COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
**Public Health**

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July 28, 2014

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. J E Fielding MD
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PUBLIC HEALTH WORKING FOR YOU – 2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT**

I am pleased to share with you the 2012-2013 Annual Report, "County of Los Angeles Public Health Working for You."

This report describes our department's efforts to protect health, prevent disease, and promote the health and well-being of all residents in Los Angeles County. You will see that we have worked to strengthen the ability of communities to prepare for, and respond to, emergencies through our Community Resiliency Project. We also launched a new Environmental Health customer call center to process complaints and requests more efficiently. During a foodborne-related hepatitis A outbreak in 2013, we responded swiftly by ensuring contaminated frozen berries were removed from store shelves and expanded our public health clinic hours to rapidly provide residents with vaccine and immunoglobulin in order to prevent the spread of this viral illness.

During the 2012-2013 time period the Department conducted 51,728 restaurant inspections and 12,111 food market inspections crucial to protecting the public's health from food-related illness, and submitted more than 30,000 health insurance applications through contracted agencies to help uninsured children and families obtain health benefits and services.

This report also highlights the Department's campaigns and programmatic accomplishments, many with the support and collaboration of our essential external partners.

As I retire from county service, I would like to thank you and the other Supervisors for your trust, guidance, and strong support for many of the public health initiatives designed to improve health in our great County. It has been my honor and privilege to work with you, and I wish you much continued success.

JEF:sn

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PUBLIC HEALTH

# WORKING FOR YOU

County of Los Angeles Public Health

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# MISSION

To protect health,

prevent disease,

and promote

the health and well-being

of all persons

in Los Angeles County

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Director ..... 3
Working for You Through the Years ..... 4
Department of Public Health: At a Glance ..... 6
10 Key Public Health Actions ..... 7
Programs and Services ..... 8
Strategic Priorities ..... 10
Public Health Centers ..... 11
Map of Area Health Offices ..... 12

## PUBLIC HEALTH WORKING FOR YOU

Response to Hepatitis A Outbreak ..... 14
Protecting LA County from Influenza ..... 16
Ensuring the Safety of Homemade Foods Sold to the Public ..... 19
Environmental Health Enhances Efficiency: Goes Electronic and Opens New Call Center ..... 20
Powerhouse Fire Response: Public Health Acts to Maintain the Health and Safety of the Responders and Public ..... 22
Oral Health Program Ensures the High Quality of Dental Care ..... 24
"Parks After Dark" Program Promotes Healthy Activity and Curbs Violence ..... 26
Innovations in the Public Health Lab ..... 28
Creative Partnership Streamlines Food Facility Construction at LAX ..... 30
Annual Art Contest Raises Awareness of Childhood Lead Poisoning ..... 32
Public Health Centers Score High on Patient Experience ..... 34

Campaigns ..... 36
Additional Accomplishments ..... 38
Keeping LA Informed ..... 42
Department and Employee Awards ..... 44
Financials ..... 46

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
2012-2013 Annual Report

This report covers the 2012-2013 fiscal year,
or the period July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Fellow Angelenos,

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is committed to "Working for You," the theme of this year's annual report. Highlighted throughout these pages you will find examples of the many ways our dedicated staff works on your behalf to improve health in our great county.

For instance, over the past year we strengthened the ability of communities to prepare for, and respond to, emergencies through our Community Resiliency Project. We opened a new customer call center at the Division of Environmental Health to process complaints and requests more efficiently. In June of last year, we were alerted of a foodborne illness caused by a frozen berry mix contaminated with hepatitis A. We swiftly organized a campaign to safely remove this product from store shelves and provided residents with vaccine and immunoglobulin at several of our clinics. Our actions prevented the spread of this viral illness. We also developed many new public health outreach campaigns to educate the community about healthy living and eating, and safety. These initiatives and the work we do are making a positive difference in LA County, based on the latest indicators of health improvement, which include increased longevity.

As you may know, I have announced my intention to retire from county service to focus on teaching, research, and innovations that can make a difference in our health nationally as well as locally. It has been my privilege to serve as your Director of Public Health and Health Officer these past 16 years. I would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for its trust, guidance, and strong support for our many public health initiatives to improve health in LA County. I would also like to thank our staff who, day in and day out, plan, educate, inspect, analyze, treat, innovate, and collaborate to transform life in the nation's most populous county.

Thank you for continuing to put your trust in the LA County Department of Public Health. Our dedicated team will continue to work in our community—both visibly and behind the scenes—to ensure improved health for all in Los Angeles County.

Jonathan E. Fielding

Jonathan E. Fielding, MD, MPH
*Director and Health Officer*

# WORKING FOR YOU THROUGH THE YEARS

Over the past 16 years, under Dr. Fielding's leadership, significant gains have been made in improving the health of Angelenos. Increased life expectancy, reduced infant mortality, and decreases in many of the leading causes of death (notably coronary heart disease, stroke, and lung cancer) reflect the important work of Public Health and its partners in educating LA County residents on how to reduce the risk of certain conditions and live healthier lifestyles.

## AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH

INCREASED

1998
77.8
YEARS

2010
81.5
YEARS

## DEATH RATE

DECREASED

19%
IN LA COUNTY
2001-2010

13%
IN THE US
2001-2010

## LARGE DECREASE IN THE DEATH RATE FROM CORONARY HEART DISEASE

THE #1 CAUSE OF DEATH

DOWN
37%
2001-2010

## GREAT DECREASE IN THE DEATH RATE FROM STROKE

THE #2 CAUSE OF DEATH

DOWN
35%
2001-2010

## ADULT SMOKERS DECREASED

DOWN
28%
1999-2011

NEARLY 350,000 LESS ADULT SMOKERS

## YOUNG ADULT SMOKERS DECREASED

(18 – 24 YEARS)

DOWN
45%
1999-2011

50,000 LESS YOUNG ADULT SMOKERS

**Los Angeles County residents are living longer, healthier lives due to the efforts of Public Health and our many partners.**

### PREVENTED THE SPREAD OF H1N1 FLU VIRUS

2009

**200,000+**

VACCINATIONS IN 7 WEEKS

### STATE-OF-THE-ART LAB

**500,000+**

LAB TESTS PER YEAR

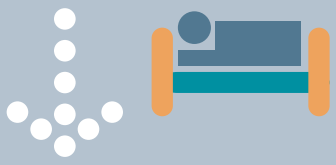
REDUCED COMMUNICABLE DISEASE THROUGH RAPID ID OF PATHOGENS

### RESTAURANT GRADING PROGRAM

FOODBORNE ILLNESS HOSPITALIZATIONS

**DOWN**

**13%**



LAUNCHED IN 1998

### INCREASED EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

**EARTHQUAKES, FIRES, FLOODS, PANDEMICS**

WE ARE READY TO RESPOND

### NEW PUBLIC HEALTH CLINIC OPENS IN SOUTH LA

PROVIDES CLINICAL SERVICES FOR

**STDs, TB & IMMUNIZATIONS**

### HELPED STOP THE INCREASE OF CHILDHOOD OBESITY

BY PROMOTING

**PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & HEALTHY MENU PLANNING**

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# AT A GLANCE

Public health services have been provided in the County of Los Angeles since the 1800s. The department was founded in 1903 when the Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance for the provision of a county health department. In 2006, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health separated from the Department of Health Services and became its own freestanding department.

**$893m** BUDGET — FY 2012-2013

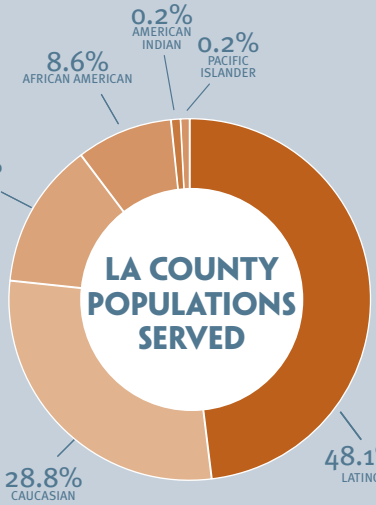
**39** PROGRAMS

**14** HEALTH CENTERS

**9.9m** LA COUNTY RESIDENTS

NEARLY **4,000** STAFF

**200+** LANGUAGES SPOKEN




COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PUBLIC HEALTH

**WORKING FOR YOU**

### ADDITIONAL FACTS ABOUT LA COUNTY

**4,000+** Square Miles. **88** Incorporated Cities.
About **140** Unincorporated Areas. **2** Islands (Santa Catalina and San Clemente).

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# 10 KEY PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIONS

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health protects and improves the health of our community by performing these key actions:

1. **MONITOR**
   Finds health problems in the community.
2. **DIAGNOSE**
   Finds what causes health problems.
3. **INFORM, EDUCATE, AND EMPOWER**
   Teaches people how to prevent disease and improve health.
4. **MOBILIZE**
   Works with the community to find and solve health problems.
5. **DEVELOP**
   Makes rules and plans that help individual and community health.
6. **ENFORCE**
   Makes sure rules are followed so that people are safe and their health is protected.
7. **LINK**
   Helps people gain access to the health care services they need.
8. **ASSURE**
   Makes sure our employees are prepared to do their job well.
9. **EVALUATE**
   Makes sure our programs are working and doing a good job.
10. **RESEARCH**
    Studies new ways to solve health problems.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

**The Department of Public Health improves the lives of LA County residents through its 39 programs, 14 public health centers, and four Area Health Offices. Among the programs that provide the department's most-utilized services are the following:**

## Children's Medical Services

Children's Medical Services provides medical case management and physical and occupational therapy services to special health care needs children under 21 years of age, preventive screenings and well-child checkups to low-income children throughout LA County, and care coordination to children detained in the LA County foster care system.

## Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention

The goal of this division is to prevent the occurrence and reduce the severity and consequences of chronic diseases and injuries. To accomplish this, the division works with multiple sectors, such as health care; federal, state, and local governments; city planning departments; transportation; schools and universities; law enforcement; and other community partners to address the underlying causes of chronic diseases and injuries, including those related to the physical and social environments.

## Communicable Disease Control and Prevention

Communicable Disease Control and Prevention seeks to reduce the risk factors and disease burdens of preventable communicable diseases by promoting healthy behavior, conducting surveillance of diseases and risk factors, providing screening and enabling early detection, performing laboratory analysis, and conducting communicable disease investigation and control measures.

## Community Health Services

Community Health Services provides clinical services, surveillance, and case management through fieldwork. Public health nurses, investigators, community workers, and other staff go into the field to follow up on patients and clients to reduce the spread of communicable diseases, educate the community, and conduct health outreach activities. In addition, the division operates 14 public health clinics, which provide immunizations and medical treatment for tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases, with a focus on preventing the transmission of communicable diseases that can endanger the health of the community.

