



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.TaskForce.ph.lacounty.gov

TASK FORCE CO-CHAIRS

Damon Nagami

Lauren Nakano, BS

January 7, 2021

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Lauren Nakano, Co-Chair
Damon Nagami, Co-Chair

SUBJECT: **COMMUNITY PREVENTION AND POPULATION HEALTH TASK FORCE - 2020
CALENDAR YEAR ANNUAL REPORT**

Dear Board of Supervisors,

The Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force (Task Force) would like to express its appreciation for your ongoing commitment to the priorities of prevention and equity principles in Los Angeles County. Comprised of public health experts, healthcare providers, academics, and executives from local, state, and national organizations, the Task Force advises the Board of Supervisors, the Alliance for Health Integration (Alliance), and the Department of Public Health (Public Health) on public health priorities, initiatives and practices and provides guidance on primary strategies for improving population health to promote healthy, equitable communities. The urgency to stay ahead of the curve to prevent further health disparities among residents, improve outcomes, eliminate existing health inequities, and create improvements in our approaches to maintain a forward-thinking health system--among other reasons, make it imperative that the County 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 Los Angeles County. With all of this in mind, the annual progress report below describes the 2020 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 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: www.TaskForce.ph.lacounty.gov.

Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force Members:

Sonya Young Aadam · Manal Aboelata · Everardo Alvizo · Tamika Butler · Betzabel Estudillo · Dahlia Ferlito
Michelle Fluke · Cathy Friedman · Nancy Halpern Ibrahim · Anisha Hingorani · Nomsa Khalfani · Jim Mangia
Margaret Martinez · Chad Monk · Damon Nagami · Lauren Nakano · Elisa Nicholas · Theresa "Missy" Nitescu
Maryjane Puffer · Cori Racela · Margaret Smith · Amanda Staples · Benjamin Torres · Sonya Vasquez · Albert Young

Task Force Members:

Sonya Young Aadam, California Black Women’s Health Project
Manal Aboelata, Prevention Institute
Everardo Alvizo, Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services
Tamika Butler, Tamika L. Butler Consulting, LLC
Betzabel Estudillo, California Food Policy Advocates
Dahlia Ferlito, City of Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator’s Office, Department on Disability
Michelle Fluke, Antelope Valley Partners for Health
Cathy Friedman, Peace Over Violence
Nancy Halpern Ibrahim, Esperanza Community Housing
Anisha Hingorani, Advancement Project
Nomsa Khalfani, Essential Access Health
Jim Mangia, St. John’s Well Child and Family Centers
Margaret Martinez, ChapCare
Chad Monk, National Health Foundation
Damon Nagami, Natural Resources Defense Council
Lauren Nakano, Beach Cities Health District
Elisa Nicholas, TCC Family Health
Theresa Nitescu, Northeast Valley Health Corporation
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, American Heart Association
Benjamin Torres, Community Development Technologies Center (CDTech)
Sonya Vasquez, Community Health Councils
Albert Young, Allied Pacific IPA/Network Medical Management

Part II. Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force Mission Statement

The Community Prevention and Population Health Task Force’s Mission is to:

- Report to the Board of Supervisors (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 Alliance for Health Integration (Alliance), and County of Los Angeles’ Department of Public Health (Public Health) on public health priorities, initiatives and practices that will achieve health equity and healthy communities.
- Serve as the advisory body to the Alliance for Health Integration’s Center for Health Equity.
- 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, health equity and racial justice.

Part III. Historical Background

The Community Prevention and Population Health 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 (now the Alliance for Health Integration). 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 and diverse set of local leaders comes together to think, strategize, take collective action, and inform Public Health, the Alliance for Health Integration, and the Board 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 health equity—two essential elements of a high-functioning health system.

The first cohort of the Task Force members (2016-2018) served a foundational role for defining how the Task Force would advance the health and well-being of residents in LAC. By developing, adopting and elevating Principles of Equity to serve as operating principles for health, racial and social justice for the Task Force and the County of Los Angeles, the 25 public health champions paved the way for the critical equity work to continue in the second cohort.

