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Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors

Gloria Molina
First District

Yvonne B. Burke
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

Bruce A. Chernof, MD
Director and Chief Medical Officer

John R. Cochran III
Chief Deputy Director

William Loos, MD
Acting Senior Medical Officer

Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Public Health and Health Officer
313 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 909
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tel: (213) 240-8117
Fax: (213) 975-1273

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RECEIVED

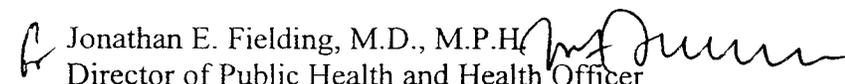
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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICE

May 26, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bruce A. Chernof, M.D. 
Director and Chief Medical Officer

 Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Public Health and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **REVIEW OF HEALTH FACILITIES INSPECTION
PROCESS**

On April 18, 2006, your Board approved a motion by Supervisor Antonovich instructing us to conduct a full review of the health facility inspection process; work in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel, negotiate with the State Department of Health Services on amending the County's licensure and certification contract No. 05-45391 with the State; and report back in 30 days.

Department staff have assembled documentation, prepared a draft report and met with County Counsel and the CAO. County Counsel is reviewing the agreement with the State. The CAO is working with DHR to address classification issues concerning the nurses. Initial contact has been made with the State concerning the proposed funding for FY 06-07.

We will need two more weeks to complete the report and will provide it by June 2, 2006.

If you have any questions or need more information, please let either of us know.

BAC:JEF:bp
604:016

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



Health Services
LOS ANGELES COUNTY

June 29, 2006

**Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors**

Gloria Molina
First District

Yvonne B. Burke
Second District

Zev Yaroslavsky
Third District

Don Knabe
Fourth District

Michael D. Antonovich
Fifth District

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bruce A. Chernof, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

Jonathan E. Fielding, MD, MPH
Director of Public Health and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **HEALTH FACILITIES INSPECTION DIVISION**

Bruce A. Chernof, MD
Director and Chief Medical Officer

John R. Cochran III
Chief Deputy Director

William Loos, MD
Acting Senior Medical Officer

On April 18, 2006, as a result of reduced State funding for inspections of health facilities and a resulting backlog of new facilities seeking licensing, your Board took the following action:

Instructed the Acting Director of Health Services to:

- Conduct a full review of the health facility inspection process;
- Work in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel and negotiate with the State Department of Health Services on amending the County's licensure and certification contract No. 05-45391 with the State.

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This is a status report on the full review of the Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) and a discussion of the major problems its staff has faced over the past few years as a result of massive budget cuts. Because various departments involved in preparing this report are still working on several issues and the negotiations with the State have not occurred, this is a status report to be followed by a final report no later than July 15, 2006.

Statutes and Authority

The Licensing and Certification Division of the California State Department of Health Services is responsible for enforcing the laws and regulations governing health facilities in California. Under Section 1257 of the Health & Safety Code, the State may delegate authority for licensing and inspection to local health authorities. LAC/DHS is the only county to which this is delegated under contract. In all other counties, employees of the State operating from district offices do the work. A written agreement between the State and LAC/DHS is in effect and confirms this delegation to DHS/Public Health's HFID and provides reimbursement from the State for the costs of the program. County Counsel is reviewing the HFID workload and priorities outlined by the State. The agreement with the State requires compliance with the terms and conditions of the State's agreement with the Federal government, and the State has not yet provided a copy to LAC/DHS.



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In determining what inspection activities should be undertaken by LAC/DHS, the State sets forth a list of workload priorities. The workload consists of both State licensing and federal Medicare/Medi-Cal certification inspections and evaluations which are crucial for facilities that wish to bill either Medicare or Medi-Cal. The workload assigned to the County includes most licensure categories and most facilities, except for facilities for which the County is the licensee. Funding comes from the Federal and State governments. Procedures are carefully detailed by the State and by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and final decisions on many issues are made in Sacramento and at the Federal Region IX CMS office in San Francisco.

Role of the HFID

Licenses issued to health facilities are intended to ensure that they meet minimum standards established by law. (See Attachment 1 for a complete list of types and number of facilities.) HFID's field staff inspects facilities, either on a routine basis or in response to complaints. Inspections are conducted in hospitals and other facilities in order to determine their compliance with State and Federal laws and regulations. Field staff document their findings in writing on forms required by the Federal government. Reports may serve as the basis for subsequent legal action in the face of serious violations.