## Emergency Preparedness and Response

The Emergency Preparedness and Response Program's purpose is to prepare for emergencies and minimize adverse health effects caused by all hazards, such as pandemics, earthquakes, infectious disease, and other public health threats through the development and exercise of a comprehensive public health emergency preparedness response plan. This includes building community disaster resilience to strengthen response and recovery.

## Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Division promotes health and quality of life by identifying, preventing, and controlling harmful environmental factors. Among its responsibilities, it conducts inspections of retail food facilities, residential housing, potable water supplies, and on-site wastewater systems, and it monitors ocean water quality. It also responds to environmental emergencies associated with earthquakes, wildfires, flooding and other natural hazards, chemical releases, and radiological incidents. In addition, it is leading efforts to reduce the health impacts of climate change while promoting the development of healthy, sustainable, and resilient communities. To help assure a secure water future for the region, the department is promoting industrial wastewater recycling, residential gray water systems, and rainwater capture and reuse.

The Department of Public Health's activities include direct medical services for immunizations, tuberculosis, and sexually transmitted diseases; disease surveillance and outbreak control; health inspections; emergency preparedness and response; and initiatives to prevent chronic disease and injury.

## Health Assessment and Epidemiology

The Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology ensures the availability of comprehensive health data on the Los Angeles County population for public health assessment, policy development, and program planning and evaluation. It oversees the development and implementation of the LA County Health Survey, a periodic, population-based telephone survey that collects data from a representative sample of LA County residents on health conditions, health behaviors, and health care access and utilization of services. It is also responsible for the collection and processing of birth and death data.

## Health Facilities Inspection

Health Facilities Inspection is responsible for the licensing and certification of the nearly 2,000 hospitals, long-term care facilities, and other health care facilities and ancillary health care services in LA County. Inspections evaluate compliance and document findings. This program also responds to citizen complaints regarding health facilities or providers.

## HIV and Sexually Transmitted Disease Services

The Division of HIV and STD Programs is responsible for coordinating the department's response to STD and HIV infections in Los Angeles County. As part of its charge, the division manages federal, state, and local funds designed to support epidemiologic and disease surveillance systems, prevention and disease control efforts, coordinated care and treatment services, field investigation, program monitoring, and evaluation. The division's coordinated response relies heavily on partnerships with public partners, including a network of public health clinics and school districts, as well as with a diverse array of private-sector, community-based organizations.

## Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health

Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health is responsible for planning, implementing, and evaluating services that address the health priorities and primary needs of infants, children and adolescents, mothers, and their families in LA County through ongoing assessment, policy development, and quality assurance. Its staff is composed of a multidisciplinary team of physicians, public health nurses, policy analysts, administrators, nutritionists, health educators, social workers, epidemiologists, and support staff.

## Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Program strives to reduce the community and individual effects of alcohol and other drug abuse through evidence-based programs and policy advocacy. It administers contracts with more than 300 community-based agencies and directly operates the Antelope Valley Rehabilitation Center, which offers a wide array of prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services for LA County residents.

## Women's Health

The Office of Women's Health promotes and improves the health, well-being, and access to culturally responsive, comprehensive health services for women in Los Angeles County. It does this through community and county collaborations, education on key women's health issues, and the promotion of evidence-based programs and policies. Through its multilingual Women's Health Hotline, the Office of Women's Health assists uninsured and low-income women with appointments, information, and referrals.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Following its Strategic Plan for 2013-2017, the Department of Public Health is guided by the following priorities:

## HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTS

Support and develop neighborhoods and institutions that support healthy lifestyles.

## PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE

Improve the availability, use, and integration of prevention-focused, evidence-based health care services.

## EMPOWERED HEALTH CONSUMERS

Support individuals in making informed choices about their health.

## HEALTH EQUITY

Support each person in Los Angeles County in attaining his or her full health potential regardless of socially determined circumstances.

## PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION

Prevent, detect, and respond to health threats.

## IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE

Strengthen the Department of Public Health to remain a high-performing and innovative organization.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# PUBLIC HEALTH CENTERS

The Department of Public Health operates 14 health centers in LA County that provide free and low-cost services to those with no insurance or regular health care provider. Services provided focus on population-health interventions, such as immunizations and communicable disease testing and treatment.

### ANTELOPE VALLEY
335-B East Avenue K-6
Lancaster, CA 93535
(661) 723-4526

### CENTRAL
241 N. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 240-8204

### CURTIS R. TUCKER
123 W. Manchester Boulevard
Inglewood, CA 90301
(310) 419-5325

### GLENDALE
501 N. Glendale Avenue
Glendale, CA 91206
(818) 500-5750

### HOLLYWOOD/WILSHIRE
5205 Melrose Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90038
(323) 769-7800

### MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
11833 S. Wilmington Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90059
(323) 568-8100

### MONROVIA
330 W. Maple Avenue
Monrovia, CA 91016
(626) 256-1600

### NORTH HOLLYWOOD
5300 Tujunga Avenue
North Hollywood, CA 91601
(818) 766-3982

### PACOIMA
13300 Van Nuys Boulevard
Pacoima, CA 91331
(818) 896-1903

### POMONA
750 S. Park Avenue
Pomona, CA 91766
(909) 868-0235

### RUTH TEMPLE
3834 S. Western Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90062
(323) 730-3507

### SIMMS/MANN
2509 Pico Boulevard, Room 325
Santa Monica, CA 90405
(310) 998-3203

### TORRANCE
711 Del Amo Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90502
(310) 354-2300

### WHITTIER
7643 S. Painter Avenue
Whittier, CA 90602
(562) 464-5350

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# AREA HEALTH OFFICES

Los Angeles County spans more than 4,000 square miles. Due to its large size, it has been divided into four geographic regions known as Area Health Offices. These offices align with the county's eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs). Creating these distinct areas allows the Department of Public Health to develop and provide more targeted public health and clinical services according to the specific health needs of the residents in these local communities.

## AREA HEALTH OFFICES

**ANTELOPE VALLEY (SPA 1)**
**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY (SPA 2)**

Serving the communities of Antelope, Santa Clarita, San Fernando and Crescenta valleys

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY (SPA 3)**
**METRO (SPA 4)**

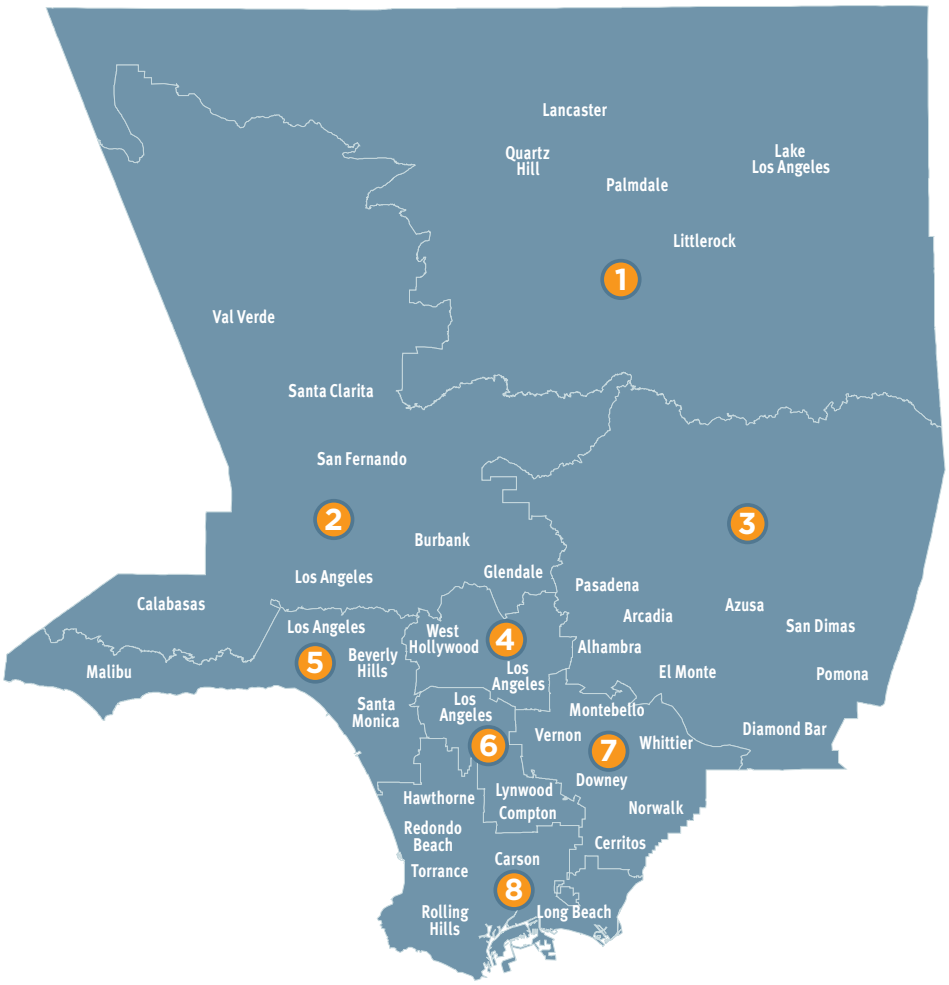
Serving the communities of Hollywood, Downtown Los Angeles, and San Gabriel Valley

**WEST (SPA 5)**
**SOUTH (SPA 6)**

Serving the communities of South Central Los Angeles, West Los Angeles, and the Santa Monica Bay region

**EAST (SPA 7)**
**SOUTH BAY (SPA 8)**

Serving the communities of the Gateway Cities, East Los Angeles, and the South Bay



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PUBLIC HEALTH

WORKING FOR YOU

# RESPONSE TO HEPATITIS A OUTBREAK

**Departmentwide Coordinated Response:** We opened many of our public health clinics on the weekends to provide hepatitis A vaccinations.

**By acting swiftly, the LA County Department of Public Health conducted a successful response to the hepatitis A outbreak, preventing additional cases of the disease and helping to further protect the health of our community.**

On May 31, 2013, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health was alerted of a multistate outbreak of hepatitis A, possibly related to a frozen food product.

This call set in motion an emergency response that pulled in many of the department's programs, such as Acute Communicable Disease Control, Community Health Services, Public Health Pharmacy, Environmental Health, External Relations and Communications, Immunization Program, and the Public Health Laboratory.

Using the Incident Command System (a standardized approach to manage emergencies effectively, efficiently, and in a coordinated manner), Public Health activated its command center, or Department Operations Center (DOC).

Among the key decisions made in the DOC was to open seven of the department's 14 public health clinics over the weekend to provide triage and vaccinations for those in the community who may have ingested the tainted product. Staff moved quickly in deciding which clinics to open for the weekend and lined up work crews to provide these services.

