California Climate Action Team: Public Health Workgroup (CAT-PHWG)

Mobilizing California’s Public Health Sector

CAT-PHWG Meeting | October 31, 2019
California Department of Public Health
Sacramento, CA
Welcome & Introductions

Climate Change & Health Equity Program
California Department of Public Health

Dan Woo, MPH, MS
Health Program & Policy Specialist
Climate Change & Health Equity Program (CCHEP): Embedding health and equity in California climate action

**Vision:**
All Californians thrive in healthy, equitable, and resilient communities.

**Mission:**
Build health equity, advance climate action, and improve living conditions through policies, systems, and environmental changes.

**Strategies:**
- Work across agencies and departments to embed health and equity into California climate change programs and policies.
- Guide state investment and resource distribution to prioritize health equity and climate resilience.
- Provide data, research, and tools to identify and reduce the health effects of climate change and maximize the health equity benefits of climate action.
- Engage with stakeholders to increase communities’ power in decision-making.
- Increase the capacity of public health departments and partner agencies to work on climate change and health equity.

Participation

During Q/A and Discussion:

• Email questions to: CCHEP@cdph.ca.gov
  OR

• Use Webex chat function
Topic Overview & Framing

Linda Helland, MPH, CPH
Team Lead
Climate Change & Health Equity Program
California Dept. of Public Health

Solange Gould, DrPH, MPH
Chief, Health Equity Policy & Planning Unit
Office of Health Equity
California Dept. of Public Health

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Californians are Impacted Now

Photo: American Red Cross

Photo: Michael Short / Special to The San Francisco Chronicle

Photo: reddit.com
• Local health departments (LHDs), the health sector, and partners identify ways to immediately engage with climate change in their work places, and next steps to take collectively.

• Build relationships between government and advocacy groups working on climate change, health, and equity to identify shared goals and support climate action.
Californians Want Action on Climate Change

- 71% of CAs very concerned about wildfires becoming more severe as a result of global warming (GW).
- About 6 in 10 CAs say the effects of GW have already started & is very serious threat to CA’s future.
- 74% of CAs support local gov to change land use & transportation planning to reduce reliance on driving.
- 79% of CA voters of color said GW a serious problem facing California today.
- 85% of CA voters of color want state and local elected officials to enact stronger policies to help their community prepare for climate impacts.

Sources: Public Policy Institute of California, 2019; EMC Research and Resources Legacy Fund, 2017; Yale Program on Climate Communication, 2019
History of CA LHD work on climate change

- 9 CA LHDs received mini-grants from CDPH
- 11+ pilot LHDs received intensive TA and tools from CDPH
- CDPH has provided some TA to ~35 LHDs in CA
- Kresge funded Fresno, National City, & Los Angeles
- Los Angeles in PHI Learning Collaborative
Global, US, & CA Calls to Action on Climate, Health, and Equity

A CALL TO ACTION ON CLIMATE AND HEALTH

2018

U.S. CALL TO ACTION ON CLIMATE, HEALTH, AND EQUITY: A POLICY ACTION AGENDA

2019

CALIFORNIA CALL TO ACTION ON CLIMATE, HEALTH, AND EQUITY

2019
CDPH Call to Action on Climate, Health, and Equity for Local Health Departments in California

- CDPH encourages LHDs to engage with climate change and climate change planning as a public health issue.
  - CCHEP provides data, tools and technical assistance (TA) to LHDs to engage in mitigation and adaptation.

- CDPH Department-Wide Climate Change and Health Initiative.
Paths to LHD Engagement on Climate & Health

- Chronic Disease Prevention
- Built Environment
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- Disaster Recovery (fires, mudslides, smoke, storms)
- Environmental Health/Vector Borne Disease
- Accreditation
- Home Visiting (PHNs, Asthma, BIH, etc.)
- Healthy Homes
- Epidemiology
- Health Impact Assessments
- Women, Infants and Children
- Health Officer leadership

More info:
CDPH CalBRACE Adaptation Toolkit
https://cdphdata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=4093397556b4450ea563f23fcf353c64
APHA and PHI “Climate Change, Health, and Equity: A Guide for Local Health Departments”
https://www.apha.org/topics-and-issues/climate-change/guide
A Healthy Community is...

- Healthy, energy efficient, & affordable housing!
- Access to affordable, healthy foods.
- Green spaces for recreation!
- Kids have safe places to play and learn.
- Urban and community greening to keep cities cool.
- Healthy built environment including walkable & bikeable communities!
- Where there are good jobs and safe neighborhoods.
- Where people know and care for one another.

A Low-Carbon, Climate-Resilient Community

Images adapted from ChangeLab Solutions http://www.changelabsolutions.org/publications/HiAP_Collaborative-Health
Speaker:

Linda Rudolph
Director
Center for Climate Change and Health
Public Health Institute
Climate Change is a Health Emergency

- Climate change is impacting our health now
- The warmer it gets, the worse the health impacts
- We need to reduce emissions and adapt to climate change
- Failure to take urgent action risks catastrophic effects on human health and well-being.
- There’s hope: climate action is huge opportunity to improve living conditions and health.
- A “climate, health, and equity-in-all-policies” approach is required.
Resources Needed: Climate Change & Health Equity Movement
Building Partnerships with Climate and Health Advocates

• Build alliances with community partners to protect against push-back or risk aversion, ensure accountability, and build community power in decision-making.

• Invest in long-term relationships with the leadership of grassroots and advocacy organizations whose activities and campaigns advance climate, health, and equity.

• Create a culture of co-learning, reflection, and transparency about department and community realities and needs to build trust between government and community partners.
Building Partnerships with Climate and Health Advocates

• Partner with communities experiencing climate related inequities in ways that share decision-making:

• Identify strategic opportunities for advocacy groups to contribute their expertise and knowledge. (e.g., B-30-15 Equity and Vulnerable Communities sub-comm)

• Co-develop and promote a shared agenda, narrative, and resources to advance climate and health equity. (e.g., APEN Mapping Resilience, CEJA SB 1000 Toolkit)

• Come up with shared strategy on how to advance climate, health, and equity solutions using each entities unique role and powers.
  • What do advocates need to know about what is and is not working in government? Government resources or data?
  • What does government need to know about what is and is not working for communities? Community knowledge, power, advocacy?
Speaker:

Jenny Bard
Director, Health Partnerships
Advocacy and Public Policy
American Lung Association in California
Speaker:

Rohan Radhakrishna
Deputy Health Officer & Improvement Advisor
Contra Costa Health Services
County of Contra Costa
Discussion Facilitators:

Rohan Radhakrishna  
Contra Costa Health Services

Linda Rudolph  
Public Health Institute

Remote Participant Questions:  
Email CCHEP@cdph.ca.gov OR Use WebEx chat function
Meeting Closing / Wrap-Up

Solange Gould, DrPH, MPH
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Thank you!