Budget Reductions

For two consecutive years, (FY 03-04 and FY 04-05) significant cuts in the State's budget resulted in reductions in the HFID's ability to carry out all of its mandated activities. In FY 03-04 the contract was reduced from \$20,395,218 to \$17,030,008; in FY 04-05, from \$17,030,008 to \$16,530,008; and in FY 05-06, from \$18,008,074 to \$16,530,008. Starting in FY 03-04, in an attempt to compensate for the statewide reductions, the Director of Licensing and Certification directed all district offices to complete the federal certification workload prior to completing the State licensing workload.

Workload Priorities

CMS imposed the following strict workload priority system in four tiers (1, 2, 3, & 4), which dictates the workload priorities for all certified agencies. As set forth above, on receipt of the documents requested from the State, the Department and County Counsel will confirm whether there is discretion to depart from the priorities. The State has directed that Tier 1 activities must be completed before work in the Tier 2 category is begun. In practice, however, some of the latter may be done in conjunction with the former.

I. Tier 1 Activities

- **Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) and Nursing Facilities (NF)**
All SNF and NF will be subject to a standard survey not later than 15 months after the previous standard survey, with an average interval between standard surveys of 12 months.
- **Home Health Agencies (HHA)**
All HHA must be surveyed every 36 months.

- **Accredited, Deemed Home Health Agencies**
Conduct complaint surveys and validation surveys of 5% of HHA that are deemed to meet the Medicare conditions of participation (sample selected by CMS).
- **Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR)**
Conduct 100% of the statutorily required annual surveys of ICF/MR in order to renew their annual agreements.
- **Accredited Hospitals - Validation Surveys**
Conduct validation surveys in 1% of the 103 accredited general acute care hospitals to assure CMS that these facilities are meeting their statutory responsibilities.
- **Priority 1 Complaints**
Conduct 100% of Priority 1 complaint investigations, i.e. those that allege immediate and serious situations within 24 hours.

II. Tier 2 Activities

- **Non Long-Term Care – New Targeted Survey Samples**
The tier 2 targeted sample survey requirements are performed for non-long term care providers most at risk for providing poor care.
- **Home Health Agencies**
Conduct surveys on a 5% targeted sample of HHA.
- **End Stage Renal Disease Facilities (ESRD)**
Conduct a 10% targeted sample of ESRD facilities, selected from a CMS list*.
- **Hospice**
Conduct a 5% targeted survey sample of hospice facilities in Los Angeles County.
- **Outpatient Physical Therapy Providers**
Conduct a 5% targeted surveys of providers.
- **Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities**
Conduct a 5% targeted survey sample of providers in Los Angeles County.
- **Ambulatory Surgery Centers**
Conduct a 5% targeted surveys of providers in LA County, selected from a CMS list.

* When CMS does not select samples, HFID district offices do.

Non-Accredited Hospitals

Conduct surveys of non-accredited hospitals at an interval of no more than every 6.0-years elapsed between surveys for any particular non-accredited hospital. LA County is required to survey 5% of the non-accredited hospitals this fiscal year.

- **Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded**

Conduct extended surveys (covering more regulations than those involved in the specific complaint) after each complaint investigation in which there are substantiated complaints and Conditions of Participations out of compliance.

- **Priority 2 Complaints**

Conduct priority 2 complaints (involving the physical environment, e.g. vermin) investigations within 10 working days after receiving the complaint. (Due to a staff shortage, there is a backlog of 1000 such complaints since 2004. This is discussed further, under "Staffing".)

Tier 3 and 4 Activities

Tier 3 consists of initial certifications and the recertification of other non-long-term care facilities (ambulatory surgery, outpatient rehabilitation centers, etc.). Since licensing must precede initial certification for new facilities, licensing accompanies the Tier 3 certification. Because initial certifications are classified as Tier 3 activities, there are substantial waiting lists in some categories. Tier 4 activities include devising strategies for achieving national goals and standards. No Tier 4 activities are being undertaken at this time due to staff shortages.

HFID Staffing

Prior to 1998, HFID was able to hire both RN's and Environmental Health Specialists (EHS) under the classification of Health Facilities Evaluator. In 1998, the State imposed restrictions on who could evaluate which parts of facilities. In particular, State requirements permitted only Nurse Evaluators to do on-site evaluations, including evaluating the quality of patient care, among other things. As a result, only RN's could be hired as new evaluators. EHS in the HFID workforce may continue to evaluate non-clinical areas. Because the classification was originally filled by both nurses and environmental health specialists, HFID nurses, including new hires, are not part of the County's nursing bargaining unit and do not receive the bonuses nurses receive elsewhere in DHS. This poses obvious recruitment problems for HFID.

