



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY PREVENTION AND POPULATION HEALTH TASK FORCE

COMMUNITY PREVENTION AND POPULATION HEALTH TASK FORCE

313 N. Figueroa St., Suite 708
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 288-8252
www.ThinkHealthLA.org

TASK FORCE CO-CHAIRS

Veronica Flores, MA

Nomsa Khalfani, PHD, MFT

December 19, 2019

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Veronica Flores, Co-Chair
Nomsa Khalfani, Co-Chair

SUBJECT: **COMMUNITY PREVENTION AND POPULATION HEALTH TASK FORCE -
PROGRESS REPORT 2019 CALENDAR YEAR**

This progress report describes the 2019 activities and accomplishments of the Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force.

Part I. Cover Sheet

The Commission Liaison for the Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force (Task Force) is Gayle Haberman, Director of the Department of Public Health Office of Planning.

The Task Force's physical address is 313 North Figueroa Street, Room 708, Los Angeles, CA 90012. The phone number is (213) 288-8252 and fax number is (213) 481-2739.

Task Force's website: thinkhealthla.org.

Task Force members:

Sonya Young Adam, California Black Women's Health Project
Manal J. Aboelata, Prevention Institute
Mayra Alvarez, The Children's Partnership
Tamika Butler, Toole Design
Melinda Cordero-Bárzaga, Visión y Compromiso
Veronica Flores, Community Health Councils
Michelle Fluke, Antelope Valley Partners for Health
Cathy Friedman, Peace Over Violence
Nancy Halpern Ibrahim, Esperanza Community Housing
Anisha Hingorani, Advancement Project
Anne Marie Jones, The LA84 Foundation
Nomsa Khalfani, Essential Access Health
Jim Mangia, St. John's Well Child and Family Centers
Ramella Markarian, Glendale Adventist Hospital
Damon Nagami, Natural Resources Defense Council
Lauren Nakano, Beach Cities Health District

Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force Members:

Sonya Young Adam · Manal Aboelata · Mayra Alvarez · Tamika Butler · Melinda Cordero-Bárzaga · Veronica Flores
Michelle Fluke · Cathy Friedman · Nancy Halpern Ibrahim · Anisha Hingorani · Anne-Marie Jones · Nomsa Khalfani
Jim Mangia · Ramella Markarian · Damon Nagami · Lauren Nakano · Elisa Nicholas · Theresa "Missy" Nitescu · Janae Oliver
Maryjane Puffer · Cori Racela · Margaret Smith · Amanda Staples · Benjamin Torres · Nicole Wong

Elisa Nicholas, The Children's Clinic
Teresa Nitescu, Northeast Valley Health Corporation
Janae Oliver, Kaiser Permanente
Maryjane Puffer, The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health
Cori Racela, Western Center on Law & Poverty
Margaret Farwell Smith, Policy Council, Los Angeles County Office of Women's Health
Amanda Staples, American Heart Association
Benjamin Torres, Community Development Technologies Center (CDTech)
Nicole Wong, Redeemer Community Partnership

Part II. Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force Mission

- Report to the Board with priority recommendations to promote health, equity, and community well-being in Los Angeles County (LAC) with a focus on population health improvement.
- Make recommendations to the Board, the Health Agency, and Department of Public Health (DPH) on public health priorities, initiatives and practices that will achieve health equity and healthy communities.
- Provide leadership and strategic direction for community health planning in LAC, which includes the Community Health Assessment (CHA), Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), and other strategic efforts to promote strong population health.

Part III. Historical Background

The Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force (Task Force) was established by the LAC Board of Supervisors on August 11, 2015 in the motion that approved the establishment of the Health Agency. The Task Force is responsible for reporting to the Board with priority recommendations for health, equity and community well-being.

The Task Force membership represents a diverse, cutting edge “table” where a strong set of local leaders come together, think, strategize, take collective action, and inform DPH, the Health Agency, the Board and other key stakeholders of health equity priorities for LAC. (See full list of current Task Force members in Part I. Cover Sheet.)

The Task Force is the only advisory body in the County with a sole focus on primary prevention and population health. The Task Force represents an innovative model for harnessing the County's subject matter expertise on community-based prevention and healthy equity—two essential elements of a high-functioning health system.