Public Health received bulk shipments of immune globulin (IG) and hepatitis A vaccines and coordinated the shipment of outbreak-related serum specimens to the state's public health lab, which then sent the specimens to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for testing.

To alert the public about this outbreak and to warn people to not eat the suspect product, the department issued a press release that same day, in English and Spanish. Its contents were also posted on the Public Health website, and messages were pushed out through the department's social media channels. As of May 31, LA County had one confirmed case of hepatitis A linked to the outbreak and a second case under investigation.

## Window of Opportunity for Vaccination

The press release warned consumers not to eat and to discard Townsend Farms Organic Antioxidant Blend sold through Costco stores, and it advised individuals who consumed this product to contact their doctor within the 14-day period to discuss possible hepatitis A prevention and treatment options.

Symptoms of hepatitis A were also listed on the press release, as well as the statement that shots must be received within 14 days of exposure to prevent or reduce illness. It explained that IG is a shot of concentrated antibodies made from donated blood that provides temporary protection, while the hepatitis A vaccine helps the body develop its own antibodies and provides longer-lasting protection.

## Removing the Product from Store Freezers

As part of this response, staff were proactive in helping to ensure the suspect product was removed from Costco freezers. This included phone calls to Costco managers and site visits to confirm that the product was no longer available for sale. Staff also contacted a patient with hepatitis A who had the suspect product at home. They picked up the product from the patient, which would later be given to the Food and Drug Administration for testing.

In mid-June, Public Health received notification that five stores of a local yogurt chain used the suspect product as an ingredient. Staff visited all five stores, and verified that no product was available.

## Weekend Vaccination Clinics Opened

To provide triage and hepatitis A vaccination, Public Health staffed seven clinics on Saturday and Sunday, from 10 am to 4 pm. During the weekend of June 1 and 2, a total of 492 hepatitis A and IG vaccinations were given. Throughout the following weeks, hepatitis A and IG continued to be given at 11 Public Health clinics. As of June 14, a total of 895 vaccinations (478 IG and 417 hepatitis A) were provided at Public Health clinics.

As of June 19, nine cases of acute hepatitis A infections with symptom onset dates from May 1 through June 1 were confirmed in LA County residents, aged 30 to 60 years.

## How Public Health Is Working for You

By acting swiftly and coordinating effectively both within the department and with state and federal agencies, the LA County Department of Public Health conducted a successful response that alerted Los Angeles County residents about this dangerous foodborne disease, helped ensure the tainted product was not available for purchase, and provided triage and hepatitis A vaccinations, likely preventing many cases of acute hepatitis A and helping to further protect the health of our community.

# PROTECTING LA COUNTY FROM INFLUENZA

**Every year during influenza season, the Department of Public Health employs a multipronged approach to help protect LA County residents from the flu virus. This includes the staging of mass vaccination clinics, which provide needed vaccinations for the public, plus keep the department prepared for large-scale communicable disease outbreaks, such as during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic.**

**We provided** thousands of flu vaccine doses throughout Los Angeles County, approximately 72,800 doses were administered during the 2012-2013 flu season.

To help protect the public during flu season, the department offers flu vaccination at its public health centers, at one-day vaccination events, and through the LA County Department of Health Services and community partners.

In 2013, the department expanded its efforts to combat the flu when its Director and Health Officer issued an order to vaccinate health care personnel against the flu, and also through the staging of four Point of Dispensing (POD) vaccination clinics in September and October.

## Point of Dispensing Vaccination Exercises

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health plays a vital role in the community by addressing the changing patterns of infectious disease that affect the public's health. Being prepared for a threat to the community's health is of national concern in this era of bioterrorism, pandemic influenza, and new, emerging diseases. To protect residents from such threats, the department has developed emergency preparedness and response plans that include routine training, exercises, evaluations, and plan enhancement.

Crucial to these plans is the Point of Dispensing, or POD, model. The purpose of a POD is to quickly distribute preventive medicine or vaccinations to large numbers of people during a public health emergencies.

This past flu season, PODs were held in Van Nuys, South Los Angeles, Pasadena, and Norwalk and were staffed by Public Health employees, city staff, and volunteers. A number of the department's programs participated in this annual exercise, including the Emergency Preparedness and Response Program, Community Health Services, Public Health Pharmacy, Immunization Program, Office of Administrative Deputy, and the Acute Communicable Disease Control Program.

In total, the department vaccinated hundreds of people through these flu clinics; tested a new barcode system that quantified throughput times (from registration to consultation to vaccination to exit); enhanced collaboration with local government agencies; and had the opportunity to refine its POD procedures, which provides for a better prepared workforce in the event of a true public health emergency.

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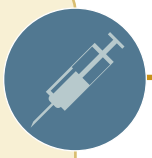
**Health care personnel are not only at risk for influenza, but can also transmit the virus to their coworkers and patients.**



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## Health Officer Issues Order to Protect Patients and Health Care Workers

In October 2013, LA County Health Officer and Public Health Director Jonathan E. Fielding, MD, MPH, issued an order mandating that health care personnel in each licensed acute care hospital, skilled nursing facility, and intermediate care facility in LA County receive an annual vaccination against influenza, or wear a protective mask. The order, which applied to all individuals working in these settings who had direct patient contact or worked in patient areas, defined the flu season as November 1 through March 31. "Getting vaccinated is one of the most important steps that health care personnel can take to protect their patients and themselves from the flu," said Dr. Fielding. "Flu vaccines prevent illness among health care personnel and there is growing evidence that it reduces the chance that patients, many of whom are at higher risk for flu complications, will become infected. Thus, this flu vaccination mandate supports health care personnel's commitment to keeping patients safe from preventable harm."

Under the California Health and Safety Code (§120175), the Health Officer has the legal authority to issue orders to prevent and control contagious diseases to protect the health of the public.

Influenza, a highly communicable disease, exists all year, but infection rates and the severity of symptoms increase during what is commonly called the "flu season" and occurs during the winter months. Health care personnel are not only at risk for influenza, but can also transmit the virus to their coworkers and patients. Patients in health care facilities—most especially young children, pregnant women, the elderly, and persons with chronic health conditions—are particularly vulnerable to infection and its subsequent complications. Influenza is a major cause of serious illness and death that accounts for up to 200,000 hospitalizations and an average of 24,000 deaths in the U.S. each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In California, several policies are in place to encourage flu vaccination among health care personnel: a California law, a Joint Commission standard, and the Cal/OSHA Aerosol Transmissible Disease Standard, all of which require selected health care providers to offer influenza vaccines to employees at no charge. Despite these policies, as well as efforts to educate personnel and provide easy access to vaccinations on-site, health care worker flu vaccination rates remain low. During the 2011-2012 flu season, an estimated one-third of health care personnel in the U.S. remained unvaccinated against influenza.

"Our goal is to close the gap between the current vaccination rate and our national standard of 90%. It is estimated that only 13% of California acute care hospitals have met the national standard of 90% vaccination of health care personnel," said Dr. Fielding. "Health care personnel mandates have been shown to greatly increase immunization rates. For instance, in the 2011-2012 flu season, 95% of health care personnel working in U.S. hospitals that required influenza vaccination were vaccinated, compared to 68% of personnel in hospitals that did not require vaccination. We expect this mandate to lead to similar results in Los Angeles County."

Los Angeles County joins a growing number of public health stakeholders who support mandatory vaccination policies as an effective means of protecting personnel and patients from the flu. Mandates have been adopted by Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento and several other California counties; endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Family Physicians, and National Association of City and County Health Officials; and adopted by more than 30 Los Angeles area hospitals, including all LA County Department of Health Services facilities.

**For more information on this Health Officer Order, go to www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ip/.**

# ENSURING THE SAFETY OF HOMEMADE FOODS SOLD TO THE PUBLIC

**On January 1, 2013, the California Homemade Food Act (AB 1616) went into effect, creating new opportunities for home-based culinary businesses, or "cottage food operators." This new law allows certain food products to be made in private homes and sold to the public, such as at certified farmers' markets, bake sales, and holiday bazaars or other temporary events.**

Under this law, only "non-potentially hazardous" foods may be prepared and sold by cottage food operators. These are foods that do not require refrigeration to keep them safe from bacterial growth that could cause foodborne illness.

The initial list of low-risk foods that have been approved under the new law includes baked goods without cream, custard, or meat fillings (for example, breads, biscuits, churros, cookies, pastries, and tortillas); candy, such as brittle and toffee; dried fruit; dried pasta; dry baking mixes; fruit pies, fruit empanadas, and fruit tamales; granola, cereals, and trail mixes; herb blends and dried mole paste; honey; nut mixes and nut butters; popcorn; vinegar and mustard; jams, jellies, and preserves; and roasted coffee and dried tea.

The California Department of Public Health is responsible for maintaining the list of approved cottage food products on its website and may add or delete items from time to time.

## Types of Cottage Food Operators

There are two types of cottage food operators: Class A and Class B. Class A operators can only engage in direct sales, such as from a baker to a customer at a farmers' market. Their private home does not require an inspection unless a complaint is received from the public. Class B operators, on the other hand, can engage in both direct and indirect sales. Indirect sales are generally through a retail outlet; for instance, a cottage food operator will sell baked goods to a market or restaurant, which then resells the product to its customers. The private home of a Class B operator requires inspection prior to the issuance of the public health permit as well as annual inspections.

## Environmental Health Oversees Implementation

Cottage food operators must meet specific requirements related to training, sanitation, product preparation, and labeling (such as requiring the words "Made in a Home Kitchen"). Cottage food operators in Los Angeles County are also required to obtain either a registration or a public health permit from the LA County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health division.

As of December 2013, Environmental Health had issued 221 registrations for Class A operators and 96 permits for Class B operators.

Implementation of the law has been a collaborative process, with Los Angeles County participating with the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health and the California Department of Public Health. In addition, Environmental Health continues to work with local city planning departments to verify that a cottage food operator has a valid city business license.

## County of Los Angeles Public Health Working For You

Public Health's implementation of the California Homemade Food Act is crucial to allowing cottage food and artisanal food operators to thrive and strengthen our local economies while also ensuring the safety of these food products for LA County consumers.

**For more information about cottage food operations, visit www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/misc/CAHomemadeFood.htm.**

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ENHANCES EFFICIENCY

# GOES ELECTRONIC AND OPENS NEW CALL CENTER

**Environmental Health Customer Call Center** 888/700-9995 (Phone)
626/813-4829 (Fax)
ehmail@ph.lacounty.gov (E-mail)

- The majority of Environmental Health complaints (60%) are received by phone.
- The largest number of complaints received is for unsanitary housing conditions, such as vermin infestations, mold, and "green" swimming pools.
- The second-largest number of complaints received report unsafe practices or conditions at restaurants, including foodborne illness allegations, sales of spoiled food, missing or unposted letter grades, and restaurant employees failing to wash their hands as required.