Attachment II shows HFID's staff roster, including Health Facilities Evaluators. There are now 13 vacancies for these positions. In addition to these vacancies, HFID has 8 non-nursing vacancies: 2 assistant supervisors, 4 clerical positions, a physician specialist, and a pharmacy consultant. While filling these positions is important, our priority is filling the critical nursing positions. (Attachment III shows where staff are located.) In the last two years, HFID has lost 38 nurses. The most common reason given at exit conferences is low pay.

HFID has made some progress in hiring new nurses by offering advanced step placement; five nurses were hired with this augmented compensation. An ad placed by HFID in a nursing journal recently also yielded several inquiries.

Training

Evaluators require specialized training by the State in order to conduct licensing and certification activities. Training includes six weeks each of academic and clinical training, and a week of training by federal staff. Staff must then pass the Federal Minimum Qualification Examination. Staff working in specialty care facilities receive further training and certification by CMS. Because of the rigorous training period, new staff are usually not considered "up-to-speed" for a year or more after being hired.

Consequences of Staff Shortage

Attrition and difficulty in recruitment, along with increasingly burdensome workloads for existing staff have resulted in HFID's inability to complete its work. A detailed graph showing work completed and uncompleted for FYs 03-04 and 05-06 is attached (Attachment IV). All Tier 1 and Tier 2 work was completed but at a heavy cost, in terms of staff who left, citing overwork and low pay. In Tier 3, significant numbers of facilities were not evaluated. Without some relief from the staffing shortage, these numbers will grow next year.

Negotiations with the State

Historically, once the State budget was approved, LAC/DHS negotiated with the State on workload issues. In recent years, since negotiations have included reductions in funding, we have asked the State to revise expectations of the HFID's workload capacity. To respond to the Board's motion and to resolve some of these issues for the upcoming fiscal year, a conference call with the State was scheduled for early June. We were going to ask about projected increases for HFID in the Governor's budget; what the State's expectations were in terms of increased workload, if any, in view of any increases; and whether the State would entertain requests for help with additional funding or staff. Call participants included our staff and representatives from County Counsel and the CAO. At the last minute, the conference call was cancelled by the State. We will reschedule the call and Public Health will advise the Board in a follow-up report by July 14, 2006.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let us know.

BAC:JEF:bp
604:016

Attachments

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

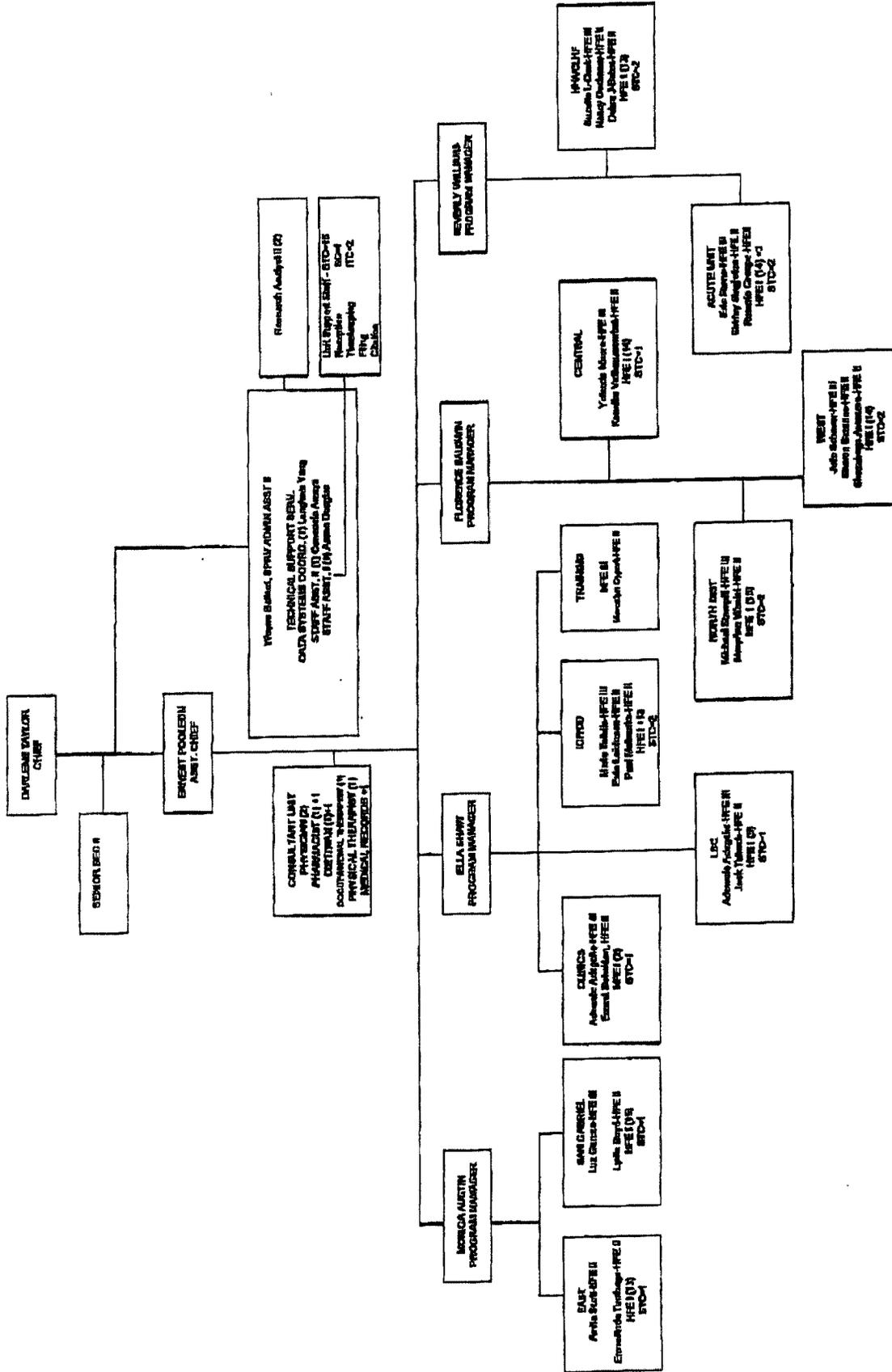
Health Facilities Division - Report on Type Total Number Facilities 7/2005