The first cohort of the Task Force members served a foundational role for defining how the Task Force would advance the health and well-being of residents in LAC. By developing operating principles around equity, the 25 public health champions paved the way for the critical equity work to continue in the second term.

At the end of May of 2018, the first Task Force cohort held its final meeting of the first two-year term. In August, a combination of new and returning members held the first meeting of the second term which extends from May 2018 to May 2020. The current cohort of members have leveraged five ad hoc committees to advance the goals and priorities of the Task Force and facilitate the objectives of the Community Health Improvement Plan 2020-2026. The current cohort continues to strengthen Task Force processes and plans to implement an annual priority selection process in 2020 which will further guide the efforts of the Task Force as new members join in May 2020.

Part IV. Summary of Progress

This brief report provides an overview of Task Force activities from January through December 2019. Further details can be provided upon request.

Elevated Opportunities to Improve Health Equity and Reduce Health Inequities in LA County Through Collective Action

Principles of Equity Ad Hoc Committee:

An ad hoc committee to implement the principles of equity (POE) was created in 2018. Part of the committee's task is to develop tools that can support the principles' implementation. The committee, which was supported by Center for Health Equity staff, closed out its work in February 2019, after reaching agreement on how the Principles of Equity would be leveraged in the Center for Health Equity Action Plan and how best to operationalize the Principles of Equity in future actions of the Task Force.

CHIP Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee:

The Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee worked closely with DPH to design and carry out a community engagement process and vet and select policies and strategies for the next CHIP. The ad hoc committee co-hosted two CHIP community engagement meetings with housing partners and stakeholders to prioritize housing policies and discuss opportunities for alignment and partnership based on local efforts driven by community-based and grassroots organizations. The ad hoc also led a Task Force delegation to engage with Supervisorial District 3 regarding Countywide affordable housing policy efforts, including the rent stabilization ordinance. The ad hoc has reviewed all of the community recommended policies to address inequities in accessing quality affordable housing, reviewed input received through various community engagement efforts, and led the Task Force in an exercise to prioritize affordable housing policies to be highlighted on the CHIP.

Violence Prevention Ad Hoc Committee:

In 2019, the Task Force's Violence Prevention Ad Hoc Committee has provided support and input on the development of the strategic plan for the proposed County Office of Violence Prevention (OVP), as well as for the creation of the Office itself. In April, ad hoc members and co-chair attended the launch of the Office of Violence Prevention at the MLK Center for Public Health. The committee submitted a letter to the Los Angeles County Office of Violence Prevention County Leadership Committee to provide recommendations on the development of the OVP, including the formation of a Community Partnership Council (CPC). Two members from the ad hoc were selected to be a part of the founding cohort of the CPC, which will facilitate ongoing communication and collaboration between the OVP and the Task Force. Task Force members continue to work closely with DPH to provide feedback on the OVP strategic planning process and contribute to the progress of OVP's CPC via monthly ad hoc committee meetings. The ad hoc is currently reviewing draft OVP strategic plan goals and strategies and will be keeping the Task Force membership abreast of final priority recommendations.

Public Health Protection Near Neighborhood Oil and Gas Production Facilities Ad Hoc Committee:

In 2019, the Task Force's Public Health Protection Near Neighborhood Oil and Gas Production Facilities Ad Hoc committee worked to provide input on the Los Angeles County and City of Los Angeles ordinance revision processes. Both ordinance revision processes are ongoing. In April, the ad hoc committee led the Task Force in drafting and submitting a letter to the Board of Supervisors providing recommendations regarding the establishment of a County Office of Oil and Gas Administration and Safety Compliance to elevate health equity and environmental justice implications. The ad hoc also led the Task Force in drafting and submitting letters elevating health and health equity concerns and recommendations in response to the Los Angeles City Oil and Gas Health Report and the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District Periodic Review in October and November respectively. The ad hoc committee also continued to engage with the Department of Regional Planning regarding its community engagement process for the oil and gas ordinance revision, using the Task Force's Principles of Equity to make recommendations to enhance community voice and participation.

Medi-Cal Expansion Ad Hoc Committee

The Medi-Cal expansion ad hoc committee was established in February 2019 to support improved medical coverage for immigrant populations. This year they worked to become more familiar with county efforts and bills supported at the state level for medical coverage for immigrant populations in LA County.