# In 2013, the Environmental Health Division of Public Health launched two initiatives to streamline its operations and improve its efficiency.

## Going Electronic

After decades of using the traditional paper inspection report for field inspections, Environmental Health introduced EnvisionConnect, an electronic inspection and data management system for its district offices. Among its features, this modernized system allows health inspectors to go into the field with easy-to-carry, portable electronic laptops/tablets, which makes the paper form obsolete.

EnvisionConnect Remote, the mobile version of EnvisionConnect, has created a paperless environment that streamlines workflow since information needs to be keyed in only once, thereby reducing redundancy and the possibility of error introduction.

The decision to move to EnvisionConnect was made for several reasons—importantly, to develop a more unified data system for Environmental Health and to create an evidence-based system where appropriate decisions could be made based on current data.

## Roll Out in Phases

With such a large undertaking as configuring, installing, testing, and training on EnvisionConnect, the project is being implemented in phases that will be rolled out over a few years. After the system is fully functioning within Public Health, it will transition financial functions from other agencies, such as the LA County Treasurer and Tax Collector to Environmental Health. These functions include Public Health invoicing, license/permit issuance, and accounts receivable.

As of December 2013, 86% of regulated facilities in LA County were integrated within the EnvisionConnect system. These facilities include retail food (restaurants and markets), housing sites (apartments and condos with 5+ units), swimming pools at these housing sites, and theaters.

## County of Los Angeles Public Health Working For You

The modernization of Public Health's data management system and consolidation of the collection and analysis of data from multiple, decentralized programs into one central system will allow our department to work more efficiently and effectively and, most important, it enhances Public Health's ability to protect health, prevent disease, and promote the health and well-being of communities throughout Los Angeles County.

### *How May We Help You?*

### Environmental Health Customer Call Center Goes Live

Did you know that the Environmental Health Division receives approximately 100,000 calls from the public each year? These calls, which range from complaints about unsanitary housing conditions and unsafe restaurant practices to general requests for information, have been received and processed regionally by the division's 16 district offices.

In 2013, the division determined that the capabilities of EnvisionConnect would allow for the revamping of its call intake system. And the idea for a centralized Customer Call Center was born! This new call center opened in late 2013.

The main benefit of this centralized call center is that it streamlines the communications process for the public, which leads to improved service. Since there is now a single phone number, FAX number, and e-mail address, it eliminates the need for community residents to figure out which of the 16 offices to call. It also expedites call intake as well as the processing and assignment of complaints and information requests.

# POWERHOUSE FIRE RESPONSE

During this raging wildfire, Public Health protected the health and safety of the responders and the public: It ensured the safety and integrity of food, potable water, and residential occupancy; supported the mass care and shelter response; ensured the safety of outdoor air; and provided recovery and restoration guidance to affected communities.

When the Department of Public Health learned about the Powerhouse wildfire raging out of control in the Angeles National Forest on May 30, 2013, its Emergency Preparedness and Response Program (EPRP) kicked into high gear. It stationed a representative at the fire's Incident Command Post near Santa Clarita to keep the department up-to-date on the evolving situation, such as where evacuations were taking place, where the shelters were being set up, and whether the fire was growing. The representative also coordinated needed services, pulling in other Public Health programs and staff, such as from Environmental Health and Community Health Services.

## Public Health Acts to Maintain the Health and Safety of the Responders and Public

During the course of this wildfire, which burned more than 30,000 acres and lasted over a week, Environmental Health staff were tasked with several missions, including these: ensure the health and safety of the responders, ensure the safety and integrity of food and potable water, support mass care and shelter response, ensure the safety of outdoor air, ensure the safety and integrity of residential occupancy, and provide recovery and restoration guidance to affected communities.

To ensure the health and safety of the responders, the Environmental Health Strike Team deployed to the Fire Camp and the command post to assess drinking water, wastewater disposal, food supply, fire hydrant use, showers service, sleeping quarters, and solid waste disposal. A precautionary Boil Water notice was issued to one of the fire camps due to the possibility of depressurization of the water distribution system. Depressurization allows for bacterial growth. After a lab analysis returned negative for bacteria, the Boil Water notice was cancelled.

To ensure the safety and integrity of potable water, EH's Drinking Water program identified six small water systems affected by depressurization due to firefighting activities. Boil Water notices were issued, as was a guidance document for residents using waters from private wells and small water systems. In addition, EH staff participated in a press conference to inform residents with private water wells that they should disinfect their water through boiling, use of bleach, or purification tablets prior to drinking, to protect their health and safety.

Community Health Services' shelter-trained nurses made site visits to determine if medical treatment was needed.

To help ensure the safety of outdoor air, EH's Toxics Epidemiology worked with the South Coast Air Quality Management District and Public Health's External Relations and Communications to issue a health advisory on June 3, stating that due to the Powerhouse Fire, smoke was adversely impacting the air quality for the Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys and the San Gabriel Mountains and that air quality was unhealthy for sensitive individuals in these areas.

## After the Fire

After the fire was contained, Public Health staff participated in a recovery workshop at the Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union Elementary School. There, staff provided important information to owners, renters, and businesses on how to clean up after a fire, proper personal protection techniques, proper waste management, rodent exclusion techniques, and rebuilding processes. They also answered many questions from community residents.

## County of Los Angeles Public Health Working For You

Although Public Health has responded to wildfires before, each one presents an opportunity to learn something new—a more efficient way to work and new resources to utilize in the future. During the Powerhouse Fire, the Department of Public Health played a crucial role in protecting the health and safety of the public as well as the emergency responders, allowing them to continue battling the blaze until it was extinguished.

# ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM ENSURES THE HIGH QUALITY OF DENTAL CARE

**The Oral Health Program** conducts nearly 40 dental audits in community clinics each year.

The goal of a dental audit by Public Health's Oral Health Program is to ensure the protection and safety of dental patients and staff at regulated community health clinics and comprehensive health centers through inspection and education of clinic staff.

## Experts are now linking oral health to body health

**recommending brushing and flossing daily.**

It's a bright Tuesday morning and a dentist with Public Health's Oral Health Program is conducting a dental audit at a local community health center.

Standing in a dental exam room with staff from the community health center, Public Health's dentist says, "Since you can't see dangerous organisms, let's suppose this room is infected. Show me how you would clean this room after a patient visit." One of the dental assistants, wearing a protective gown, gloves, and goggles, moves into action. She flushes out the dental lines for 20 seconds to prevent biofilm formation; transports the contaminated instruments to the sterilzation room; removes her gloves and washes her hands using the proper techniques. She then re-gloves and wipes down the chairs, lights, counters, handles, suctions, and instruments. The Public Health dentist says, "Are you familiar with the proper method of disposing of amalgam filling scraps that were removed from patients' old fillings?" The assistant shows her the environmentally responsible amalgam recycling container. The dentist takes this opportunity to remind the assistant that amalgam contains mercury, and that's why the scraps can't just be tossed in with the regular refuse.

*This is just one educational opportunity Public Health's dentist will utilize during the course of this 4-hour dental audit.*

This annual audit is segmented into three parts: *the pre-audit conference*, where she discusses new regulations and requirements and educates the staff on the latest standards of care; *the clinic walk-through*, where she inspects the sterilization equipment, logs, and exam rooms, then asks the staff to run through their infection control procedures; and *the exit conference*, where she discusses her findings and reviews each item for correction. She offers ideas and solutions for any corrective action, since the goal of a dental audit is to help the dental clinic come into or remain in compliance and to ensure the protection and safety of patients as well as staff.

This auditing protocol consists of many components, including radiology requirements, Cal/OSHA regulations, infection control, sterilization procedures, emergency preparedness, environmental regulations, patient safety and confidentiality, and infectious disease reporting.

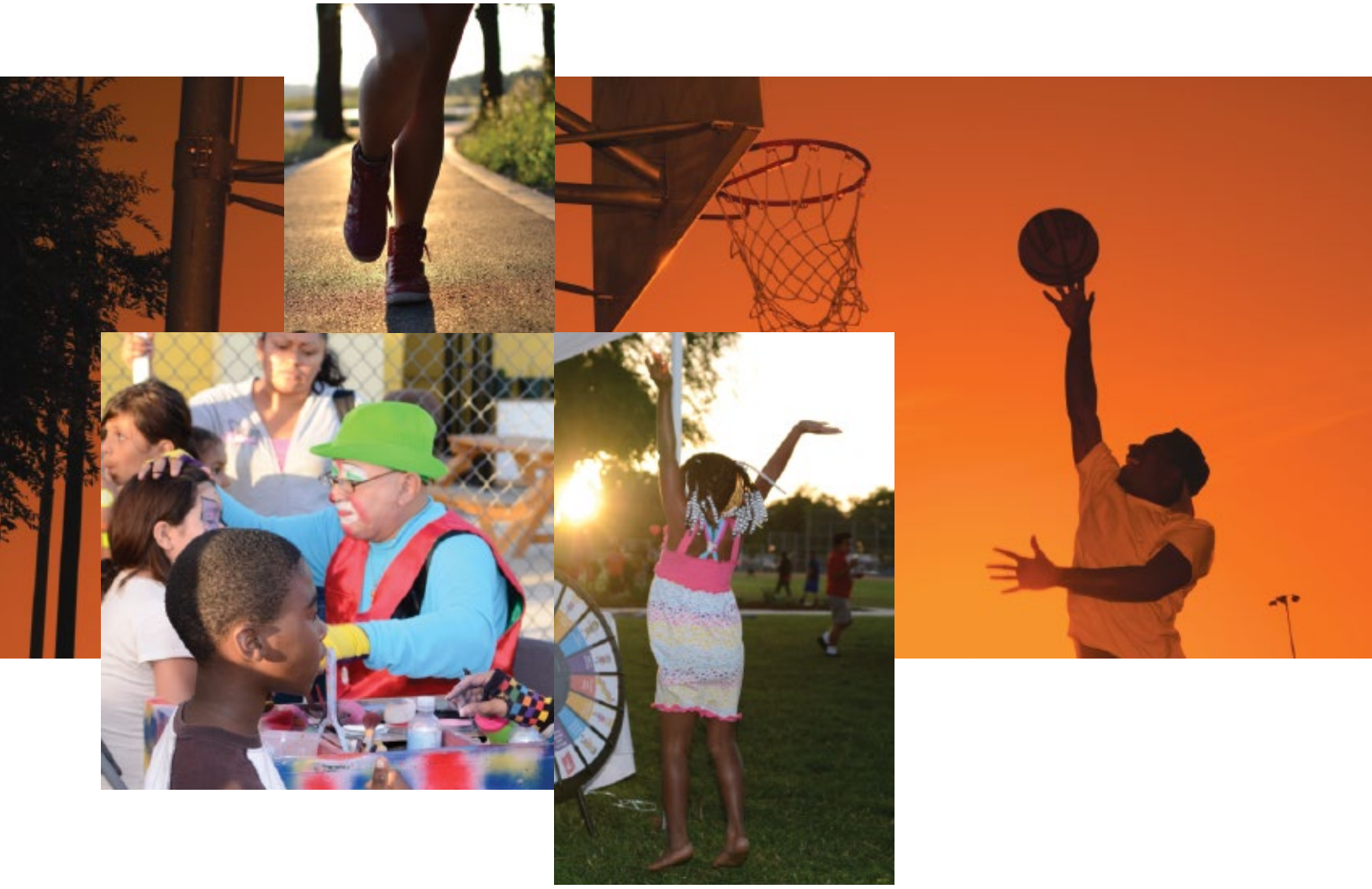
This audit is but one of the nearly 40 dental audits the Oral Health Program conducts every year. These audits, which are performed at community health care clinics and comprehensive health centers in LA County that accept Department of Health Services and Healthy Way LA funds, are mandated by the LA County Board of Supervisors.