TYPE	TOTAL
ACUTE PSYCHIATRIC	9
ACUTE PSYCHIATRIC D/P	36
AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER	81
CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY RECOVERY HOSPITAL	2
CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY RECOVERY HOSPITAL/DP	2
CHRONIC DIALYSIS CLINIC	122
COMMUNITY CLINIC	188
CLINIC-FREE	12
CLINIC-PSYCHC	6
CLINIC-REHAB	8
CONGREGATE LIVING HEALTH FACILITY	14
COMPREHENSIVE OUTPATIENT REHAB FACILITY	6
END STAGE RENAL DIALYSIS	133
GENERAL ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL	103
HOME HEALTH AGENCY	419
HHA - Branch	24
HOSPICE	57
INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY	2
INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY-DEV DIS	5
INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY-DEV DIS/DP	1
INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY-DEV DIS/HAB	202
INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY-DEV DIS/NUR	70
REFERRAL AGENCY	5
REHAB AGENCY	39
REHAB AGENCY SATTTLITE	7
SURGICAL CENTER	103
SKILLED NURSING FACILITY	369
SKILLED NURSING FACILITY/DP	47
SKILLED NURSING-INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY/DP	12
TOTAL	2084

County of Los Angeles
05-45391Budget
(Year 1)
(07/01/2005 - 06/30/2006)

	Total of Positions	Total Budget
PERSONNEL SERVICES		
Assistant Chief, Health Facilities Inspection Division	1	\$ 92,840
Chief, Health Facilities Inspection Division	1	\$ 107,052
Data Systems Coordinator I	1	\$ 77,384
Health Facilities Consultant, Dietary	1	\$ 54,108
Health Facilities Consultant, OT	1	\$ 88,380
Health Facilities Consultant, Pharmacy	1	\$ 106,860
Health Facilities Evaluator I	95	\$ 5,901,780
Health Facilities Evaluator II	17	\$ 1,114,860
Health Facilities Evaluator III	9	\$ 638,712
Health Facilities Program Manager	4	\$ 319,536
Int Typist	1	\$ 31,332
Physicians Specialist, MD	2	\$ 400,488
Senior Secretary III	1	\$ 48,072
Sr Typist Clerk	16	\$ 564,872
Staff Assistant I	1	\$ 40,440
Staff Assistant II	1	\$ 48,792
Research Analyst II	1	\$ 52,924
Student Professional Worker	0.5	\$ 11,925
Supervising Administrative Assistant II	1	\$ 70,968
Word Processor II	8	\$ 228,975
TOTAL - PERSONNEL	181.5	\$ 8,999,880
FRINGE BENEFITS (43.7957% OF PERSONNEL)		\$ 4,379,517
OPERATING EXPENSES		\$ 1,083,992
Supplies/Office Expenses		\$ 149,982
Office Space - rental		\$ 798,000
Training & Meetings		\$ 100,000
Photocopy Machine Lease		\$ 36,000
EQUIPMENT		\$ 100,008
Maintenance (200 X \$400)		\$ 80,000
Antivirus software Licenses (191 X \$23.47)		\$ 4,483
Backup Software-Veritas for Windows (5 X \$525)		\$ 2,625
Backup Software-Veritas for Windows/Client (5 X \$580)		\$ 2,900
Computer upgrades & replacements (5 X \$2,000)		\$ 10,000
TRAVEL		\$ 127,440
Indirect Cost Rate 23.1728%		\$ 2,317,232
TOTAL: - Contract Costs		\$ 18,008,069

