

Memo

To: Board Members
From: Aaron Byzak, Interim CEO
Date: May 8, 2025
Subject: Community Health Committee Minutes – **May 7, 2025**

The Committee met on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. Members of the public were able to participate by telephone, Zoom, or in-person at the Grossmont Healthcare District Conference Center, located at 9001 Wakarusa Street, La Mesa, California. In some cases, discussion of items may have taken place out of sequence during the meeting.

Attendees: Director Virginia Hall, Chair
Director Nadia Farjood, Member
Aaron Byzak, Interim Chief Executive Officer (via Zoom)
Tom Scaglione, Chief Administrative Officer (via Zoom)
Amy Abrams, Chief Community Health Officer
Holland Kessinger, Head Librarian
Ryan Purdy, Sharp Grossmont Hospital
Minola Clark Manson, City of Lemon Grove Planning Comm'r (via Zoom)

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Director Hall at 12:00 p.m.

B. Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as posted.

C. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

D. Reports/Discussion/Possible Action Items

1. FY25-26 Preliminary Proposed Budget

The Committee reviewed the proposed FY25-26 Budget and discussed the below:

Community Health: Support

- CCHO Abrams described some of the strategic grant initiatives at Committee request (which are not yet approved by the Board).

- CCHO Abrams explained the reasoning behind Kaiser Permanente’s withdrawal of their recent grant award (\$150k) to the District; its use was intended for the East County Rural Health Discharge Program, which does not directly benefit Kaiser patients). The County of San Diego has confirmed their inability to provide financial support for the program in year three. Program sustainability and Sharp’s commitment to the Program was discussed. The Committee expressed their commitment to the program, and District staff will connect with Sharp prior to the May 22, 2025 Board meeting, so this can be further discussed during the Budget Workshop.
- Director Hall expressed concern about the sustainability of the increased Community Health: Support budget, particularly the 136% increase in Programs. CAO Scaglione clarified that the increase was mainly due to shifting some program expenses from the Library Budget to the Community Health Support Budget. CCHO Abrams explained that program, outreach, and event costs are included in the budget’s programs, events, and supplies line items, and that the total budgeted amount of these three line items has increased from \$102,000 in FY25 to \$141,000 in FY26. This includes the recently approved \$12,000 for community health program grants.
- The \$7.8M decrease in reserves was discussed, as well as potential areas for cost-cutting from other areas of the Community Health budget. Staff made the recommendation of possibly eliminating or reducing the unanticipated strategic opportunities line item, which is for grant opportunities not specifically identified in the Budget. Roundtable discussion regarding the potential of allocating a portion of these funds to the Rural Health Discharge Program. This will be discussed further at the upcoming Board meeting.
- Clarification was given relative to the work force pipeline item (\$450k) in the strategic grants line item, and the formation of a new workforce ad hoc committee that will make recommendations about workforce initiatives for FY26. This will be discussed further at the upcoming Board meeting.
- Discussion related to intergovernmental transfers ensued, including clarification of past board decisions related to Board action that conveyed to the Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS) the District's potential intergovernmental transfer upper limits in future years, versus recent Board action for actual intergovernmental transfer contributions in the coming fiscal year.

- Director Farjood stated she supports the proposed community health programs budget and would like to see an increase in coming years, as well as a diversification of the programs offered to the community.

Community Health: Library

The committee has reviewed the Library's proposed FY26 Budget and had no comments. It will be discussed by the Board on May 22, 2025 during the Budget Workshop.

2. Community Health Department Reporting

a) Monthly Report (For Information Only)

This agenda item was provided for information only.

b) Quarterly Report (January – March 2025) (For Information Only)

This agenda item was provided for information only.

c) Program Zip Code Report (For Information Only)

The report of the 90-day study of program participant zip codes was discussed. It revealed that the majority of program attendees are District residents and only 7.47% of Library program attendees reside outside of the District. Director Hall noted that a high volume of program attendees reside in La Mesa and San Carlos. The Committee approved of the report and does not require further collection of data or reporting.

E. Next Meeting: The next regularly scheduled meeting on the calendar is Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.

F. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.