Oral health is among the topic areas in the Healthy People 2020 objectives for the nation. Protecting the health and safety of dental patients and staff in LA County through audits is a crucial component of Public Health's Oral Health Program. Other priorities include education, especially regarding early childhood cavities and transmission of oral pathogens; access to quality care; prevention of dental disease in general through efforts such as water fluoridation and fluoride varnish; and serving as a clearinghouse for the dental concerns of LA County's population.

### County of Los Angeles Public Health Working For You

Through our dental clinic audits, education, and oral health messages, Public Health is helping to ensure the high quality of dental care in LA County—and brighter smiles all around!

# "PARKS AFTER DARK" PROGRAM PROMOTES HEALTHY ACTIVITY AND CURBS VIOLENCE



Over a 3-year period, serious and violent crimes in Parks After Dark communities declined 40% during the summer months while the program was in effect.

For the past few years, the Department of Public Health has partnered with the Department of Parks and Recreation to roll out the "Parks After Dark" summer program.

Through this successful collaboration, parks in underserved areas are kept open during evening hours on summer weekends to provide community members of all ages with a safe place to be physically active, enjoy entertainment, socialize, and access a wide range of health and social services. The program is currently implemented in six parks throughout Los Angeles County.

Each park offers a variety of recreational activities: basketball, baseball, swimming, soccer, golf and tennis lessons, martial arts, dance classes, Zumba, bike rides, and access to gym facilities. Other features include entertainment (concerts, movies, and talent shows), educational classes (healthy cooking, literacy, parenting, and computer skills), and resource fairs (health and wellness, economic and legal assistance, and social services).

Sheriff's deputies patrol events and participate in activities with residents. Their involvement sends the message that crime and violence will not be tolerated, and increases opportunities for youth and community members to engage positively with law enforcement.

Several Public Health divisions and programs participate in Parks After Dark, including Community Health Services, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention, Office of Women's Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity Program, and Division of HIV and STD Programs. In addition, Public Health staff conduct health education sessions during weekly walking clubs at each of the parks, one of the program's most successful components.

**In 2012, the program tallied more than 52,000 visits to the participating parks.**

Highlights of the program include the following:

- Serious and violent crimes in the communities surrounding the original three program parks declined 40% during the summer months between 2009 (the summer before program began) and 2012, compared to a 5% increase in serious and violent crimes during this same time period in nearby communities with parks that did not participate in the Parks After Dark program.
- More than 11,000 people participated in physical activities, including team and individual sports, exercise classes, and walking clubs.

## County of Los Angeles Public Health Working For You

The Parks After Dark program serves as a model of successful collaboration, promoting healthy activity and curbing violence in disadvantaged neighborhoods in LA County.

**For more information about Parks After Dark, contact Public Health's Injury and Violence Prevention Program, at (213) 738-6110 or ivpp@ph.lacounty.gov.**

## Participating Parks

In 2014, the Parks After Dark program kicks off on June 12. The following parks will be open for extended hours from 6 pm-10 pm on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, from June 12 to August 16.

**From 6/12/14-8/9/14** (no programming 7/3-5)

- Franklin D. Roosevelt Park, 7600 Graham Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90001
- Ted Watkins, 1335 E. 103rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90002
- Jesse Owens Park, 9637 S. Western Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90047

**From 7/10/14-8/16/14**

- Pamela Park, 2236 Goodall Avenue, Duarte, CA 91010
- City Terrace Park, 1126 N. Hazard Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90063
- Loma Alta Park, 3330 N. Lincoln Avenue, Altadena, CA 91001

# INNOVATIONS IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAB

Since the Public Health Laboratory relocated to its new facilities in Downey, in 2007, it has undergone many exciting changes, including an expansion of its facilities and investment in state-of-the-art lab equipment.

The Public Health Lab, which plays a key role in providing testing services to identify many infectious diseases and conditions, assists the department's programs to perform surveillance, prevent the spread of disease, detect outbreaks, and control communicable disease.

## Cutting-Edge Technology

The lab is performing a greater number of molecular tests for pathogen identification, surveillance, and strain characterization. Conventional techniques are time-consuming and can take anywhere from days to weeks for pathogen identification. Some organisms cannot be grown in culture or require additional testing for identification not available at most clinical laboratories. By utilizing molecular diagnostics and automation, the lab is able to do more with less equipment and staff.

New tools—including polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technology, DNA sequencing, mass spectrometry, molecular hybridization probes, and fully automated amplification systems—have enhanced the lab's capacity for routine detection of infectious agents and testing during outbreaks.

Automated sample extraction systems, robotic liquid handling technology, and high throughput detection systems have helped to streamline tasks. High-throughput platforms have been key to successful surveillance and monitoring of communicable diseases. Further, new high-throughput molecular assays have also been adopted, including real-time PCR tests for whooping cough, influenza detection and subtyping, and genital herpes. In less than 2 hours, PCR instruments can provide results for up to 96 samples at a time for infectious bacteria and viruses.

From detection of new influenza strains, rabid animals, and recreational water analysis to identification of plague-infected rodents, there is always vital public health work taking place in the lab.

## The Work of the Public Health Lab

The goal of the lab is to provide services to diagnose diseases of public health importance. The lab's efforts are vital to many of the department's programs, including Acute Communicable Disease Control, Environmental Health, Emergency Preparedness and Response Program, Tuberculosis Control Program, Immunization Program, and the Division of HIV and Sexually Transmitted Disease Programs. Further, the lab plays an important role in providing reportable disease data to the California Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In addition, the lab supports clinical laboratories by providing specialized testing, expertise, and training in new methods and techniques.

Surveillance testing of human, environmental, and veterinary specimens is an important core function of the laboratory. From detection of new influenza strains, rabid animals, and recreational water analysis to identification of plague-infected rodents, there is always vital public health work taking place in the lab. The ability to rapidly determine new patterns of disease and identify emerging pathogens allows the department to be proactive in intervention and prevention.

The lab is always ready to provide immediate support for outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases, tuberculosis, foodborne illness, hospital-acquired infections, botulism, or respiratory disease. Diagnostic testing schedules can often be interrupted and personnel are sometimes shifted to handle increases in testing volume. Many staff are cross-trained in different units of the lab, which provides flexibility to operate within available resources and allows greater capacity for testing large numbers of samples. Recent large outbreaks of influenza, whooping cough, Legionella, and Salmonella have kept the laboratory well-versed in both conventional and molecular techniques.

Public health-related research is also performed to determine patterns and prevalence of disease. The lab works closely with public health partner programs, the state public health lab, and the CDC to develop or implement new assays to detect infectious diseases.

## What's Next?

In the coming years, the lab will continue to expand its test menu for infectious diseases. Since the Public Health Lab offers and performs tests not routinely available in most clinical labs, it will evaluate and implement additional tests in the areas of vaccine-preventable diseases, HIV, TB, environmental health, bacterial meningitis, and community-acquired diarrhea.

## County of Los Angeles Public Health Working For You

The Public Health Lab will continue to evolve as new and faster technologies become available. By providing testing services to identify many infectious diseases and conditions, the work of the lab has been and will continue to be crucial in halting the spread of disease, detecting outbreaks, and controlling communicable disease in LA County and beyond.

# CREATIVE PARTNERSHIP STREAMLINES FOOD FACILITY CONSTRUCTION AT LAX

Through an innovative partnership with the City of Los Angeles, Public Health works to ensure that new LAX food facilities are constructed in a manner that enhances food safety while keeping this multi-year airport renovation on track.

**Since the beginning of our partnership with the City of Los Angeles through 2013, Public Health has issued and approved 110 licenses for food facilities.**

Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is one of the busiest airports in the world, offering 680 daily flights to 96 domestic cities and 910 weekly nonstop flights to 59 international cities. In 2013, nearly 67 million passengers passed through its terminals.

To food facility concessioners, such large volumes of traffic mean the opportunity to satisfy the culinary appetites of transient and hungry customers as well as a continuous stream of potential revenue. With the multibillion-dollar Airport Renovation Project in full swing, chic new eateries as well as food court staples are sprouting up all over the airport campus, while others are being modernized. Whether new construction or renovation, what all of these food facilities have in common is that they must undergo the plan check, inspection, approval, and permitting processes by Public Health's health inspectors. In addition, these tenants must work with LA City's Department of Building and Safety for a variety of permits, plan checks, and approvals for the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fire, and building components. With both LA County and LA City involved in these processes, good cross-agency communication is crucial to move projects forward.

## A Dynamic Partnership Is Born

To facilitate the communication between LA City and LA County and expedite this LAX capital improvements project, the LA County Board of Supervisors approved a 3-year contract between Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA)—a proprietary department of the City of Los Angeles that owns and operates LAX—and Public Health's Environmental Health Division. This contract allows an Environmental Health liaison to be stationed within the LA City Building and Safety trailer at LAX.

This innovative "one-stop shop" benefits LA City, LA County, contractors, LAWA project managers, and the food facility concessioner and its patrons by allowing for direct, on-site assistance from Public Health, keeping projects moving along and enhancing the ability of project managers to meet opening deadlines. This project consists of multiple phases. Phase 1 was completed on-time with the opening of the renovated Tom Bradley International Terminal in September 2013. Phases 2 and 3 are simultaneously in process and include the renovation of food courts in the remaining terminals.

The partnership is working well, and county and city staff are sharing knowledge and going on joint inspections to the construction site, thereby expediting projects.

## County of Los Angeles Public Health Working For You

Through this partnership, Public Health has been able to educate and guide contractors, project managers, and agency staff on this very large project so that delays are avoided. Not only does this save time and money, but it also helps ensure that food facilities are constructed in a manner that will enhance food safety efforts and keep LAX's passengers safe and healthy.