HEALTH FACILITIES INSPECTION DIVISION ORGANIZATION CHART



Barlene Taylor 5/18/06
 Approved

CENTRAL DISTRICT

Yolanda Moore, Spvsr.
Kannika Vathanasombat
Asst. Spvsr.
5555 Ferguson Drive, #320
Commerce, CA 90022
(323) 869-8522

Eagle Rock
Highland Park
South Pasadena
Lincoln Heights
East Los Angeles
Los Angeles
Monterey Park
Pasadena
San Marino

NORTH DISTRICT

Michael Stampfli, Spvsr.
MaryAnn Wasieleski, Asst. Spvr.
15643 Sherman Way, # 200
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(818) 901-4375

Antelope Valley
Arleta
Burbank
Calabasas
Canoga Park
Chatsworth
West Valley
Encino
Glendale
Granada Hills
La Canada
La Crescenta
Lakeview Terrace
Lancaster
Mission Hills
Monrovia
Newhall
North Hills
North Hollywood
Northridge
Pacoima
Panorama City
Palmdale
Quartz Hill
Reseda
Saugus
San Fernando
Santa Clarita
Sepulveda
Sherman Oaks
Studio City
Sunland
Sun Valley
Sylmar
Tarzana
Toluca Lake
Topanga
Van Nuys
Verdugo City
Verdugo Hills
West Lake Village
West Valley
Woodland Hills
Tujunga
Valencia

WEST DISTRICT

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Sharon Geraneo, Asst. Spvr.
Ghezahen Asamere, Asst. Supr.
6053 Bristol Parkway
Culver City, CA 90230
(310) 665-8400

Baldwin Hills
Bell Air
Beverly Hills
Carson
Culver City
Dominguez
El Segundo
Exposition park
Gardena
Harbor City
Hawthorne
Hollywood
Inglewood
Lawndale
Lomita
Los Angeles
Malibu
Marina Del Ray
Pacific Palisades
Palos Verdes
Redondo Beach
San Pedro
Santa Monica
South District
Southwest District
Torrance
Venice
Vernon
West L.A.
Wilmington
Playa Del Rey
Westchester
Westwood
West Hollywood

SAN GABRIEL DISTRICT

Luz Garces, Spvsr.
Lydia Boyd, Asst. Spvsr.
5050 Commerce Drive
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
(626) 430-5600

Alhambra
Arcadia
Altadena
Azusa
Baldwin Park
Claremont
Covina
Diamond Bar
Duarte
El Monte
Glendora
Hacienda Heights
Industry
Irwindale
La Puente
La Verne
Monrovia
Pomona
Roland Heights
Rosemead
San Dimas
San Gabriel
Sierra Madre
South El Monte
Temple City
Walnut
West Covina

EAST DISTRICT

Anita Scott, Spvsr.
Ermelinda Tumbaga, Asst. Sp
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Artesia
Bell
Bellflower
Bell Gardens
Cerritos
Commerce
Compton
Downey
Hawaiian Gardens
Huntington Park
Lakewood
La Mirada
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Lynwood
Maywood
Montebello
Norwalk
Paramount
Pico Rivera
Santa Fe Springs
Signal Hills
South Gate
Whittier
Watts

ICF/IMR - UNIT

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Paul Matsuoka, Asst. Spvsr.
Eula Leichman, Asst. Sup.
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Commerce, CA 90022
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HOSPITAL & ANCILLARY UNIT
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Shirley Singleton, Asst. Spvsr.
Rosario Grospe, Asst. Spvsr.
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Commerce, CA 90022
(323) 869-8507

HOME HEALTH AGENCY UNIT
Suzette Leverett, Spvsr.
Debra Johnson-Bates, Asst Spvsr.
Nancy Gochnaur, Asst. Spvsr.
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Commerce, CA 90022
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TRAINING UNIT
Marcelyn Cypert, Asst. Spvsr.

