

# Yolo County MCAH Advisory Board

August 21, 2024  
Minutes

SUZANNE EIDSON-TON, CHAIR

**YOLO COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY**

GONZALES BUILDING  
25 N. COTTONWOOD STREET  
WOODLAND, CA 95695

The Yolo County MCAH Advisory Board met on the 21st Day of August 2024 at the Gonzales Building at 25 N. West Street, Woodland, CA at 8:30 a.m.

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Linda Copeland, Category E; Ahna Suleiman, Category B; Melina Ortigas, Category D

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Katherine Eastham, MD, Category B; Samantha Sime, Category E Suzanne Eidson-Ton, MD, Category B

**STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT:** Gaby Perez, HHS; Shelby McGriff-Borden, HHS; Katya Lopez, HHS; Laura Munoz, HHS; Katya Lopez, HHS; Tyra Fulcher, HHS; Kellymarie Chen, HHS; Margarita Ortiz, HHS; Raquel Aguilar, HHS; Leon Schimmel, Community Member; Monique Preciado, 211; Silvana Beville, HHS; Martha Michel, CC+OLE; Julian Lopez, HHS; David Moreno, Yolo BOS Dist. 3; Samantha Burr, WUSD

**8:30 A.M. CALL TO ORDER**

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – Ahna Suleiman, Voting Member**  
The August 21, 2024, MCAH Advisory Board meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m., at which time around the table introductions occurred and quorum was met.
2. **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Ahna Suleiman, Voting Member**  
After reviewing the minutes and sign in sheet. It was determined that quorum was not met.
3. **APPROVE THE MAY 15, 2024, MINUTES – Ahna, Suleiman, Voting Member**  
After reviewing the minutes and sign in sheet. It was determined that quorum was not met.
4. **PUBLIC HEALTH BRANCH REPORT- Brian Vaughn, Public Health Branch Director**
  - **Brian Vaughn:**
    - **Funding:** The Governor’s spring proposed budget recommended full cut of Future of Public Health funding. This was to build infrastructure in Public Health post pandemic. The legislature ultimately restored it to 90% funding. The allocation formula the state used will only represent a 1.5% cut for the county.
    - **Farm Workers Health Survey:** In the process of finalizing the farm workers health survey before sharing with partners that participated. They will come to a future meeting and present the data found. Yolo County set a goal to be the best place for ag workers to work. The report highlights areas of improvement. Housing, cost of living, basic needs, and access to food are the number one findings in the report. Another important finding is that 90% of the families surveyed lived here full time and are not migrating.
    - **Health Disparities:** Updating our health disparities with Julian through the fall. This is the Human Development index. This will include the impact of COVID in the disparities data.
    - **Mental Health Services Act (MHSA):** Still dealing with a large loss of funding for MHSA approximately \$3,000,000. This will result in programing cuts. Currently determining what programing for direct services will be cut. This is prior to what will be another set of cuts with the passing of Prop 1. The decision on cuts will be made by the end of this month. We will be happy to come back the update the MCAH Advisory Board once more is known about these impacts.
    - **COVID:** There was a surge this summer. Reminder, tests are still accessible through your medical provider for free. You can receive up to 8 a year. They are also available in our vending machines.

**DISCUSSION**

5. **PRIMARY PREVENTION – Kellymarie Chen**
  - **Syphilis Rapid Response Plan:**
    - STI mitigation expansion
    - Wellness vending machine program