# ANNUAL ART CONTEST RAISES AWARENESS OF CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING

For 15 years, as part of its outreach program to educate students, teachers, and parents about the perils of lead poisoning and how to prevent it, the department's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program has sponsored an annual Lead Awareness Art Contest. In 2013, the event included both a poster contest and a bookmark contest.

Schools invited to participate included public elementary schools in high-risk areas for lead poisoning, and schools with programs for pregnant teens and teen parents.

The theme for the poster contest, "Be Smart, Be Healthy, Be Lead Free," focused on ways to reduce lead hazards in the home and environment, leading to better health for children. A total of 209 poster submissions were received from seven schools. The theme of the bookmark contest, "Protect Your Child from Lead Poisoning," encouraged students to think about the sources of lead in their environment and ways children can be protected from lead poisoning. A total of 253 bookmark submissions were received from seven schools. The bookmarks are being distributed by Public Health, as well as 49 LA County libraries.

Entries were judged according to grade level, originality in art, and design quality. Judges also looked for good demonstrations of knowledge of lead sources and different ways lead poisoning can be prevented. Students and their teacher sponsors received trophies and other prizes at award ceremonies conducted at their school.

Lead poisoning is the number one environmental disease among children in the U.S. This annual art contest is designed to highlight the problem and educate students and families on the sources and dangers of lead and provide lead prevention resources.

In addition to the lead prevention education promoted through the art contest, many schools invite the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program to their parent meetings, allowing Public Health the opportunity to provide educational information to a wider audience.

## County of Los Angeles Public Health Working For You

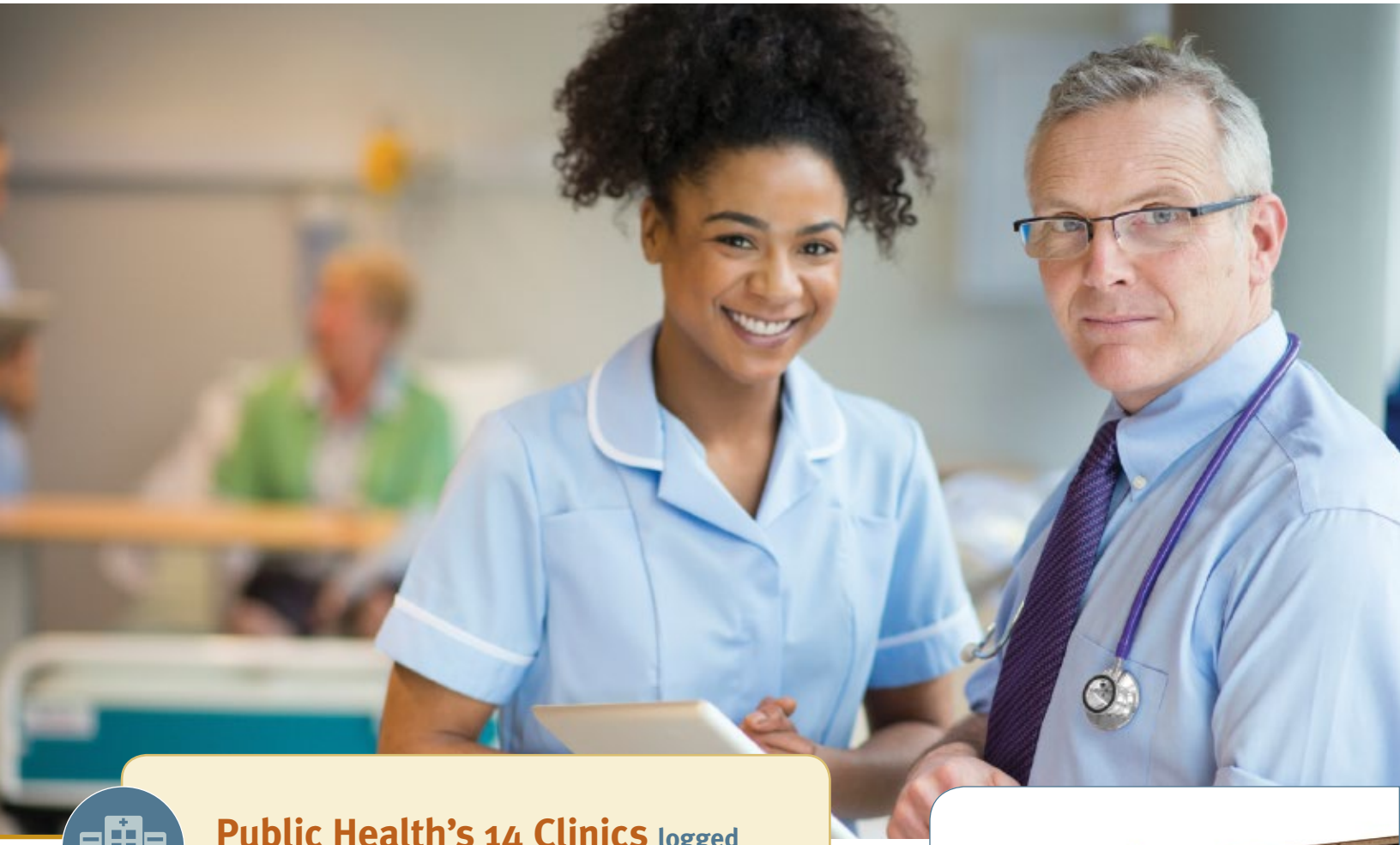
Through this annual art contest, youth in high-risk areas in LA County learn about common sources of lead poisoning and ways to prevent it in an engaging and personal way. The winners' colorful creations are then used throughout the year to educate other youth and help decrease cases of lead poisoning in LA County.

**For more information on lead poisoning prevention, lead-safe work practices, and where parents can go for free and low-cost blood lead tests, call 1-800-LA-4-LEAD or visit www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/lead.**

## Did You Know?

- Most children with lead poisoning do not look or act sick. The only way to know if a child has been lead poisoned is through a blood test. Children under the age of 6 are at greatest risk of negative health effects, such as permanent learning and behavior problems, associated with lead poisoning. Parents are encouraged to take their children to a doctor if they suspect their child has been lead poisoned and to specifically ask for a blood lead test.
- The most common way children in LA County are poisoned is through exposure to lead-based paint and dust. Lead-based paint is commonly found in houses, apartments, and buildings built before 1978. Lead dust and chips from deteriorated paint can settle on toys, windowsills and floors, where they can be swallowed by children.
- Houses or apartments built before 1978 may have lead paint. Parents and landlords need to follow lead-safe work practices when repairing, remodeling, or painting.
- Lead can be brought into the home by some traditional or folk health remedies (e.g., azarcón and greta), soil, and certain occupations and hobbies of parents or adults living in the home.

# PUBLIC HEALTH CENTERS SCORE HIGH ON PATIENT EXPERIENCE



**Public Health's 14 Clinics** logged nearly 240,000 client visits in 2012

## As part of the Department of Public Health's continuous focus on quality improvement, it routinely conducts patient experience surveys to obtain patient and client feedback. These surveys are key to the department's broad initiative to monitor and improve the quality of its services.

Findings from two recent surveys on patient experience conducted at all of the Department of Public Health's 14 health centers indicate that patients are extremely satisfied with the medical care they received at these facilities.

To discover how patients felt about their visit to one of our health centers, the department conducted a patient survey. In January and October 2012, facility administrators and nurse managers administered the Patient Experience Survey sequentially to adult patients attending a clinic within each health center, such as immunization, sexually transmitted disease, tuberculosis, communicable disease triage, and X-ray.

The survey consisted of several sociodemographic questions as well as 14 patient experience questions to which clients could respond "1-Strongly disagree" to "5-Strongly agree." The surveys, which were anonymous, were available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Armenian, and Farsi, depending on the particular clinic's demographics. Participation was voluntary and the survey methodology was approved by the department's Institutional Review Board. The return rate of the surveys was 87%. Median scores (i.e., 50th percentile or middle value) were calculated for each patient experience question.

The patient satisfaction scores were overwhelmingly positive and similar for January 2012 (1,446 respondents) and October 2012 (1,280 respondents). Of the survey's 14 items, 10 had a median score of "5" (Strongly agree).

The health centers received high marks for facility appearance; appropriate waiting time prior to being seen by the medical staff; and professionalism of the physicians, nurses, X-ray technicians, and office staff. In addition, patients thought that clinic staff were courteous, respectful of their privacy, and used words that were easy to understand.

### County of Los Angeles Public Health Working For You

The positive scores from these surveys clearly demonstrate that Public Health is not only committed to providing high-quality services in a sensitive and caring manner to its vulnerable population of patients, but also that we are successful in this endeavor.

**For more information on the department's Public Health Centers, go to www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/locator.htm#a.**

### Among the statements that received a score of 5 "Strongly Agree" were the following:

- The Doctors were courteous and respected my privacy.
- The Doctors used words that were easy for me to understand.
- The Doctors spent enough time with me.
- The Nurses were courteous and respected my privacy.
- The Nurses used words that were easy for me to understand.
- The Nurses spent enough time with me.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# CAMPAIGNS

## Choose Health LA launched two campaigns to help reduce obesity and obesity-related chronic diseases in LA County.

### Portion-Control Campaign

Coinciding with new data for Los Angeles County showing that the adult obesity rate continues to rise, the Department of Public Health unveiled the county's first-ever portion-control awareness campaign in late 2012. The Choose Less, Weigh Less, campaign strives to increase awareness of the amount of calories in popular foods, inform residents of the daily recommended calorie limits, educate residents on proper portion sizes, and provide tips for healthier eating at restaurants and at home.

The campaign illustrates how selecting even slightly smaller portions of popular foods can have a big impact on calorie intake. Additional campaign messages include the recommended daily calorie limit for most adults (2,000 calories), proper portion sizes for various foods (i.e., 3 ounces for meat, poultry and fish, or about the size of a deck of cards), and tips for controlling portion sizes of snacks and meals at home and at restaurants. Portion-control strategies include measuring out serving sizes of snack foods instead of eating from the package, or asking the waiter to box up half of the entrée before eating.

The countywide campaign was seen on transit shelters, bus and rail cars, and billboards; heard on radio; and seen on public service announcements featuring LA County's Health Officer.

### Portion Tips When Dining Out, Think and Plan Ahead

- If you know you're going out, look at the menu online so you can make healthy choices or check out the menu board.
- Ask about half portions.
- If you get a full entrée, box up half before you start eating.
- Share your food with family or friends.
- Start with a cup of soup or small salad.