12440 E Imperial Hwy., Ste 522
Norwalk, CA 90650
(562) 345-6862

CLINIC, RECORDS & INSPECT
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Ernie Sahakian, Asst Spvst.
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Commerce, CA 90022
(323) 869-8593

LIFE SAFETY SURVEY UNIT
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Jack Taback, Asst. Spvsr.
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Baldwin Park, CA 91706
(626) 430-5641

HEADQUARTERS OFFICE
Darlene Taylor, Chief
Ernest Pooleon, Asst. Chief
12440 E. Imperial Hwy, Ste 522
Norwalk, CA 90650
(562) 345-8684

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - HEALTH FACILITIES DIVISION
 TIER I WORKLOAD
 FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 10-01-2003 TO 9-30-2004
 AS 10-01-2004

	SNF 100%					or				Monthly Total	ICF/DD 100% Req'd Surveys = 264 Ave Survey / Mo = 22	HHA 33% Req'd Surveys = 59 Ave Survey / Mo = 5	Hospices Req'd Surveys = 5 or 6yrs old Survey / 6 Years	ASC Req'd Surveys = 28 or 6yrs old Survey / 6 Years	ESRD 33% Req'd Surveys = 43 Ave Survey / Mo = 4+
	Acutes Req'd Surveys = 419 Ave Survey / Mo = 35	Central	East	North	SGA	West	ICF/DD	HHA	Hospice						
Oct	1 ⁽¹⁾ 3 ⁽²⁾	6 ⁽³⁾	7 ⁽³⁾	6 ⁽³⁾	4 ⁽³⁾	5 ⁽³⁾	30	10 ⁽³⁾	1	1	1	1	1		
Nov	3 ⁽³⁾	4	3 ⁽³⁾	5	3 ⁽³⁾	6 ⁽³⁾	24	16 ⁽³⁾	2	2	1				
Dec	3	8	5 ⁽³⁾	5	4 ⁽³⁾	4	29	23 ⁽³⁾	3	3					
Jan	3	5	6	9	4	3	30	16	6	6					4
Feb	4	7	6	5	12	7	41	22	6	6	2	3	1		
Mar	5	9	8	7	8	6	43	28	11	11					2
Apr	3	8	8	7	7	6	39	23	9	9					1
May	5	6	5	4	6	5	31	21	7	7	2	2			
Jun	8	8	7	7	8	4	42	29	6	6	1	1			
Jul	7	4	12	6	6	8	43	30	6	6					1
Aug	7	3	8	7	6	10	41	25							
Sep	1	4		4	2	4	15	16							
Year to Date Total	54	74	79	76	76	71	408	277	60	60	10	10	9		
% Complete	108%	101%	105%	106%	109%	101%	100%	105%	102%	102%	60%	13%	18%		
# Projected By 9-30-2004	50	73	75	72	70	70	410	262	297	297	42	164	131		
% Projected By 9-30-2004	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	4	68	42		
Total Facilities	50	73	75	72	70	70	410	262	297	297	42	164	131		
# Outstanding Facilities	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	3	3	4	68	42		

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - HEALTH FACILITIES DIVISION
 TIER I WORKLOAD
 FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 10-01-2004 TO 9-30-2005
 AS 10-04-2005

	SNF 100%					ICF/DD 100%					HHA 33% Req'd Surveys = 62 State got 33 Ave Survey / Mo = 8	Hospices Req'd Surveys = 5 or 6yrs old Survey / 6 Years	ASC Req'd Surveys = 22 or 6yrs old Survey / 6 Years	ESRD 33% Req'd Surveys = 43 Actual FY 86 Ave Survey / Mo = 4+	
	Acutes	Central	East	North	SGA	West	Monthly Total	Req'd Surveys = 262 Ave Survey / Mo = 22	HHA	Hospice					ASC
Oct	3 ⁽¹⁾	5	7	8	7	4	34	5	4	1					
Nov	3	2	4	6	4	4	23	18	4 ⁽¹⁾						12
Dec	3	8 ⁽³⁾	8	6	8	7	40	21	5						12
Jan	5	6	3	3	6	11	34	27	5						9
Feb	2	7	5 ⁽¹⁾	5	4 ⁽¹⁾	5	28	16	6		1				2
Mar	2	5	7	6	6	8	34	20	6 ⁽¹⁾		2				
Apr	4	8	8	5	8	6	39	27	7 ⁽²⁾						
May	3	7	4	7	2	4	27	22	6						
Jun	5	5	3	6	9	7	35	22	10	1					
Jul	6	5	8	6	6	2	33	31	4 ⁽²⁾		1				
Aug	4	9	8	9	7	7	44	15	6 ⁽²⁾						
Sep	3	5	9	4	4	4	29	15	1 ⁽²⁾						
Year to Date Total	43	72	74	71	71	69	400	239	55	2	4	35	5%	69%	
% Complete	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	97%	98%	91%	89%	20%	5%	69%			
# Projected															
By 01-30-2005															
% Completed															
By 09-30-2005															
Total Facilities	43	72	75	71	71	71	403	262	295	46	164	128			
# Outstanding Facilities	0	0	1	0	0	2	3	23	7	3	71	51			

