

Chicago Board of Health
Meeting Summary: October 18, 2017
DePaul Center, 333 South State Street

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Carolyn C. Lopez, M.D., President
Juan M. Calderon
Melanie Dreher, RN, PhD.
Adele Joy Cobbs, M.D
Caswell A. Evans, Jr., DDS, MPH
Steven Rothschild, M.D.
Joseph B. Starshak
Horace E. Smith, M.D.

Board Members Absent

Victor M. Gonzalez

For the Department

Julie Morita, M.D., Commissioner

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Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: September meetings approved

Commissioner's Update: Commissioner Morita provided the following updates:

Juan M. Calderón

Commissioner Morita welcomed and introduced Juan M. Calderón as a member of the Chicago Board of Health. City Council approved the Mayor's appointment of Calderón on September 6, 2017. Calderón currently serves as Chief Operating Officer of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, where he employs best practices and new models of care for youth, LGBTQ and seniors living with HIV/sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and mental illness. Calderón's recent accomplishments include the establishment of a trans-national partnership with Cuba's National Center of Sex Education and TransCuba. His efforts have been recognized by La Voz del Paseo Boricua's "Top 10 Under 30", Windy City Times's "30 under 30", DIFFA Chicago, and IVI-IPO Gay & Lesbian Caucus -Glynn Sudberry.

National Leadership

Commissioner Morita reported CDPH efforts remain strength as we continue to establish Chicago as a national leader in public health. In late September, she traveled to DC to participate in a panel hosted by the Coalition for Health Funding on building infrastructure for public health needs in the 21st century. She met with United Way Worldwide, Trust for America's Health and Enterprise Community Partners to lay the groundwork for future partnerships and funding for Chicago. In the spirit collaboration with other large cities across the nation, Commissioner Morita penned an op-ed on the opioid crisis with her peers from New York and Los Angeles and hopes to place the op-ed in the coming weeks and will be sure to share with us.

Healthy Chicago Updates

- **Public Health Preparedness.** Our CDPH team assisted Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC) in welcoming Puerto Rican evacuees to Chicago. We now have access to their immunization data base, allowing us to ensure that children arriving meet our vaccine requirements and can enroll in CPS. CDPH also assessed our staff and identified Spanish speakers that can assist in both clinical and support roles. In related news, our preparedness and biohazard team was on site at the Bank of America marathon monitoring for environmental hazards, coordinating hospital responsiveness and ensuring public health was maintained during event.
- **Chicago Health Atlas.** Last week, CDPH launched the updated Chicago Health Atlas (www.chicagohealthatlas.org). The Atlas will provide residents, partners, and city council members an interactive, neighborhood-level health data, including data from our Healthy Chicago survey. The tool will especially be useful for Healthy Chicago 2.0 partners applying for new funding and launching research projects and to aldermen wishing to

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search health data in their community. The City of Chicago also updated their website, please visit www.cityofchicago.org to see updates.

- **LGTBQ Health.** This week, we will launch #NoRoom4Stigma, a new social media campaign that challenges prejudices facing LGBTQ youth, and the same prejudices that lead to increased risk for homelessness, violence, HIV and suicide. The campaign will feature radio PSAs and free concerts by LGTBQ advocate and artist, Taylor Bennett (Chance the Rapper's brother).

Mayor Emanuel Budget Address

The Mayor is delivering his budget address at 10AM today, I will provide more details at next month's meeting. We look forward to continue our efforts in investing resources, be it limited, in improving health equity across Chicago.

Comments by the Board President: Dr. Lopez welcomed Juan M. Calderón and the students. She provided an overview of the board's history and explained the board's advisory role in matters of infectious disease and health issues affecting public health. In addition, Dr. Lopez commented on the interesting week she had attending the conference of Institute of Medicine. At the conference Megan Cunningham, Managing Deputy provided an overview of Health Chicago 2.0. Last Friday, our President signed an executive order to decline CSR payments and the uncertainty of healthcare in general. Dr. Lopez mentioned, there are things that we cannot control so don't get caught up – keep working and move forward.

Presentation: “Community Engagement,” Ivonne Sambolin, Director of Community Engagement

Policy Update: Jesse Lava provided the following policy updates:

Fly Dumping

The City Council has passed an ordinance sponsored by the Mayor, on behalf of CDPH and the Department of Streets and Sanitation, to crack down on fly dumping. Fly dumping happens when businesses or individuals illegally discard waste and debris on public or private property—often construction debris and sometimes toxic chemicals. The waste may have hazardous materials inside, posing a threat to health, and sometimes there can be massive amounts—even over a hundred yards or tons. The new ordinance imposes much tougher fines on fly dumping, and it's being paired with a series of security cameras being placed in spots where fly dumping is common. Dr. Morita and Streets & San Commissioner Charles Williams held a press conference last month to announce the initiative.

Parental Leave

Aldermen Pat O'Connor (40) and Margaret Laurino (39) introduced an ordinance to expand paid parental leave for City employees who aren't in unions. The measure would increase maternity leave to 12 weeks (it's now either four or six weeks, depending on the type of birth), and increase paternity leave to four weeks from two. Paid parental leave is associated with significant declines in child mortality and increases in breastfeeding and maternal mental and physical health.

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Healthy Kids Town Halls

We have completed on our Healthy Kids Town Halls. It has five policy recommendations based on community input in the areas of lead poisoning, vaccines, obesity, lead, and empowering parents. Thanks to the Board for your valuable input in this process. We have provided copies to you.

Trump's Attack on ACA

Having failed to repeal and replace the ACA through Congress, President Trump has unilaterally cut off a key component of the program. He ended cost-sharing reduction subsidies, or CSRs. Insurers are obligated to reduce the copays and deductibles for low-income customers on the ACA marketplace, and these CSRs defray the insurers' costs. Ending CSRs could have a profound impact on people who earn too much to be on Medicaid but are lower-income, earning up to about \$30,000 for one person. More than half of the Obamacare marketplace customers got help through these CSRs, which cut customers' costs by an average of about \$1000 apiece last year. The law will still require insurers to reduce cost sharing for these customers, but since the government will no longer subsidize it, insurers will have to make up the cost by raising premiums instead. That will hurt people on the ACA marketplace and potentially lead to spiraling premiums as healthier people decide insurance isn't worth it. Alternatively, insurers could drop out of the market, reducing competition (or in some states leaving no insurers at all) and leading to further premium increases. Trump has stated that his motivation is to make the ACA blow up so Democrats go to him asking for a deal. Congress could fix the issue by approving the payments.

New Business: None

Old Business: None

Public Comment: None

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.