

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I woke up this morning and couldn't believe that we're only halfway through the year as the Center has been moving at a whirlwind pace. There have been so many exciting projects, partnerships and opportunities that I am constantly reminded of the 1979 disco song, "ain't no stoppin' us now, we're on the move...". We're moving in a positive direction to continue to promote child health equity, wellness and community innovation.

This newsletter is just a snapshot, some of the highlights of what has happened these past few months. Our colleagues have continued to push the envelope regarding the limitless possibilities within the role of a pediatric hospital when it partners with its community.

We are on the move to strategically and innovatively advance the healthcare of children.

Barbara Stagers, MD
Executive Director

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Introducing the CCHE Public Health Corps Program

The CCHE Public Health Corps Program recruits and places college volunteers with UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland programs that could benefit from their support.

The Public Health Corps Program inspires young and talented students to connect on a deeper level with their community and helps them consider future careers in a health related field. Since the program started in October, CCHE has recruited and placed over 45 students who are working on a variety of programs.

"The Public Health Corps Program was one of the best experiences I've had," said Moizza Shabbir, a former UC Berkeley student and program participant. "The projects I worked on were intellectually challenging and eye-opening. I know that the work I did with CCHE was benefiting UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland and the community it serves."

The CCHE Public Health Corps has already been a great success, and we are excited about the potential it holds for the hospital. CCHE will help

coordinate a Public Health Corps volunteer for any hospital program upon request.

For more information, please contact Kelli Gingras at kgingras@mail.choc.org.



CCHE Secures \$3.4 Million Grant for Groundbreaking Study on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Adam Davis, Director of CCHE, recently co-wrote a successful proposal with Laura Frame, PhD, Director of Research at Early Intervention Services, to study ACEs. Examples of ACEs include verbal, physical, or sexual abuse, and family dysfunction (e.g., an incarcerated, mentally ill, or substance-abusing family member). Research has shown that ACEs in childhood can have a profound impact on life outcomes—the greater number of ACEs, the poorer the outcomes.

Dr. Dayna Long of CCHE is now co-leading the study with Dr. Frame, Dr. Rachel Gilgoff, and Mindy Benson at the Claremont Clinic, in collaboration with Dr. Nadine Burke Harris at the Center for Youth Wellness in the Bayview neighborhood of San Francisco.

The study has three goals, none of which have been studied previously: (1) to develop and validate an ACE screening tool for a pediatric setting,



(2) to evaluate the impact of primary care-based interventions for children with ACEs, and (3) to investigate the associations between ACEs, mental health symptoms and stress biomarkers in children.

Through this study, UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland is evaluating the potential to include ACEs screening as a standard part of pediatric primary care. The study, which began in fall 2015, is funded by the Tara Foundation.

CCHE Partners with the Opportunity Institute on the Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing Campaign

The Opportunity Institute promotes social mobility and equity by improving outcomes from early childhood through early career. The Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing Campaign focuses on the importance of supporting language-rich activities for parents and children together to foster early childhood development.

The initiative gives caregivers information and tools needed to provide their children with the best start in life. It also raises awareness around the importance of interaction with young children to boost their early brain and language development.

On June 4, Children's hosted the first Teddy Bear Clinic and Talk, Read, Sing Day for the community. Dr. Bertram Lubin, President and CEO of UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, serves on the Opportunity Institute's Board of Directors and has brought his pediatric expertise to the Board's discussions around children's health and wellness.



CCHE Consults on Mayor's Oakland Promise Initiative

Sue Greenwald, CCHE Director of Community Partnership Programs, and Dr. Bertram Lubin have been working closely with Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf and her team to implement Oakland Promise. Dr. Lubin serves on the advisory committee to the Mayor for this initiative, which includes the Brilliant Baby Program.

This program will provide \$500 savings accounts to a subset of newborns in Oakland who are being served through Home Visiting and Early Head Start programs with the long-term goal of providing this service to all newborns in Oakland.

Families enrolled will be given financial coaching. Children's own Special Start Program, which provides ongoing home visits for Alameda County neonatal intensive care graduates after they go home, will act as one of the initial programs through which the Brilliant Baby Program is implemented.

CCHE Policy Corner

We would like to introduce the CCHE Policy Corner. Here we will share CCHE's political work from our Director of Government & Community Relations, Doreen Moreno and Terri Cowger Hill, our state governmental relations consultant. This quarter, we will highlight our work with the California Children's Services Program, a bill on home nursing services and the City of Oakland Soda Tax.

California Children's Services Program

On April 5, we participated in the annual California Children's Hospital Association's (CCHA) Legislative Advocacy Day. The legislative visits covered, among other things, CCHA's position on the potential redesign of the California Children's Services (CCS) Program into a managed Medi-Cal model. CCS provides coverage for children with medically complex conditions that require specialty care. UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals see many children who have CCS.

Advocates for children are working diligently with the legislature to ensure the potential redesign of CCS does not compromise the care children with complex illnesses require. Special thanks to our local legislators Assembly Members Tony Thurmond (D-15th District) and Rob Bonta (D-18th District) for their leadership in supporting the process for legislative transparency and stakeholder engagement.

Senate Bill 1401

SB 1401 (McGuire) aims to address the significant statewide shortage of adequate home health nursing for children receiving Medi-Cal due to California's very low reimbursement rates. The legislation proposes to increase private duty nursing rates by 20 percent by 2020.