### Key Campaign Messages When Dining Out

- Choose a small fries, a single hamburger, and a small soda (save 570 calories)
- Choose a 6-inch sandwich (save 460 calories)
- Choose two pancakes, two slices of bacon, and two eggs (save 400 calories)
- Choose two slices of pizza (save 330 calories)
- Choose a half-salad (save 402 calories)
- Choose a single scoop of spaghetti and one slice of garlic bread (save 510 calories)

**For more information on nutrition and healthy eating tips, go to www.ChooseHealthLA.com.**

## Choose Health LA Restaurants Campaign Serves Up More Options

To give customers the option to choose a smaller portion size of their favorite pasta dish or deli sandwich, the LA County Department of Public Health has teamed up with local restaurants on an innovative new campaign titled Choose Health LA Restaurants.

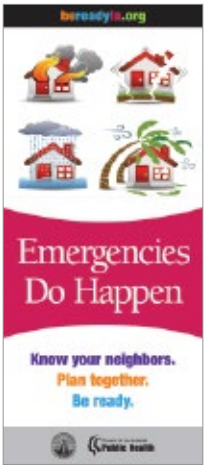
The county's first-ever healthy restaurants partnership, which kicked off in September 2013, recognizes local businesses that offer smaller portion-size options and healthier children's meals. This campaign is part of Public Health's ongoing efforts to curb the obesity epidemic by educating and empowering LA County residents to "Choose Health."

"It is no secret that portion sizes, as well as our waist-lines, have expanded over the past two decades," said Jonathan E. Fielding, MD, MPH, Public Health Director and Health Officer. "When we dine out, we're eating more calories than we would at home."

To be designated as a participant of Choose Health LA Restaurants, businesses must offer their customers smaller portion-size options. For restaurants that have a children's menu, they must also offer healthier children's meals that include fruits and vegetables, healthy beverages, and non-fried foods. Finally, participating restaurants must make chilled drinking water available free of charge.

Participating restaurants may be identified by a Choose Health LA Restaurants decal in the window and other in-store promotional materials.

## Emergency Preparedness Campaign Promotes Community Resiliency




Fires, windstorms, earthquakes, floods—the residents of Los Angeles County know that emergencies like these do happen. While nobody can predict the next one, Public Health wants everyone to be ready. To help county residents prepare for the next disaster, the department rolled out its BeReadyLA campaign, which urges community members to "Know Your Neighbors. Plan Together. Be Ready."

Experience and research from recent disasters have shown that close-knit communities endure better than others during emergencies and recover more quickly afterward. As a result, this campaign was created around the concept of "community resiliency"—the ability of communities and the people who live there to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters. Regardless of the type of emergency a person may face, it's important to know the neighbors because emergency response teams may be delayed and neighbors may be the first ones who can help.

This multimedia campaign included a website, billboard advertising, radio commercials and public service announcements, television commercials, bus and bus shelter signage, and distribution of informative brochures to community-based organizations.

Public Health also partnered with 16 diverse communities throughout the county to determine which emergency preparedness approaches, strategies, materials and other resources work best in promoting community resilience-building behaviors among people in LA County. The project is a collaborative, grassroots effort to engage community-based organizations to provide leadership that will improve community resilience.

**For more information, visit www.bereadyla.org.**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## In addition to the activities highlighted in the feature articles, the Department of Public Health had many other significant accomplishments...

### Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention

- Assisted LA County's Housing Authority in its efforts to go smoke-free. In March 2013, the Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a policy prohibiting smoking in the housing development, affecting 2,962 units.
- Worked with the City of Los Angeles to develop a Health and Wellness Chapter for its General Plan, which will help elevate health as a priority for future planning and development in the city. Helped publish a "Health Atlas" that analyzes more than 100 health outcomes, including the geographic concentration of issues such as childhood obesity, pollution, and crime.
- Helped cities implement comprehensive smoke-free outdoor air policies, including smoke-free outdoor dining in the City of Gardena, smoke-free parks in Whittier, and smoke-free common areas of multi-unit housing in Temple City.
- Provided recommendations to Los Angeles County departments on nutrition standards for food service procurement practices.
- Partnered with the LA Unified School District on sodium-reduction strategies in school meals (>650,000 meals served per day), creating healthier menus.
- Collaborated with 6 farmers' markets to develop protocols for accepting CalFresh Electronic Benefit Transfer payments to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables for low-income county residents.
- Adopted a Healthy Design Ordinance, which establishes farmers' markets and community gardens as allowable uses in all zones in unincorporated areas. The ordinance requires that farmers' markets accept CalFresh benefits and requires new developments to include sidewalks and bike parking.
- Provided trainings for more than 70 teachers on how to teach age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate physical education, directly impacting nearly 3,500 students across 5 school districts that are disproportionately impacted by childhood obesity.

### Communicable Disease Control and Prevention

- Enhanced surveillance for carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella* pneumonia (CRKP). This emerging, multidrug-resistant bacteria is associated with higher mortality, longer hospital stays, and increased costs. Our 2-year study discovered that CRKP is more prevalent in LA County than suspected, with rates consistently higher in long-term care facilities than acute care facilities. Recommendations have been drafted to limit its spread.
- Continued West Nile virus surveillance and outreach. In 2012, LA County experienced the second-highest incidence of this disease since it first appeared in our area in 2003. Surveillance efforts include tracing medical histories to obtain a better understanding of this disease as well as collaborating and sharing local information with mosquito abatement districts, and state and national agencies.
- Investigated infections associated with a compounding pharmacy. In 2012, led a local investigation and assisted with a national investigation of infections associated with a contaminated product developed and distributed by compounding pharmacies. Drafted recommendations to assist with policies to eliminate poor practices at compounding pharmacies.

- Conducted case and outbreak investigations for vaccine-preventable diseases. For instance, when cases of pertussis or measles were identified at schools or among international travelers, we quickly worked with families, schools, and providers on appropriate steps to prevent additional cases.
- Collaborated with high-volume birthing hospitals to enhance hepatitis B vaccination policies and practices. Partnering hospitals adopted strategies proven to increase immunization rates, such as following national guidelines for documenting patients' hepatitis B infection status. As a result, more hospitals will be able to accurately identify and provide preventive services to infants who are at increased risk for hepatitis B, which can lead to liver cancer.
- Continued our active response to tuberculosis (TB) among LA County's homeless by developing and issuing the "Preventing Tuberculosis in Homeless Shelters Guide"; providing TB education and outreach to 13 homeless coalitions and to 211 operators who respond to calls from the public; piloting a new 12-week drug therapy for latent TB infection; and changing the Los Angeles Housing Authority's contractual language with its facilities to reflect Public Health's homeless shelter guidelines.
- As part of Veterinary Public Health's "Healthy Pets, Healthy Families Initiative," laid the groundwork to help reduce obesity in people and their pets. Through surveys and interviews with more than 500 residents, discovered potential barriers to walking. The findings will be shared with local governmental and park officials to encourage a healthier built environment and serve as a foundation for physical activity interventions to reduce obesity among families and their pets.
- Initiated an Animal Importation Work Group, uniting Public Health, local animal control agencies, animal humane experts, lawyers, and all federal agencies involved with animal-related importations in LA County. By enhancing inter-agency collaboration, the risk of imported animal-related diseases should decline.

## Community Health Services

- Continued to operate 14 public health centers throughout LA County. In 2012, the clinics logged nearly 240,000 client visits for services such as immunizations, and diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases.
- Implemented 100% tobacco-free environments at all 14 Public Health clinics to ensure that county employees and visiting patients remain free from exposure to secondhand smoke.
- Participated in the Activate Whittier Collaborative, which focuses on reducing obesity rates in Whittier and general health promotion. The collaborative received grants to implement policy change and environmental strategies to reduce obesity such as healthy food guideline policies at city facilities; local school wellness policies; adoption of a citywide smoking ban at all 22 city parks; and a Healthy Picks Labeling initiative to promote healthy affordable foods at local corner stores.
- Implemented a "Walking School Bus" in Huntington Park as part of the Safe Routes to School Committee. The walking school bus had 5 successful walk-to-school events with an average of 200 participants. The committee also succeeded in receiving a grant for $223,000 to improve the design of streets around the school.
- Planned and implemented the Regional Hospital Breastfeeding Consortium to increase the Baby-Friendly Hospital Designation and increase breastfeeding rates, which have been shown to improve health outcomes for mothers and babies.

## Emergency Preparedness and Response Program

- Implemented the Los Angeles County Community Disaster Resilience project. As a result, 16 community coalitions have developed plans to improve their community preparedness in the event of a disaster.
- Launched WebEOC, a "virtual" emergency management center that provides access to real-time information and communication between crisis teams and decision-makers. This improves overall information sharing and the development of a common operating view during emergency events.

## Environmental Health

- Conducted more than 64,600 retail food inspections (51,728 restaurants, 12,111 food markets, 1,068 warehouses) and condemned or destroyed 16,813 pounds of unsafe food during fiscal year 2012-2013. These inspections, which include the restaurant letter grading program, are crucial to protecting the public's health from food-related illness caused by infectious agents.
- Conducted more than 45,080 licensed housing inspections of apartments and condominiums, and 3,240 Healthy Homes inspections. These inspections help protect the public from environmental-related housing issues, such as pests and mold.
- Created the Body Art Program in preparation for Public Health's expanded authority to regulate body art facilities in LA County. This expanded role resulted from the enactment of California's Safe Body Art Act (AB-300). The department is responsible for registering about 1,200 practitioners and more than 400 body art facilities (including permanent and mobile body art facilities, temporary body art events, and temporary body art booths). The program has been successful in building a rapport with the industry and educating practitioners on using safe body art practices, such as the prevention of exposure to bloodborne pathogens.
- Inspected approximately 4,000 waste tire facilities. Sites that are not in compliance with the State Minimum Standards are given a Notice of Violation with a time frame to comply. Helped ensure that waste tire storage facilities with more than 500 tires (minor permit) and more than 5,000 tires (major permit), respectively, have the appropriate permits. These inspections help reduce the potential threat that tire stockpiles pose to the public's health and the environment.

## HIV and STD Programs

- Processed and reported more than 300,000 HIV-indicative lab reports and over 2,500 new HIV case reports.
- Reorganized and streamlined automated features of the STD/HIV community hotline to allow callers more efficient access to services in English and Spanish; for example, speaking to a health educator, ordering free condoms and brochures, receiving referrals to local STD/HIV clinics through a ZIP code locator, obtaining information about HPV and hepatitis vaccine locations and emergency contraception, ordering a home STD test kit, and general information on STDs and HIV prevention and treatment.
- Developed and implemented a robust condom distribution program targeting men who have sex with men. Through community partnerships with local gay sports leagues, community-based organizations, local businesses, and our own mobile facility ("condom mobile"), more than 1 million free condoms have been distributed as of June 2013.
- Integrated and improved HIV and STD data systems to reduce staff time and allow for the matching of HIV and STD data when analyzing comorbidities.
- Through the Adolescent and School Health Unit's "Keeping It Real" initiative, more than 14,000 LA County students living in areas with historically disproportionately elevated rates of teenage births and STD incidence received evidence-based, comprehensive sexual health education. In addition, 115 trained teachers delivered 7,266 lessons from the "It's Your Game, Keep It Real" curriculum to 647 classrooms of 7th- and 8th-grade students in 24 Los Angeles Unified School District and Compton Unified middle schools. All 24 schools have agreed to continue to implement this evidence-based curriculum for a third year (2013-14).
- Migrated approximately 4,000 patients from the Ryan White Program to Healthy Way LA for outpatient medical services as part of the early implementation of the Affordable Care Act, with minimal disruption in access and continuity of care.

## Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health & Children's Medical Services

- Submitted more than 30,000 health insurance applications for individuals through contracted agencies to increase health access and care for children and their families in LA County.
- Implemented the Right Fax system in Children's Medical Services, which automatically converts incoming fax documents into electronic form and enables program staff to digitally track, route, and process all incoming documents. The new system has expedited all incoming service requests, ensuring greater confidentiality, decreasing the risk of misrouted/lost documents, and expediting the authorization of service.
- Trained more than 25 new Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) nurses and assisted the Los Angeles Unified School District develop its own NFP program. Assisting these high-risk new mothers through the NFP program leads to better outcomes for prenatal health, fewer childhood injuries, reduced child abuse and neglect, fewer subsequent pregnancies, and increased maternal employment.

## Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

- Continued to make progress on the Health Care Reform Readiness Initiative with the network of contracted treatment and recovery services providers and the California Alcohol and Drug Policy Institute (ADPI) to prepare for the challenges and opportunities presented by the Affordable Care Act. With ADPI, conducted a series of regional training sessions for providers promoting organizational capacity building and developing regional service networks and business partnerships, with an emphasis on small- and medium-sized programs.

## Women's Health

- Planned and staged a Health Care Consumer Protection Summit in April 2013 in collaboration with state and federal agencies: educated key stakeholders about consumer protection issues; described the rights and responsibilities of the public as health care consumers and how to avoid health care fraud scams, especially related to the Affordable Care Act; and provided information and resources related to health care fraud.

## Other Notable Achievements Included the Following...

- Upgraded the Public Health e-mail system, thereby enhancing one of the department's primary tools for internal and external communications.
- Created the Public Health Investigation website (www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/phi) and designated e-mail account to improve overall customer satisfaction, provide information about all Custodian of Record services, answer frequently asked questions, provide forms for public records requests and certified letters, and provide users the ability to submit requests via fax or e-mail.
- Conducted 31 workforce trainings in Geographic Information Systems, Institutional Review Board, and PubMed literature searches to improve the quality of data analysis and reports and the ability to visualize and analyze data geographically.
- Completed a Fluoridation Status of Los Angeles County Cities map to serve as a tool highlighting geographic fluoridation discrepancies, guide fluoride supplementation, and engender support for targeted water fluoridation.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# KEEPING LA INFORMED

The Department of Public Health uses many channels to effectively communicate its messages to a wide variety of audiences. Through print and electronic methods (including the web and social media), public events, and educational presentations, the department works hard to ensure its messages are heard. Here is a collection of its latest publications and resources...

**Los Angeles Mommy and Baby Project: 2007 Surveillance Report, Expanded Version**
*Released September 2012*

**Social Determinants of Health: How Social and Economic Factors Affect Health**
*Released January 2013*

**California Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health, Family Health Outcomes Project: Title V Perinatal Indicators, 2010**
*Released November 2012*

**County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health: Strategic Plan, 2013-2017**
*Released March 2013*

**Annual Morbidity Report and Special Studies Report, 2011**
*Released December 2012*

**2012 Annual HIV Surveillance Report**
*Released March 2013*

**Annual School Immunization Assessment Report – Preschool, Kindergarten, and 7-12th Grade**
*Released December 2012*

**Health Indicators for Women in Los Angeles County: Highlighting Disparities by Ethnicity and Poverty Level**
*Released June 2013*

**Prescription Drug Abuse in Los Angeles County: Background and Recommendations for Action**
*Released January 2013*

**Key Indicators of Health**
*Released March 2013*

**Public Health also uses social media—Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube—to communicate with the community.**

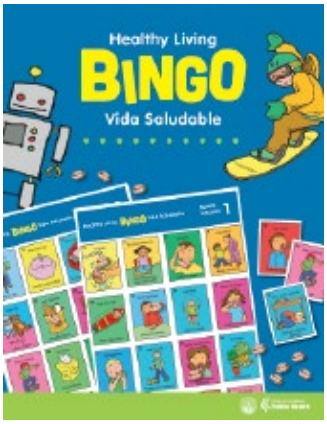
**LA County Department of Public Health: 2011-2012 Influenza Campaign Report**
*Released June 2013*

**Sexually Transmitted Disease Morbidity Report, 2011**
*Released June 2013*

**LA Health – Hospital Practices: Can They Impact Breastfeeding?**
*Released August 2013*

**Mortality in Los Angeles County 2010: Leading Causes of Death and Premature Death with Trends for 2001-2010**
*Released October 2013*

**These reports may be viewed and downloaded at www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/yrhealth**




## Kids Have Fun While Learning With *Healthy Living Bingo*

What's one of the best way to teach kids important health messages? By making learning fun! With this educational model in mind, the Department of Public Health created an entertaining bingo game chockablock with colorful illustrations and memorable health messages. This bilingual English/Spanish resource provides 54 healthy tips, such as "Don't Smoke/No Fumar," "Wear a Helmet/Usar un Casco," "Get Vaccinated/Vacúnate," "Learn to Swim/Aprende a Nadar," and "Half Plate of Veggies/Mitad del Plato con Verduras."

This exciting game of chance can be played with up to 7 players. It includes 7 game boards and 54 playing cards in a booklet format for easy distribution.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# DEPARTMENT AND EMPLOYEE AWARDS

The Department of Public Health is composed of talented and committed individuals, all working toward the common goal of protecting and improving the health of LA County's residents.

## During 2012-2013, many staff members and programs, including the following, were recognized for their outstanding achievements.

**Department of Public Health Excellence Awards, 2012-2013:** Linda Aragon, MPH (Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention); Dickson Diamond, MD (Emergency Preparedness and Response Program); Doreen Keough (Library Services); Alvin Nelson El Amin, MD, MPH (Immunization Program); and Steven Teutsch, MD, MPH (Chief Science Officer).

**26th Annual Productivity and Quality Awards, County of Los Angeles, 2012.** Chair Leadership Award: Jonathan E. Fielding, MD, MPH. Top Ten Award – Bronze Eagle Award: The Contractor Alert Reporting Database. Top Ten Award: E-mHub System Connecting DHS Medical Hubs and DCFS. Top Ten Award: LAC+USC Medical Center Street to Home Project. Special Merit Plaque: Varicella Active Surveillance Project. Certificates of Recognition: DPH Medication Waste Reduction Project, School Vaccination Clinics—A Vital Health Tool, Performance Improvement Learning Collaborative, Moving Towards Evidence—New School TB Policy.

**Inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, 2012:** Angelica M. Millan, MSN, RNP, CNS, FAAN, Children's Medical Services Nursing Director, for her outstanding contributions and achievements in nursing.

**Safety Advocates Award Winners, Fiscal Year 2012-2013:** First Quarter – Ferdows Rashidian (Community Health Services); Second Quarter – Josue Rosas (Facilities Management Division); Third Quarter – Emergency Preparedness Committee (Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Programs), and was also honored with the Safety Advocate of the Year Award for 2012. Fourth Quarter – Maria Sanchez (Community Health Services).

**Department of Public Health, Epidemiology Recognition Awards, 2012:** Aida Angelescu, MS; Noel Barragan, MPH; Emily Beeler, DVM, MPH; Trista Bingham, MPH, PhD; Lindsey Burbage, MPH; Margaret Chao, PhD; Patricia Cummings, MPH; Virginia Hu, MPH; Loren Lieb, MPH; Laurene Mascola, MD, MPH; Kristin Moschetti, MPH; Van Ngo, MPH; Vi Nguyen, MPH; Jennifer Piron, MPH; Mirna Ponce, MA, MPH; Marifi Pulido, MS, PhD; Matthew Redelings, MPH; Brenda Robles, MPH; Walt Senterfitt, PhD; Lisa V. Smith, MS, DrPH; Frank Sorvillo, PhD; Isabelle Sternfeld, MSPH; Mike Tormey, MPH; Amy Wohl, MPH, PhD; Michelle Wood, MPP; and Amy Chan Yee, MPH.

**29th Annual Department of Public Health Employee Recognition Awards, 2012: 28 honorees. Overall Outstanding Employees:** Lucille Rayford, RN, MSN (Medical Field); Brenda Robles, MPH (Administrative Field).

**Department of Public Health Innovation Awards, 2012**. Presented to 62 recipients for six projects: Hospital Outreach Unit (Acute Communicable Disease Control Program); Choose Less, Weigh Less campaign (Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention); Skid Row Assistance Project (Environmental Health); Electronic Performance Evaluation System (Substance Abuse Prevention and Control [SAPC]); Adult Treatment and Recovery Services Public Safety Realignment Act (SAPC); and Contract Management System (SAPC).

**30th Annual Department of Public Health Nursing Awards, 2013:** Outstanding Public Health Nurse, Tristin Pham, RN, PHN (Community Health Services); Outstanding Registered Nurse, Zosima Gaerlan, RN, BSN (Health Facilities); Outstanding Licensed Vocational Nurse, Angela Lopez, LVN (Community Health Services); and Outstanding Nurse Supervisor/Manager/Specialist, Karen Solomon, RN, PHN, MSN, CNS (Children's Medical Services).

**Department of Public Health – Health Care Provider Awards, 2013:** David Dassey, MD, MPH; Meri Rathbun, MD; Dawn Terashita, MD, MPH; Rita Singhal, MD, MPH, and Allen Loggins, MD.

**National Association of Counties 2013 Achievement Award:** Veterinary Public Health Program for its 2020 Healthy Pets, Healthy Families Initiative.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# FINANCIALS

| | FY 2012-2013 ACTUAL | FY 2011-2012 ACTUAL |
|---|---|---|
| Gross Total | $775 million | $756 million |
| Less Intrafund Transfer | $64 million | $54 million |
| Net Total | $711 million | $702 million |
| Revenue | $542 million | $535 million |
| Net County Cost | $169 million | $167 million |

Fiscal Year (FY) covers the period
July 1-June 30

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# VISION

Healthy people

in healthy

communities

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Cynthia A. Harding, MPH
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County of Los Angeles Public Health

5/14