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - HEALTH FACILITIES DIVISION
 TIER I WORKLOAD
 FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 10-01-2005 TO 9-30-2006
 AS 05-17-2006

	SNF 100% Req'd Surveys = 406 Ave Survey / Mo = 34						or		8%		ICF/DD 100% Req'd Surveys = 267 Ave Survey / Mo = 22	HHA 33% Req'd Surveys = 128 State got XX Ave Survey / Mo = 11	Hospices Req'd Surveys = 3 or 6yrs old Survey / 6 Years	ASC Req'd Surveys = 26 or 6yrs old Survey / 6 Years	ESRD 33% Req'd Surveys = 43 Actual FY 78 Ave Survey / Mo = 4+
	Acutes	Central	East	North	SGA	West	Monthly Total	West	Monthly Total						
Oct	4	5	6	5	7	1		28		9	8				
Nov	1	6	6	4	3	2		22		12	10				1
Dec	4	5	3	6	9	5		32		21	4				
Jan	4	4	6	3	4	8		29		15	4				
Feb	2	6	4	7	7	4		30		15	5				
Mar	4	7	2	8	4	2		27		20	10				
Apr	1	2	3	1		3		10		8	5				
May								0							
Jun								0							
Jul								0							
Aug								0							
Sep								0							
Year to Date Total	20	35	30	34	34	25		178		100	46		0	0	1
% Complete	47%	49%	40%	46%	49%	35%		44%		37%	36%		0%	0%	1%
# Projected															
By 10/1/06															
% Projected															
By 10/1/06															
Total Facilities	43	72	75	74	70	72		406		267	335		53	171	130
# Outstanding Facilities	23	37	45	40	36	47		228		167	82		3	74	77



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Public Health

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Acting Director and Health Officer

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Acting Chief Deputy

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July 20, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

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

SUBJECT: **HEALTH FACILITIES INSPECTION DIVISION**

On April 18, 2006, as a result of reduced State funding for inspections of health facilities and a resulting backlog of new facilities seeking licensing, your Board took the following action:

Instructed the Acting Director of Health Services to:

- Conduct a full review of the health facility inspection process;
- Work in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel and negotiate with the State Department of Health Services on amending the County's licensure and certification contract No. 05-45391 with the State.

On June 29, 2006, I provided you with a review of the Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) and a discussion of the major problems its staff has faced over the past few years as a result of State budget cuts.

Now that the State budget has been signed, the State should be ready to initiate negotiations over the FY 06/07 contract for these services. Public Health staff have initiated this process by contacting the State with specific questions.

I will provide you with a further update by July 31, 2006. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JEF:lm
604:016

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



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August 3, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

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

SUBJECT: **HEALTH FACILITIES INSPECTION DIVISION**

On April 18, 2006, as a result of reduced State funding for inspections of health facilities and a resulting backlog of new facilities seeking licensing, your Board took the following action:

Instructed the Acting Director of Health Services to:

- Conduct a full review of the health facility inspection process;
- Work in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel and negotiate with the State Department of Health Services on amending the County's licensure and certification contract No. 05-45391 with the State.

On June 29, 2006, I provided you with a review of the Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) and a discussion of the major problems its staff has faced over the past few years as a result of State budget cuts. On July 20, I provided you with a status report indicating that, following State budget adoption, we assumed that the State would be ready to initiate negotiations over the FY 06/07 contract for these services. Public Health staff initiated this process by contacting the State by e-mail with specific questions.

On August 1, we received an e-mail response, which included the following information:

- The amount of increased funding and work expected to be accomplished depends on the impact of current salary negotiations.
- The State is in the process of apportioning workload to each of its district offices and to Los Angeles County (as one of its district offices).
- The State is greatly concerned about backlogs in inspections, but plans for reducing them by the State's hiring new staff are mitigated by the lag time caused by extensive training requirements; the State intends to meet soon with our HFID managers to discuss approaches to reducing the local backlog.

Each Supervisor
August 3, 2006
Page 2

- Of critical importance is HFID's ability to hire nurses; discussion on possible additional funds being made available to Los Angeles County in a contract amendment for State Fiscal Year 2005-06 may depend on HFID's progress in filling nursing vacancies.

