



CSHC ENewsletter - June 2008

Policy Updates

California's Budget Deficit: The Governor and the Legislature Debate

The debate over next year's budget continues in Sacramento. On June 12th, the Legislature's Budget Conference Committee began reconciling differences between the current Assembly and Senate spending plans, both of which reject many of the health and education cuts proposed by the Governor in May. It is anticipated that the budget debates will last well into the summer, and that even those cuts that are not currently on the table may be reconsidered if the budget does not include revenues to offset the proposed cuts.

For a summary of how the Assembly, Senate, and Governor's plans differ, visit:

http://www.cbp.org/documents/080613_BudgetComparisonSide-by-Side.pdf

One of the critical items being debated is Quarterly Status Reporting (QSRs), the Governor's proposal to increase the number of times children must re-enroll for Medi-Cal coverage to every three months, which would result in approximately 471,500 children losing their health insurance. The Assembly Budget Subcommittee rejected the QSR proposal, however the Senate Budget Committee recently approved a "compromise," requiring families to renew Medi-Cal eligibility every 6 months, which would still result in many children losing coverage. To stay up to date on this issue and take action, visit the 100% Campaign's website at:

<http://www.100percentcampaign.org/>

School Health Center Advocacy: Building Support Among State and Federal Legislators

Given the state budget deficit and the federal focus on the Presidential election, it is unlikely that the proposed state grant program (SB 564) or the federal authorization (HR 4230/S 600) will move forward this year. However, CSHC is still busy leading efforts aimed at building support for school health center sustainability and expansion. CSHC staff, board, and youth board members have been busy the past few months visiting Sacramento, Washington DC, and district legislative offices to educate policymakers about the benefits of school health centers and advocate for future increases in state and federal support. State legislative offices visited included: Assemblymembers Aghazarian, Berryhill, Runner, Silva, and Villines, as well as Senators Denham, Harman, and Maldonado. Congressional offices visited included: Representatives Capps, Davis, Eshoo, Miller, Waxman, and Woolsey.

For more information on SB 564, please visit our website:

<http://www.schoolhealthcenters.org/Expansion.asp>

For more information on HR4230/S 600, please go to:

<http://www.nasbhc.org/site/c.jsJPKWPFJrH/b.3083789/>

Medi-Cal Administrative Activities: Update on Efforts to Save the Program

The bill (H.R. 5613) extending the school-based Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program and the six other Medicaid programs at risk of being cut by CMS moved through both Houses with veto-proof bipartisan support. However, the bill was held in the Senate because it is

believed that President Bush will not sign it, and although the votes were present to overturn a Presidential veto, it is likely that many of the Senate Republicans would not want to challenge the President on this issue. The strategy then shifted and the same language was added to the supplemental Iraq war funding bill, a strategic move given the war funding bill is considered to be a “must pass” piece of legislation. The war funding bill passed the House of Representatives on June 19th with the MAA language included and is expected to pass the Senate and move on to the President as early as next week. To stay up to date on the status of this issue, please visit: <http://www.theleanet.com/>

News from the Field

Lincoln High School Wins 2008 CSHC Outstanding Nutrition and Fitness Program Award

This issue’s CSHC Spotlight article is on San Francisco’s Lincoln High School’s “Health Idol” Wellness Competition, a reality show-themed fitness program where teachers, students, and wellness center staff compete for the title of “Health Idol.” Participants navigate ten rounds of fitness challenges throughout the semester, including classics such as the mile run, sit-ups, push-ups and flexibility, in addition to activities more focused on social support and logic games including a timed sudoku competition. The teams, deemed “Heart,” “Body” and “Mind,” reflect the holistic nature of the program, which just recently completed its fifth year of competition. The Outstanding Nutrition and Fitness Award will be presented to the program’s creator, Wellness Center counselor Ian Enriquez, at the California State Association Meeting during the 2008 NASBHC convention in Los Angeles (see below for other winners). CSHC congratulates Ian and Health Idol, and encourages you to read the entire CSHC Spotlight at: http://schoolhealthcenters.org/docs/Spotlight_Health%20Idol_Lincoln_HS_June_2008.pdf.