The second cohort of the Task Force ran from June 2018 to May 2020 and among many roles served as key advisors to Public Health on the development of a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2022 – 2027. The Task Force supported the development, vetting and selection of CHIP policies and strategies for the three community-selected CHIP priority areas of (1) protection of public health near neighborhood oil and gas development sites, (2) violence prevention, and (3) access to quality affordable housing. In this key role, they co-convended meetings with community partners to seek input on CHIP strategies and supported CHIP stakeholder engagement activities, including resident engagement sessions and key informant interviews. As advisors and key partners on the CHIP, the Task Force reviewed and provided feedback on the draft CHIP goals, objectives and strategies. Due to the pandemic, Public Health has had to postpone the completion of the CHIP.

The third cohort of the Task Force began on June 1, 2020 and extends through May 2022. It is comprised of a combination of 7 new and 18 returning members. The first meeting was held in July 2020. The cohort began as the COVID pandemic intensified and systemic and racial injustices escalated. As such, this cohort of the Task Force renewed its commitment to centering the Task Force’s Principles of Equity (Appendix A) and racial justice during this term when addressing opportunities to improve population health.

Part IV. Summary of Progress

This brief report provides an overview of Task Force activities from January through December 2020. Further details can be provided upon request.

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

CHIP Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee:

In 2020, the Affordable Housing Ad Hoc Committee worked closely with Public Health to review the draft goals, objectives and strategies developed for the new, but not yet finalized, Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP’s implementation will involve partners from different stakeholders and the ad hoc played a key role in identifying potential partners in the implementation of the strategies. From CHIP stakeholder engagement process, the Task Force prioritized a list of affordable housing policy priorities. The affordable housing policy priorities include policies that will inform the work of the Task Force in the current cohort and will be used to elevate recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and other County Departments. The ad hoc committee also met with the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs to learn about its Eviction Defense Fund and supported the program by sharing the resource with their network.

Violence Prevention Ad Hoc Committee:

In 2020, the Task Force’s Violence Prevention Ad Hoc Committee provided support and input on the development of the strategic plan for the County’s Office of Violence Prevention (OVP). In 2019, two members from the ad hoc were selected to be a part of the founding cohort of OVP’s Community Partnership Council (CPC), which has facilitated ongoing communication and collaboration between the OVP and the Task

Force. Task Force members continue to work closely with Public Health to provide feedback on the OVP strategic planning process and contribute to the progress of OVP's CPC. The ad hoc has been engaged in an on-going review and finalization of the OVP Strategic Plan goals and strategies. The recommendations will be used in the prioritization of violence prevention strategies in the CHIP.

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

In 2020, the Task Force's Public Health Protection Near Neighborhood Oil and Gas Production Facilities Ad Hoc committee provided recommendations for proposed revisions to the County of Los Angeles and City of Los Angeles oil and gas ordinances. A process to update the LAC Oil Well Ordinance is ongoing. 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.

Equity Activities

During the summer of 2020, the Task Force held a special meeting and subsequently formed a short-term ad hoc committee to identify priorities to focus on during this new cohort in light of the racial justice movements occurring throughout the country. The Task Force submitted a letter to the Board of Supervisors with [recommendations for addressing COVID 19, health inequities, and racial disparities through the implementation of recommendations made in the Care First, Jails Last Alternatives to Incarceration Workgroup \(ATI\) Final Report](#). The Task Force was invited to join the LA County's COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup and its Vaccine Equity Committee and identified two Task Force members to serve as liaisons to that work. The Task Force will be supporting their work as equity in the County's COVID-19 response has been raised as a Task Force priority. The group also tracked efforts to advance the Anti-Racist Agenda for LA County and racial equity initiatives in other jurisdictions, including Long Beach.

B. Served an Advisory Role to the Department of Public Health

Advised Public Health on the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The Task Force:

- Reviewed and provided feedback on the draft CHIP goals, objectives, and strategies.