Filling Nurse Vacancies

Since my last status report, HFID has hired three nurses, who are now enrolled in the State's training academy. Three more nurses will be hired, as soon as they are cleared by Human Resources, which leaves HFID with 7 vacant nursing positions, down from the 13 vacancies we noted in June. The State continues to run an ad in "Nurse Weekly," and HFID has had more than fifty inquiries in response.

I will provide you with a further update by August 31, 2006. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JEF:lm
604:016

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



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October 3, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

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

SUBJECT: **HEALTH FACILITIES INSPECTION DIVISION**

On April 18, 2006, as a result of reduced State funding for inspections of health facilities and a resulting backlog of new facilities seeking licensing, your Board took the following action:

Instructed the Acting Director of Health Services to:

- Conduct a full review of the health facility inspection process;
- Work in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel and negotiate with the State Department of Health Services on amending the County's licensure and certification contract No. 05-45391 with the State.

On June 29, 2006, I provided you with a review of the Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) and a discussion of the major problems its staff has faced over the past few years as a result of State budget cuts. On July 20, August 3, and September 8, I provided you with status reports.

The state has scheduled a meeting on October 10, 2006, to discuss the FY 06-07 State funding and workload.

I will provide you with a further update by October 20, 2006. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JEF:lm
604:016

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



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
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January 18, 2007

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: *for* Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. 
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **HEALTH FACILITIES INSPECTION DIVISION**

On April 18, 2006, as a result of reduced State funding for inspections of health facilities and a resulting backlog of new facilities seeking licensing, your Board took the following action:

Instructed the Acting Director of Health Services to:

- Conduct a full review of the health facility inspection process;
- Work in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel and negotiate with the State Department of Health Services on amending the County's licensure and certification contract No. 05-45391 with the State.

On June 29, 2006, I provided you with a review of the Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) and a discussion of the major problems its staff has faced over the past few years as a result of State budget cuts. On July 20, August 3, September 8, October 3, and November 9, 2006, I provided you with status reports.

As previously indicated, the Legislature appropriated additional funds for FY 06-07 to increase the volume of staff needed to improve the timeliness of inspections, conduct timely complaint investigations and conduct initial licensing and certification visits for new providers. Because Health Facilities Inspection Division has vacancies, the state will not process an augmentation for additional staff until the existing vacancies have been filled.

Health Facilities staff have recruited twelve additional nurse evaluators. Of the twelve, five have been hired and are in orientation and seven have accepted offers and are being processed by Human Resources. Six additional vacancies remain for which Health Facilities staff continue to work with Human Resources to fill.

Each Supervisor
January 18, 2007
Page 2

Although the State has not yet negotiated the workload for the Health Facilities Inspection Division for 06-07, State staff have instructed our staff to begin processing applications for initial licensure and certification, such as for home health agencies, which had been the lowest priority for many years. Our staff has processed approximately 53 percent of the backlog. In addition, our staff has been instructed to devote more resources to complaint investigations, to be in compliance with a court order directing the State to diminish the backlog of complaints and initiate all new complaint investigations timely.

Staff provided the State with information about the final negotiated salary increases, for the State's use in preparing a budget augmentation for FY 07-08 to cover these increases.

I will provide you with a further update by February 28, 2007. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JEF:js
PH:604:016

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



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April 19, 2007

TO: Each Supervisor

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

SUBJECT: **HEALTH FACILITIES INSPECTION DIVISION**

On April 18, 2006, as a result of reduced State funding for inspections of health facilities and a resulting backlog of new facilities seeking licensing, your Board took the following action:

Instructed the Acting Director of Health Services to:

- Conduct a full review of the health facility inspection process;
- Work in conjunction with the Chief Administrative Officer and County Counsel and negotiate with the State Department of Health Services on amending the County's licensure and certification contract No. 05-45391 with the State.

On June 29, 2006, I provided you with a review of the Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) and a discussion of the major problems its staff has faced over the past few years as a result of State budget cuts. On July 20, August 3, September 8, October 3, November 9, 2006, and January 18, 2007, I provided you with status reports.

State staff requested and received preliminary information upon which the contract budget and workload for FY 07-08 will be negotiated. Although a specific workload for FY-06-07 was never negotiated, State staff instructed our staff to begin processing applications for initial licensure and certification, such as for home health agencies, which had been the lowest priority for many years. In addition, our staff has been instructed to devote more resources to complaint investigations, to be in compliance with a court order directing the State to diminish the backlog of complaints and initiate all new complaint investigations in a timely manner.

Each Supervisor
April 19, 2007
Page 2

The State also approved a budget adjustment for FY 06-07 to move salary savings into training, in order to train and certify the new staff we have hired.

I will provide you with a further update by May 30, 2007. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JEF:lm
PH:604:016-2

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