Oakland Middle Schools Receive \$15 million for School Health Centers

Atlantic Philanthropies has announced a grant for \$15 million to seven Oakland middle schools. The funds will allow major expansion of on-campus medical, dental and counseling services, as well as provide for additional after-hours services and summer programming. To read the *Oakland Tribune* article about this exciting expansion, go to: [http://schoolhealthcenters.org/docs/Whats%20New/Oakland%20Tribune_Oakland%20Schools%20Get%20\\$15%20million.pdf](http://schoolhealthcenters.org/docs/Whats%20New/Oakland%20Tribune_Oakland%20Schools%20Get%20$15%20million.pdf).

Balboa High School Teen Advisory Board Initiates Policy Change

Thanks to the enthusiasm and commitment of teens serving on the Youth Advocacy Board for the Balboa Teen Health Center, health education classes in San Francisco high schools will now include a module on California minor consent laws. A few years ago, the students conducted a city-wide needs assessment which revealed that many students did not know much about their minor consent rights. As a result, the students not only designed and implemented a peer-to-peer education program, but also drafted a board of education resolution aimed at educating students about their rights to confidential health care. In May 2008, the students were invited to present to the School Board. The School Board agreed to include minor consent rights as a part of the health education curriculum in all San Francisco public high schools, beginning in the 2008-2009 school year.

To read the full story, please go to: <http://schoolhealthcenters.org/docs/BalboaYouthPolicy.pdf>

CSHC News

CSHC Awards Outstanding School Health Center Programs

California School Health Centers Association is pleased to announce three winners for outstanding school health center program awards: 1) Outstanding Nutrition and Fitness Program: San Francisco's Lincoln High School Wellness Center's "Health Idol" program; 2) Outstanding Reproductive Health Youth Development Program: Berkeley High School Health Center; 3) Outstanding Reproductive Health Advocacy Program: San Fernando High School Teen Health Center. Each of the three awardees will receive their award during the CSHC meeting at the NASBHC convention on June 26th. They will also have their program featured in a CSHC Spotlight and receive \$75 for a celebration at their school health center. Please join CSHC in congratulating these outstanding programs! You can read more about the "Health Idol" program at: http://schoolhealthcenters.org/docs/Spotlight_Health%20Idol_Lincoln_HS_June_2008.pdf Watch future issues of ENews for spotlights on the other two winning programs.

CSHC Staff Changes & Updates

Administrative Coordinator, Cynthia Harding, left CSHC in May to pursue a Masters degree in nursing at UCSF, and Field Coordinator, Michael Smith, has also left the organization in order to pursue a graduate degree in social work at Smith College. We wish them both well in their new endeavors! Aileen Olson joined CSHC in mid-May as the new Office Manager. Also new to CSHC is Jesus Verduzco, who will be working with us part-time to support school health center expansion in Contra Costa County. Finally, we would like to congratulate our Los Angeles Field Coordinator, Sang Leng Trieu, who recently completed her PhD in Public Health!

Conferences & Workshops

NASBHC Conference: June 25-28 in Los Angeles

Come learn and network at the National School-Based Health Care Convention which will take place this week in Los Angeles at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza! The annual school-based health care convention, now in its 13th year, is the national gathering of school health center staff, managers, supporters and advocates. The theme of this year's convention is "Taking Action Against Health Inequities." There is still time to register, and you also have the option to attend for a single day. This is an excellent option for LA-area folks who want to drop in for one day of sessions. Pre-conference registration has ended, however you may register at the conference on site. For more information, please call 202-638-5872, or visit their website at: <http://www.nasbhc.org/site/c.jsJPKWPFJrH/b.2708163/>

Adolescent Health Collaborative Conference: Youth Issues 2008

The "Youth Issues 2008: Transforming Services, Transforming Communities" conference will be held in Los Angeles on September 18th and 19th. This is a conference for all those who work with and support youth and are ready for action on adolescent health issues. This year there will

also be a special Youth Track for youth peer educators. Topics will include: Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Intervention; Reproductive Justice Issues; and School Health Centers. For a list of speakers, sessions and to register, go to: <http://www.californiateenhealth.org/> For more information, contact Sharon Kosch, Conference Coordinator, at: Conference@californiateenhealth.org or call 510-612-6040. For Youth Track information, contact Matt Moyer at MMoyer@chla.usc.edu.

