite declining birth rates, the 2013 data show persistent disparities

in adolescent childbearing. Hispanic adolescents accounted for 74 percent of all adolescent births and had the highest ABR at 34.9; African-American and Hispanic adolescents were 3.0 and 3.8 times, respectively, more likely to give birth than White adolescents. Additionally, the ABR varied widely across California counties, from a low of 8.1 in Marin County to a high of 49.1 in Kern County.

Center for Infectious Diseases

- **June 29, 2015**, the CDPH Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Control Branch released the 2014 STD Tables for chlamydia, gonorrhea, primary and secondary syphilis, early latent syphilis, late latent syphilis, and congenital syphilis case reports. These 2014 tables show STD cases and rates by: 1) local health jurisdiction by year; 2) local health jurisdiction by gender; and 3) state by gender, race/ethnicity, and age group.

The 2014 STD case report data indicate that gonorrhea rates continue to increase sharply across all regions in California. California continued to experience increases in early syphilis with a 12 percent increase in 2014 compared with 2013. The increase in female early syphilis is especially concerning because of the associated increases in preventable congenital syphilis cases which were also observed in 2014: the number of congenital syphilis cases in infants under one year nearly doubled from 56 to 100. Most of the increases in cases were reported in the Central Valley (Fresno, Kern), and a high number of cases continue to be reported from Los Angeles.

Chlamydia remains the most common reportable disease in California and the 174,557 chlamydia cases in 2014 reflect a four percent overall increase compared with 2013. For more information, please visit the [STD Control Branch website](#).

- **August 2015**, the CDPH Tuberculosis (TB) Control Branch will distribute reports to 21 high- and medium-morbidity local TB programs summarizing key findings of the TB Program Assessment Template, an infrastructure assessment tool. The reports can be used for local capacity building and advocacy.

Office of Health Equity

- **Summer 2015**, the CDPH Office of Health Equity (OHE) is releasing two reports for use by counties: the Climate Vulnerability Assessment Report and the Climate and Health Profile Report. These reports provide a tool for climate-adaption planning using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Building Resilience Against Climate Effects Framework. OHE has also released a new series of California Climate and Health Case Stories highlighting how local public health departments are responding to climate change as an emerging public health issue. Public health departments have important roles to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change. These reports were prepared by OHE's California Building Resilience against Climate Effects program (CalBRACE) and funded by CDC's Climate Ready States and Cities Initiative. For more information, please visit the [CalBRACE's website](#).

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

Speeches & Presentations

Center for Environmental Health

- **August 5, 2015**, the CDPH Radiologic Health Branch staff will present “Radiation Safety Good Practices” during the California Veterinary Medical Board meeting in Sacramento. CDPH staff will speak to members of the Board about common radiation safety hazards that arise during veterinary procedures and how to mitigate these radiological hazards during those procedures.

Office of Health Equity

- **July 7, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Health Equity (OHE) staff will present on the innovative California Reducing Disparities Project at the National Alliance on Mental Illness workshop in San Francisco. This workshop will feature a special topic entitled: “Culture Counts: Reducing Mental Health Disparities.” The workshop will focus on what is being done to address disparities and inequities and what service providers and policy makers can do to elevate the voice of vulnerable populations to effectuate change.
- **July 16, 2015**, the CDPH Office of Health Equity staff will present on the work that California is undertaking to encourage health in all policies at the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials’ Senior Deputies Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Center for Family Health

- **September 23, 2015**, the CDPH Center for Family Health staff will present an overview of its perinatal-focused Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health programs during a meeting with the Department of Health Care Services’ Managed Care Plan Quality Improvement Collaborative Workgroup in Sacramento. The goal of the presentation is to help managed care plans have a better understanding of available public health resources and how to access them.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)

Recent Activities & Achievements

Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

- **June 25, 2015**, CDPH submitted California’s application for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (PHHSBG) funds. The application for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2015 funds is due July 1, 2015 and the Notice of Grant Award will be distributed shortly thereafter.

CDPH is designated as the principal state agency for the allocation and administration of the PHHSBG within the state of California. The FFY 2015 Award amount is expected to be \$10,335,868. Funds will be split between CDPH and the Emergency Medical Services Authority, with CDPH receiving approximately 70 percent. The term is October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2016.

For the last several years, the CDC has awarded states PHHSBG funds well into the award period due to the delayed federal budget process. The FFY 2015 budget was signed March 2015. California plans to expend these funds in state fiscal year 15/16 (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016) to develop and/or implement programs and activities that prevent disease and injury and, as a result, decrease the major causes of morbidity and mortality; provide leadership in developing and implementing emergency medical systems throughout California, and optimize the health and well-being of the people in California.

Center for Family Health

- All 61 local health jurisdictions (LHJ) are in the process of completing their five-year needs assessment and submitting five-year action plans for locally identified problems. LHJ five-year action plans will improve local Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) planning efforts, the ability to describe outcomes and leverage resources, and improve collective impact across the State by supporting a common understanding of problems and strategies. State MCAH staff is developing a process to facilitate monthly health topic discussions with MCAH directors, based on LHJ-identified problems. Monthly calls will begin in July and voluntary workgroups will be formed in advance of the calls.

Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

- CDPH was the first California Health and Human Services Agency department to launch its [Open Data Portal](#) in August 2014, a project funded by the California Health Care Foundation. The Open Data Portal provides the public with unprecedented user friendly access to the state health and human services data. Since the launch, CDPH has published over 80 data tables of non-confidential, aggregated data. The CDPH Open Data Portal is an example of state government's commitment to serve consumers/citizens to increase awareness of the availability and usefulness of government data to improve health outcomes, reduce health disparities and reduce health care costs.

Center for Infectious Diseases

- **July 1, 2015**, the CDPH AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) will expand access to hepatitis C virus (HCV) medications to include all HCV co-infected ADAP clients, regardless of liver disease stage. This policy is in alignment with the federal Health and Human Services guidelines for treating HCV co-infection among human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-infected persons and the revised Department of Veteran Affairs' HCV clinical guidelines, which recommend that all HIV/HCV co-infected patients be treated.

Health Care Reform

- The Affordable Care Act continues to create opportunities and challenges for public health. Our partners in the clinical health care system are beginning to integrate public health concepts into their business practices, delivery systems and payment incentives. These include addressing social determinants of health, providing whole person-patient centered care, experimenting with regional multi-organization collaboratives focused on common goals, emphasizing and reimbursing for clinical preventive services and financing upstream interventions in population health. CDPH, like many state and local health departments, has been acting in a catalyst and convener capacity to share and capitalize on its expertise in all of the previously mentioned areas to provide technical assistance at multiple levels.
- CDPH is conducting a Let's Get Healthy California (LGHC) "Innovation Challenge" to engage and empower people to work together toward improving the health of their community and the state. CDPH is accepting submissions through August 15, 2015 in the categories of: Healthy Beginnings; Living Well; End of Life; Redesigning the Health Systems; Creating Healthy Communities; and Lowering Cost of Care. CDPH, through the LGHC Initiative, offers this challenge for anyone who is interested in sharing an innovative proposal as one way to engage the public in creating a healthier state. Judges will select three finalists from each of the six categories that are aligned with the LGHC goals. Finalists will be announced September 30, 2015 and will be highlighted at the statewide 2016 LGHC Innovation Conference. Selected submissions will be featured on the LGHC dashboard and website for its 2016 launch.

For more information or questions regarding Let's Get Healthy California and the Innovation Challenge, visit the [California Health and Human Services Agency Let's Get Healthy website](#) or email LGHC@cdph.ca.gov.

- CDPH has been actively involved in the California State Health Care Innovation Plan and State Innovation Model, particularly focused on the Accountable Communities for Health (ACH) and Maternity Care Initiatives. The ACH initiative is a multi-payer, multi-sector alliance of the major health care systems, providers, and health plans, along with public health, key community and social services organizations, schools, and other partners serving a particular geographic area. An ACH initiative is responsible for improving the health of the entire community with particular attention to achieving health equity among its residents. The ACH initiative is in-line with CDPH's efforts to support clinical and community linkages and improved health literacy to further the goals of reducing health disparities and getting the right care in the right place at the right time, while also leveraging expertise in data collection and analytics to inform issues around access and quality of care.

Office of Health Equity

- **August 2015**, the CDPH Office of Health Equity anticipates releasing the California Reducing Disparities Project Strategic Plan to Reduce Mental Health Disparities. The community-authored strategic plan identifies 25 strategies for transforming the California public mental health system to 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.

- **September/October 2015**, an article "Promoting Health and Behavioral Health Equity in California" has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Public Health Management & Practice. The article highlights how California's work through its Office of Health Equity (OHE) demonstrates that state offices of minority health can play an important role in behavioral health integration. It details how CDPH has focused its health equity strategies on reducing behavioral health disparities through OHE priorities and activities, and how stakeholders have played a key role in OHE's development and priority-setting. The article also clarifies the processes for developing the California Statewide Plan to Promote Health and Mental Health Equity and the California Reducing Disparities Project Strategic Plan to Reduce Mental Health Disparities, and how these plans, along with California's other statewide planning efforts, complement each other. Authors include Jahmal Miller, MHA, OHE deputy director, and Tamu Nolfo, PhD, OHE senior project manager.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

- The CDPH Emergency Preparedness Office is working closely with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to enhance state and local disaster mental/behavioral health planning and response through training, development of communication protocols and connecting to local and regional initiatives. CDPH and DHCS meets monthly with other state agencies, including the Department of State Hospitals, Department of Social Services and Department of Developmental Services, to provide updates and discuss next steps in disaster-behavioral-health planning. CDPH has also engaged DHCS in the development of a function-specific chapter on behavioral health to be added to the California Public Health and Medical Emergency Operations Manual to depict where mental/behavioral health fits into the public health and medical response system. The next state agency collaborative meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2015.
- **September 1, 2015**, the CDPH Emergency Preparedness Office (EPO) will roll out a new online emergency notification and alerting system which will provide the backbone for the California Health Alert Network (CAHAN). EPO has partnered with the industry leader on emergency notification and reverse 9-1-1 systems, Everbridge Inc., to design an integrated state and local public health emergency alerting resource. For more information, please email CAHANinfo@cdph.ca.gov.

[\(Back to Table of Contents\)](#)