Serves an Advisory Role to the Department of Public Health (DPH)

Advises DPH on Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The Task Force:

- Supported the development, vetting, and selection of CHIP strategies for priority areas identified in 2018: (1) protection of public health near neighborhood oil and gas development sites, (2) violence prevention, and (3) access to quality affordable housing.
- Advised the development of CHIP community engagement materials and activities.
- Co-convened three community meetings with community partners to seek their input on CHIP strategies.
- Attended and supported CHIP community engagement activities including resident engagement sessions and key informant interviews.
- Reviewed and provided feedback on the draft CHIP goals, objectives, and strategies.

Provides Input and Support to the Center for Health Equity. The Task Force:

- Provided input on the Center for Health Equity final action plan and continues to provide input on various issues as the Center matures.
- Supported recruitment for the Center for Health Equity's Data Advisory Council.
- Provided input on the development of the Equity Champions program.

Advises DPH on Initiatives and Practices that will Achieve Health Equity

- Provided input on the Health Integration Network proposal.
- Provided input to County departments (DPH, LACDA, and WDACS) on the County's upcoming lead paint abatement initiative and how it can help achieve health equity.

Operational Changes in Second Term of the Task Force

- Task Force engaged in a customized training provided by Liberty Hill Foundation to increase the Task Force's effectiveness and impact. The training based on Liberty Hill Foundation's Commissioner's Training, was delivered in January 2019. Content from the training has been referenced throughout the year to guide Task Force decision making and collective action.
- Task Force ad hoc committees drafted, completed, and presented 12-month action plans using a template developed in 2018. The action plans are used to support and track progress toward ad hoc committee goals and to communicate their efforts to the full Task Force.
- The Task Force institutionalized receiving regular updates from the Center for Health Equity at all Task Force meetings to increase opportunities for provision of feedback and advisement on the Center's efforts.
- Task Force members agreed to complete and submit a form to request time on the agenda to the Task Force co-chairs and Office of Planning staff to support meeting design and to create meaningful opportunities to discuss emerging issues outside of the work of the ad hoc committees.

Serves the Board of Supervisors

The Task Force has served the Board of Supervisors in the following ways:

- The Task Force engaged directly with Supervisorial District 3 regarding Countywide affordable housing policy efforts, including the rent stabilization ordinance.
- The Task Force submitted a letter to the Board of Supervisors providing recommendations regarding the establishment of a County Office of Oil and Gas Administration and Safety Compliance to elevate health equity and environmental justice implications (see Attachment I).
- Task Force members provided testimony in support of strategies, policies and approaches that advance health equity and community-based prevention in LAC, including the Chief Sustainability Office's "Our County" Sustainability Plan review and adoption by the Board of Supervisors.

The Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force would like to express its appreciation to the Board of Supervisors for its ongoing commitment to the priorities of prevention and equity principles in LAC. The urgency to stay ahead of the curve to prevent health disparities among residents, improve outcomes, eliminate health inequities, create improvements in our approaches to maintain a forward-thinking health care system--among other reasons, make it imperative that LAC harnesses its subject matter experts, dedicated advocates, public health, health care, academic and community-based leaders toward a shared vision of a healthy and equitable LAC. We stand ready to work alongside the Department of Public Health and other Health Agencies and the Board to advance population health, community-based prevention and health equity. We believe that this Task Force can continue to be a vital resource to the Board and all residents of LAC.

In partnership,



Veronica Flores, MA
Task Force Co-Chair



Nomsa Khalfani, PhD, MFT
Task Force Co-Chair

c: County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Board Deputies
Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director, LA County Department of Public Health
Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY PREVENTION AND POPULATION HEALTH TASK FORCE



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
313 N. Figueroa St., Suite 708
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 288-8252
www.ThinkHealthLA.org

TASK FORCE CO-CHAIRS

Veronica Flores, MA

Nomsa Khalfani, PHD, MFT

April 2, 2019

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE OF OIL AND GAS ADMINISTRATION AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE

Dear Supervisors:

As members of the Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force (Task Force), we write to express our collective concerns and recommendations regarding a recent Board Motion directing various County agencies to explore the feasibility of establishing an Office of Oil and Gas Administration and Safety Compliance. We appreciate your leadership in creating the Oil and Gas Strike Team to better inform County agencies about existing oil and gas operations, and to improve coordination among agencies to promote better public and environmental health. We also agree that establishing a more centralized and permanent County entity to regulate oil and gas operations could potentially allow for more efficient and comprehensive implementation of Strike Team recommendations, which, in turn, could lead to better public health outcomes.