California Association of Nonprofits (CAN): Financial Management Trainings

The 7th annual CAN Nonprofit Finance series of trainings are taking place in August and September in Los Angeles, Riverside, Oakland and Fresno. These trainings are aimed at building critical skills for improving the financial management of nonprofits, providing opportunities to exchange information and resources, and to network with other nonprofit financial staff, volunteers, and consultants. For more information, please visit CAN's website at: <http://www.canonprofits.org/>

CSHC Annual Conference: March 3-4, 2009 in Sacramento

Save the date for next year's CSHC conference scheduled for March 3-4, 2009 in Sacramento! Stay tuned for more details.

Los Angeles Advocacy Training: How to Get Politicians to Work for You

In partnership with Community Health Councils, California Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, and Hunger Action LA, CSHC is co-sponsoring a free advocacy training entitled, "How to Get Politicians to Work for You." The training will be held in Los Angeles on Tuesday, July 1, 2008, from 10 am to 12 noon at the Community Health Councils at 3731 Stocker Street, Suite 201. Seating is limited, so please sign up soon. To register and for more information, please call Heilie Kim at 323-295-9372 ext. 233 or email her at hkim@chc-inc.org.

Tools & Resources

Parent Engagement Tool in Development

CSHC welcomes summer intern Teresa Chin, a graduate student from UC Berkeley's School of Public Health and a former high school teacher, who is developing a new resource for school health centers on parent engagement. The tool will include practical resources as well as profiles of model programs such as Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center's successful promotora program, which trains parents as health advocates and leaders. Parents involved in the program have not only done work on education bills and traveled to Sacramento to support school health legislation, but also report feeling more connected to both the school and the health center. Teresa will continue to interview school health centers throughout the summer. If you have strategies to share or challenges you would like to see addressed in the tool, please email Teresa at tchin@schoolhealthcenters.org.

New State Health Education Content Standards

The California State Board of Education has recently adopted content standards for health education. The focus of the health education standards is on teaching the skills that enable students to make healthy choices and avoid high-risk behaviors. Eight overarching standards

describe essential concepts and skills (e.g., decision making) which are taught in the context of the six content/subject areas (e.g., nutrition and physical activity). Each skill is learned and practiced specific to the content area and behavior. CSHC will provide suggestions on how school health centers may use these standards to develop/modify health education programs once the standards have been published. To view the standards, and learn more about how they were developed, please visit the California Department of Education at:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/he/he/index.asp>

State's Asthma Report Recommends Working with CSHC

The State of California recently released the *Strategic Plan for Asthma in California 2008-2012*. Among its recommendations are: increase the number of qualified personnel in schools and districts to better meet the needs of students with asthma; increase the nurse-to-student ratio in all California school districts; promote the use of consulting community physicians; increase custodial maintenance and facility staff levels in school districts; and work with the California School Health Centers Association to ensure that existing and future school health centers provide comprehensive, high quality asthma care, including acute and emergency care for all students with asthma. To see the full report, go to: <http://www.californiabreathing.org/>

New Report on Teen Births in California

The Public Health Institute recently released *No Time for Complacency: Teen Births in California* which reports that California's 15-year teen birth rate decline came to an end in 2006 when rates began to climb again. This mirrors a nationwide trend, although California's teen birth rate remains lower than the rate for the United States and for demographically comparable states. For more information on this study, please visit: <http://crahd.phi.org/>