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

- Provided input on the development of the Equity Champions program.

Advised Public Health on Initiatives and Practices to Achieve Health Equity

- Advised the Health Officer on Public Health's COVID -19 response, including input on the containment plan submitted to the State, flu and COVID, contact tracing and testing in areas of highest need.
- Advised the Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) on the development of its priorities included in their Strategic Plan, including the office's programmatic and policy focus areas and approaches for their community engagement efforts in the Community Partnership Council (CPC) and neighborhood councils.
- Joined the LA County COVID-19 Vaccine Workgroup and Equity Committee on the COVID-19 vaccine distribution efforts with a particular interest in advising on equitable vaccine distribution and communication efforts to hard to reach populations.

C. Served the Board of Supervisors

The Task Force 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 on the Action Plan for the Vision Zero Los Angeles County: A Plan for Safer Roadway 2020-2025](#).
- Task Force members provided testimony in support of strategies, policies and approaches that advance health equity and community-based prevention in LAC, including the Care First, Jails Last Alternatives to Incarceration Workgroup (ATI) Final Report.
- Appointed Task Force members have provided direct advisement and support to their Supervisor based on Board request, such as advisement on COVID-related county policies and on the development of the Alliance for Health Integration.
- The co-chairs represented the Task Force in a series of conversations with LA County's Antiracism, Diversity and Inclusion Initiative (ARDII).

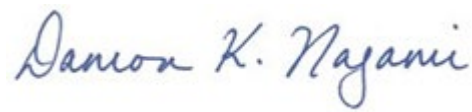
D. Implemented Operational Changes in 2020 to Increase Impact

- Voted for two new co-chairs, Lauren Nakano in May and Damon Nagami in November, taking over for outgoing co-chairs Veronica Flores and Nomsa Khalfani.
- Updated the Task Force's charter to include the Task Force's commitment to the Principles of Equity.
- Updated the group norms as the new cohort decides how to work together.
- Piloted a new process for elevating potential issues and actions for Task Force consideration.
- The Task Force's website address was migrated to www.TaskForce.ph.lacounty.gov.

The current cohort is exploring priorities for the coming year that center racial equity. Key policies and plans of interest to the Task Force include the Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative and Measure J implementation, Anti-Racist Agenda for LA County, the Antiracism, Diversity and Inclusion Initiative, and supporting county efforts to ensure equity in the COVID-19 response, including equitable vaccine distribution. The Task Force will also prioritize efforts to advance racial justice and health equity in policies and plans at the intersection of public health and housing and homelessness and land use. Task Force members will also provide ongoing advisory support to the Office of Violence Prevention through representation on the Community Partnership Council.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve. We stand ready to work alongside the Department of Public Health, the Alliance for Health Integration, and the service of the Board to advance population health, community-based prevention and health equity. We believe that this Task Force will continue to be a vital resource to the Board and all residents of Los Angeles County.

In partnership,



Damon Nagami
Task Force Co-Chair



Lauren Nakano, BS
Task Force Co-Chair

cc:

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

Principles of Equity

The *LA County Community Prevention and Population Health Taskforce* was established by the Board of Supervisors in 2015, and is comprised of public health practitioners, non-profit leaders, policy advocates with diverse expertise in social justice, workforce development, school and community wellness, injury and trauma prevention and resilience, and women's health. Appointed by County Supervisors and Department of Public Health, we serve as an advisory body that explores the racial, social, political, and environmental causes of health inequities and advances effective and community-driven solutions to create a more just and inclusive LA County.

Every person living in LA County should have an equal opportunity to live a long, healthy life. Gaps in health outcomes - based on race, income, zip code, gender expression, sexual orientation, physical ability, and/or immigration status – must be eliminated through intentional resource allocation and targeted interventions to repair and prevent the impact of poorer health outcomes experienced by marginalized communities. This also includes people with complex health challenges, severe mental health concerns, disabilities and those experiencing homelessness, while we improve the overall health of County residents and prevent illness and injury.