The legislation would require the state to develop at least three regional pilots (including one in the San Francisco Bay Area) to test the impact of increased rates for home health nursing on access to care for children in Medi-Cal. We support this bill, along with CCHA, because it could have great implications, particularly for our neonatal patients.

Joanne Kuller, an RN in UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, has spent almost 30 years providing care to vulnerable infants. She recently served as an expert witness in the Senate Health Committee hearing associated with this bill. At hearing, Joanne reiterated the importance of moving an infant home once she/he becomes strong enough. "The care and presence of parents provide a special sort of medicine," said Kuller. "Unfortunately, many children stay longer in the acute care setting because of the significant shortage of adequate home health nurses for children."

Joanne's testimony was powerful and helped SB 1401 pass out of the Senate Health Committee with a 6-0 vote.

City of Oakland Soda Tax

On May 3, the Oakland City Council voted unanimously to place a soda tax on the November 2016 ballot. If approved, Oakland would become the second city in the nation, after Berkeley, to levy a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages.

Vice Mayor Anne Campbell Washington sponsored the measure, which was also co-authored by Councilmembers Rebecca Kaplan and Desley Brooks. The measure would impose a one cent per ounce tax on virtually all sugar-sweetened beverages. The fee is projected to raise \$6-10 million. An advisory panel will be formed to recommend how to use the generated revenue. The measure requires a simple majority for passage. If it passes, Dr. Lubin has been invited to serve on the advisory committee to provide greater public awareness of the impact of sugar-sweetened beverages on the health of children.



Assembly Member Rob Bonta (D-18th District) (left) and Doreen Moreno, UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland Director of Government & Community Relations in his Capitol office.

CCHE Moves Forward with Two Advisory Committees

The CCHE is forming two advisory committees to help guide our work. Our internal advisory committee will be made up of hospital employees representing many different departments within the hospital. This committee will be co-chaired by a member of the CCHE Leadership Team and an advisory committee partner, and we expect to have our first meeting in June.

The external advisory committee will be developed within the next three to six months and will include community leaders representing different constituencies. We are very excited that Supervisor Keith Carson has agreed to co-chair the external advisory committee with a member of CCHE leadership.

Supervisor Wilma Chan and CCHE Team Up to Address Food Insecurity

Through our Family Information Navigation Desk (FIND) Program, we have found that food insecurity is one of the top three issues facing our patient families today and UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. CCHE are working diligently to address this issue.



Two promising collaborations are in the works. One is with the Alameda County Food Bank and will distribute bags of food through our Department of Clinical Social Services and other hospital points of entry. The other involves Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan's Food is Medicine Program and Dr. Bertram Lubin, Melanie Moore, Susan Greenwald and Dr. June Tester from UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland. The Food is Medicine Program is still in its early stages of development but will address food insecurity as a public health issue, especially for those individuals with diabetes. UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland will serve as one of the first implementation sites to evaluate the benefits of providing weekly food for a subset of children impacted by food insecurity. This project will also include a strong evaluation component and represents a major aspect of Supervisor Chan's "ALL IN" Poverty initiative.

CCHE Addresses Hollywood Elite on Parental Engagement and Early Learning

Dr. Dayna Long, Medical Director of CCHE, was the opening speaker at a Hollywood Convening of Executives and Producers on March 31, where she gave a presentation on the importance of talking, reading and singing for early childhood development. Chelsea Clinton moderated the event which included a panel and was strongly attended by entertainment media. Each of the organizations involved amplified one cohesive message: the first five years of a child's life make up a critical period of rapid brain development. It is an essential time for parents to lay a strong foundation for their child's long-term health, development and success and that talking, reading and singing to your children enhances this.



Dr. Dayna Long, CCHE Medical Director (left) with Chelsea Clinton

Community Benefits Spotlight

This quarter we are highlighting two longstanding Community Benefits programs at the hospital: The Kohl's Injury Prevention Program (IPP) and the Family Care Network (FCN).

Kohl's Injury Prevention Program

The Kohl's Injury Prevention Program, administered at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland under the leadership of Bonnie Lovette RN MS PNP, aims to reduce the number of unintentional injuries and fatalities in children, primarily through education and providing equipment to promote safety. Nationally, almost 9 million children are treated in emergency departments for injuries each year. Unintentional child injuries are the leading cause of medical spending for children in the U.S., totaling \$12 billion annually. These statistics have guided UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland to take steps to encourage all prevention measures possible. To learn more, visit www.preventingchildrensinjuries.org.

Family Care Network

FCN, managed by CCHE and led by Stephanie Montgomery ASW, is a collaboration of several organizations that coordinates primary medical care, case management, peer advocacy and legal and mental health services for lower income people living with or impacted by HIV/AIDS in the East Bay. UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland's Pediatric HIV/AIDS Program (PHAP) is funded in part by FCN.

Alameda and Contra Costa Counties have the highest proportion of women, infants, children, and youth living with HIV in any region in the western United States. The FCN has become indispensable in extending the quality and length of their lives, limiting the transmissions of HIV to others and leading the remarkable progress in virtually eliminating new cases of HIV in local children.

About CCHE

The Center for Community Health and Engagement (CCHE), founded by our CEO and President Dr. Bertram Lubin, is a new department at UCSF Children's Hospital Oakland that bridges pediatric health and community needs. For more information about the CCHE and the Center's efforts, please visit our new website at www.childrenshospitaloakland.org/ccche.