- HIV PrEP/PEP services
- School support & partnerships
- Community engagement and outreach
- Outbreak readiness (N95 fit testing)
- **Syphilis History:**
  - 30 years ago, the US was on track to eliminate syphilis.
  - In CA, from 2010 – 2021 early syphilis cases rose in women 1,113%
  - Congenital syphilis increased 1,500%
  - Symptoms are commonplace, can present similarly to other diseases, and diagnosis can be delayed or missed.
  - Syphilis disproportionately impacts different populations based on socio-economic, sexual orientation, and racial and ethnic lines.
- **Local Trends:**
  - Syphilis cases started at 35 in 2014 and in the last 10 years it has raised by 71 cases.
  - Now there are 106 cases a year reported to the Public Health Department.
  - From 2017-2018 there was a 28-case jump.
  - The rate of syphilis in blacks and Hispanics is well above that of white and Asian populations.
  - We have a smaller black population but a higher incidence rate of syphilis cases in Yolo County.
- **Congenital Syphilis in Yolo County:**
  - Between 2014-2019, for Yolo County cases of syphilis in women, 57 pregnancy statuses were identified, 40 were not pregnant, 17 were pregnant, and 4 resulted in congenital syphilis.
  - Between 2020-2023, for Yolo County cases of syphilis in women, 139 pregnancy statuses were identified, 117 not pregnant, 22 pregnant, and 8 resulted in congenital syphilis.
- **Diagnosis Location for Congenital Syphilis:**
  - 25% at emergency departments, 17% at drug treatment facilities, and 17% at labor and delivery.
  - Some of the reasons these diagnoses are happening later, is because the screening guidelines have changed.
- **Factors Associated with CS:**
  - Of the 12 pregnant cases that resulted in CS, 12 staged as unknown duration or late syphilis, 29.5 mean gestational age at diagnosis, 4 received prenatal care, and 5 received adequate treatment.
  - Of the 27 pregnant cases that did not result in CS, 19 staged as unknown duration or late syphilis, 19.9 mean gestational age at diagnosis, 20 received prenatal care, and 25 received adequate treatment.
- **Other Factors Associated with CS in Yolo County:**
  - 4.75 had a history of mental health conditions.
  - 4.9 currently or formerly unhoused.
  - 5.1 justice system involvement.
  - 7.3 residence in unincorporated areas.
  - 22.0 history of methamphetamine use.
- **Who is Part of the Syphilis Task Force:**
  - Elica Health Centers
  - Fourth & Hope
  - CommuniCare+OLE
  - Northern Valley Indian Health
  - Woodland Clinic
  - Sutter Health
  - UCD
  - Planned Parenthood
  - Partnership Health Plan
  - Yolo County Public Health
  - Empower Yolo
  - Woodland PD
- **What They're Doing:**
  - Creating a Syphilis Response Plan.
  - Making a commitment to signing off on and implementing the Syphilis Response Plan.

- There are monthly meetings and cross sector collaboration.
- They are working on a syphilis screening and treatment training for clinicians with Sacramento County in October 2024.
- **The Syphilis Response Plan:**
  - The plan is centered around three goals:
    - 1. Eliminate congenital syphilis,
    - 2. Reduce syphilis among unhoused or unstably housed residents, and
    - 3. Increase accessibility of the spectrum of supportive services to people with increased risk and vulnerability to syphilis.
  - The plan describes specific actions by sector and categorizes actions by imperative actions (the actions that the Task Force members agree must be done) and recommended actions (the actions that members agree should be done if possible).
  - The Syphilis Response Plan has not yet been distributed, but if you would like to receive the plan once it is complete and available, please reach out to the Yolo HHS Primary Prevention Team.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**6. MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/SHARING**

- **Shelby McGriff:**
  - The Board of Supervisors presentation is on the Calendar for September 24.
  - Our October meeting is cancelled due to the SUID/SIDS conference.
  - We have been working with 34 Strong on updating our bylaws. Our next step is to coordinate interviews with some of the members, either via zoom, one on one, or in focus groups.
- **Primary Prevention / Margarita Ortiz:**
  - The most recent CDPH recommendations can be found in the [2020 Expanded Syphilis Screening Recommendations for the Prevention of Congenital Syphilis](#). SB 306, which went into effect in Jan 2022, changed the [Health and Safety Code](#) on prenatal syphilis screening to say that whatever the most recent CDPH guidance is, is the law. Currently, that is the 2020 guidance above.
  - From the 2020 recommendations, these are the core requirements for prenatal care providers and L&D:
    - All pregnant patients should be screened for syphilis at least twice during pregnancy: once at either confirmation of pregnancy or at the first prenatal encounter (ideally during the first trimester) and again during the third trimester (ideally between 28–32 weeks gestation), regardless of whether such testing was performed or offered during the first two trimesters.
    - Patients should be screened for syphilis at delivery except those at low risk who have a documented negative screen in the third trimester.
    - Emergency department (ED) providers in local health jurisdictions with high-CS morbidity should consider confirming the syphilis status of all pregnant patients prior to discharge, either via documented test results in pregnancy, or a syphilis test in the ED if documentation is unavailable.
  - As a reminder, Yolo is a high CS morbidity county, so ALL pregnant people giving birth here are considered at higher risk.

**10: 00 A.M. ADJOURNMENT**

**7. Next Meeting: September 18, 2024**

**10:00 A.M. ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted by:



Gaby Perez, Secretary  
Yolo County MCAH Advisory Board