However, it is the Task Force's considered view that such outcomes are only possible if the person selected to lead this new Office has the sensitivity, experience, and awareness of the public health implications of oil and gas operations, and not solely industry experience. **We strongly recommend that one of the requirements for the role of Administrator of the Office of Oil and Gas Administration include some experience and values of public health, environmental justice, and social equity.** The County currently employs contractors for oil and gas expertise, who demonstrate strong background in industry standards and technical knowledge, but have been reported to lack sensitivity for the importance of public health as it relates to oil and gas operations and potential safety risks to residents. It is our recommendation as the Task Force commissioned to uphold population health and social equity that the County Board of Supervisors equip the proposed Office of Oil and Gas Administration and Safety Compliance with leadership that goes beyond technical expertise and incorporates values of public and environmental health.

We have three additional recommendations regarding this new Office that would help ensure better public health outcomes for County residents. First, we recommend housing this Office outside of the Department

Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force Members:

Sonya Young Aadam · Manal Aboelata · Mayra Alvarez · Tamika Butler · Melinda Cordero-Bárzaga · Veronica Flores
Michelle Fluke · Cathy Friedman · Nancy Halpern Ibrahim · Anisha Hingorani · Anne-Marie Jones · Nomsa Khalfani
Jim Mangia · Ramella Markarian · Damon Nagami · Lauren Nakano · Elisa Nicholas · Theresa "Missy" Nitescu · Janae Oliver
Maryjane Puffer · Cori Racela · Margaret Smith · Amanda Staples · Benjamin Torres · Nicole Wong

Honorable Board of Supervisors

April 2, 2019

Page 2

of Public Health (DPH) in order to preserve DPH's critical role as an objective, outside collaborating agency. Second, we recommend that this Office be empowered to require all relevant agencies to coordinate effectively on all oil and gas issues impacting the County and its residents, including enforcement power when relevant ordinances and permits are in violation. Finally, we recommend that an open and transparent process be created to accept and consider public input on the scope of this Office's activities and its proposed leadership.

Please contact Nicole Wong at niki@redeemercp.org if you would like to discuss these recommendations in more detail. Thank you for considering our views.

Respectfully,



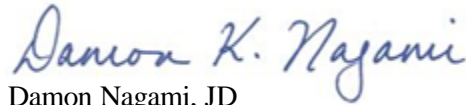
Veronica Flores, MA
Task Force Co-Chair



Nomsa Khalfani, PhD, MFT
Task Force Co-Chair



Nicole Wong, MPH
Task Force Member



Damon Nagami, JD
Task Force Member

Members:

Sonya Young Aadam, California Black Women's Health Project
Manal Aboelata, Prevention Institute
Mayra Alvarez, The Children's Partnership
Tamika Butler, Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust
Melinda Cordero-Bárzaga, Visión y Compromiso
Veronica Flores, Community Health Councils
Michelle Fluke, Antelope Valley Partners for Health
Cathy Friedman, Peace Over Violence
Nancy Halpern Ibrahim, Esperanza Community Housing
Anisha Hingorani, Advancement Project
Anne-Marie Jones, The LA 84 Foundation
Nomsa Khalfani, Essential Access Health
Jim Mangia, St. John's Well Child and Family Centers
Ramella Markarian, Adventist Health Glendale
Damon Nagami, Natural Resources Defense Council
Lauren Nakano, Beach Cities Health District
Elisa Nicholas, The Children's Clinic
Theresa Nitescu, Northeast Valley Health Corporation
Janae Oliver, Kaiser Permanente
Maryjane Puffer, The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health
Cori Racela, Western Center on Law & Poverty
Margaret Smith, Policy Council, Los Angeles County Office of Women's Health
Amanda Staples, Investing in Place
Benjamin Torres, Community Development Technologies Center (CDTech)
Nicole Wong, Redeemer Community Partnership

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Chief Sustainability Office
Los Angeles County Oil and Gas Facilities Strike Team