We recognize the important role that the County plays in building healthy communities through effective partnerships and the provision of needed resources – such as health care, parks, food access, housing and transportation. We hold a deep sense of urgency and understanding that County strategies and investments currently leave too many of our residents disadvantaged by poorer health and safety outcomes. It is imperative that all County departments understand and are prepared to address these immediate needs by embarking on the longer-term work necessary to transform its practices; and, challenge social and racial injustices to undo a legacy of biased policies and practices that have led to and perpetuate inequities.

With a shared commitment to justice, inclusion and fairness, the following principles provide elements essential for improving population health and promoting healthy, equitable communities:

HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES

Health is influenced by a range of social, physical, and economic conditions - such as racism, poverty, and unequal access to healthy environments. Health in All Policies (HiAP) is a collaborative approach that integrates and articulates health considerations into policymaking across sectors to improve the health of all communities and people encompassing everything from promoting healthy behaviors to creating environments that make the healthy choice easier. LA County programs and staff will consult, convene and/or collaborate across Departments to implement inter-sectoral, evidence-based/informed prevention and intervention strategies that demonstrate a shared responsibility for improved health outcomes across all County policies and processes.

INCLUSION

LA County recognizes that residents hold expertise on the impacts that racism and other social injustices have on the health of their communities and should play a key role in deciding how resources are spent and which interventions are best suited to address community needs. Understanding the power dynamics inherent between institutions and residents, Department staff will work closely with community members and leaders to build authentic, collaborative partnerships and processes and institutionalize opportunities and resources for shared decision-

making at critical junctures in Department planning, implementation, reporting, and analysis that is universally accessible to all LA County residents.

ACCOUNTABILITY

LA County operates with a sense of urgency and responsibility to achieve racial, social, and environmental equity. All Departments will institutionalize accountability mechanisms using data-driven action plans with baselines, benchmarks and measures of success to enhance transparency and ensure that programmatic and policy changes have equitable community-level impact.

DATA ACCESSIBILITY

LA County understands and demonstrates that “their” data belongs to the residents of LA County. Departments will democratize the collection and analysis of timely, disaggregated, and access to community-specific data to create action plans and accountability mechanisms for delivering on equity, particularly for historically marginalized communities, such as Asian/Pacific Islanders, Indigenous peoples, LGBTQ individuals, and immigrants. LA County will ensure that findings validate and lift up the lived experiences of the County’s diverse residents, while also ensuring highest standards for use and confidentiality protections.

RESOURCES

LA County will direct, prioritize, and coordinate investments to narrow health inequities by making targeted investments in communities that disproportionately experience poorer health outcomes. County data used to direct funding and staffing will take into account the impact of historic disinvestment and procedural inequities that have persistently contributed to unequal access to health resources and opportunities in low-income communities, communities of color and other defined population groups.

INCLUSIONARY HIRING

LA County will adopt and proactively implement new strategies and tools that will effectively dismantle unjust and biased institutional practices, systems, and policies related to hiring procedures, training, sub-contracting and career pathways for prospective and current County employees, contractors, and County-funded agencies. Departments will ensure that all contractors comply with labor standards, pay prevailing wages, and prioritize hiring workers from local and disadvantaged areas and apprenticeship programs for formerly homeless, foster and emancipated youth, Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) participants, and Transitional Subsidized Employment (TSE) workers. Additionally, the County will establish partnerships with organized labor and community advocates to create opportunities for the formerly incarcerated to attain quality jobs after release, emphasizing, wherever feasible, local hire and the development of job pipelines that lead to well-paying careers within the County.

CONTRACTING AND PROCUREMENT

LA County believes that contracting agreements have the power to uplift and promote economic growth and security to advance equity and climate resiliency. As such, funding opportunities will be aligned to promote local purchasing and strong labor standards. To that end, efforts will be made to prioritize partnerships with local Small Business Enterprises (SBEs), Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs), Minority and Women Business Enterprises (MWBEs), and LGBT Business Enterprises (LGBTBEs) to benefit historically underserved communities.