



Public Health Health Equity

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CBO Collaborative Meeting Summary

January 06, 2026

Purpose

To enhance outreach and promotion efforts throughout the County by fostering collaboration with community-based partners and trusted messengers.

Public Health Officer Update

Speaker: John Holguin on behalf of Dr. Sharon Wang, EquityInAction@dph.sbccounty.gov

Hepatitis B Overview

- Hepatitis B is a liver disease caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV).
- Anyone who is not vaccinated against hepatitis B is at risk of getting the disease.

How Hepatitis B Is Spread

- Hepatitis B is bloodborne and spreads through exposure to blood or bodily fluids.
- Common ways of exposure:
 - Unprotected sex
 - Sharing drugs or needles
 - Sharing diabetes testing equipment
- Hepatitis B can also be passed from a mother to her infant at birth.

Health Outcomes of Hepatitis B

- Some people clear the infection naturally during the acute stage without medication.
- In others, hepatitis B can become chronic, meaning the virus remains in the blood for life.
- Chronic hepatitis B cannot be cured, but treatment can reduce the risk of serious liver disease, including:
 - Cirrhosis
 - Liver cancer
- These long-term risks remain for anyone who has had hepatitis B.

Prevention:

- The hepatitis B vaccine has been widely used by millions since 1982 and is safe and effective, safe during pregnancy, and covered by most insurance plans, including Medicare and Medicaid.

Hepatitis A, B, and C: Key Differences

- Hepatitis A and B have vaccines.
- Hepatitis C does not have a vaccine.

Transmission by Type

Hepatitis A

- Foodborne and waterborne
- Spread through contaminated food or water
- Can be spread through poor hand hygiene

Hepatitis B

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- Bloodborne
- Spread through blood or body fluids

Hepatitis C

- Bloodborne
- Commonly spread through injection drug use or needle sticks

Find a clinic near you at: [Clinic Locations – Department of Public Health](#)

San Bernardino Countywide Vision: Community Vital Signs

Community Vital Signs, Nicolette-Ashley Carlos, Nicolette-Ashley.Carlos@dph.sbcounty.gov

- **Vision Statement:** We envision a county where a commitment to optimizing health and wellness is embedded in all decisions by residents, organizations, and government.
- Full San Bernardino Countywide Vision Statement available at: [CAO Vision – San Bernardino CountyWide Vision](#)
- The Vital Signs Initiative is responsible for supporting the Countywide Vision, which focuses on fostering collaboration across sectors to build a vibrant, healthy, and resilient county for all residents.
- Its goal is to bring together partners to coordinate efforts, share resources, and develop strategies that advance the goals of the San Bernardino County Community Transformation Plan.
- The community health priorities are:
 - Behavioral Health: Improve mental health and reduce substance misuse in San Bernardino County
 - Injury and Violence Prevention: Decrease incidences of violence in San Bernardino County
 - Chronic Disease: Decrease morbidity and mortality rates for chronic diseases in San Bernardino County
- Vital Signs is currently organizing community listening sessions to hear directly from San Bernardino County residents about whether the priority health issues have changed and how they continue to impact their lives and communities.
- If your organization serves residents affected by these three health issues, Behavioral Health, Chronic Disease, and Injury and Violence Prevention, especially communities that are most underrepresented, we would love to connect to explore an opportunity for co-hosting a community health forum. The findings from these forums will help ensure the voices of our community residents are included.
- If you are interested in co-hosting a Community Health Forum or promoting them to your community, fill out this interest form: [Community Forum Partner Interest Survey](#) or email EquityInAction@dph.sbcounty.gov

Rural Health Outreach

Department of Public Health, Health Equity, Princess Osita-Oleribe, Princess.Osita-Oleribe@dph.sbcounty.gov

- The Health Equity program is looking to expand their rural health outreach.
- Key priorities include:
 - Understanding rural community assets and needs
 - Maintaining an active, trusted presence in rural communities
 - Connecting residents to county resources
 - Sustaining collaborative spaces for shared learning

- The Health Equity program is committed to advocating for policies and infrastructure that improve long-standing rural health outcomes.
- Moving forward, we will dedicate a section in the CBO Collaborative agenda to share updates from rural communities.
- Rural-serving partners will be invited to share:
 - Community updates and upcoming plans
 - New milestones and priority issues
- The Health Equity team will actively reach out to organizations serving rural, frontier, and unincorporated communities.
- The program plans to visit partner sites in person, strengthen relationships, and gather ideas on how to better support rural communities.
- Please reach out to EquityinAction@dph.sbcounty.gov if you would like time reserved to share any updates during our Rural Health section.

Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness

Project Sister, Jazmin Gonzalez, jgonzalez@PROJECTSISTER.ORG

- Project Sister Family Services is a local nonprofit sexual assault response agency that supports individuals impacted by sexual assault and child abuse.
- Services are provided at no cost. The organization is based in Pomona and serves 21 cities across Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties.
- **Abusive Relationships**
 - Domestic violence may take the form of: Physical, verbal, emotional/psychological, and/or sexual.
- **Unhealthy Relationships**
 - Warning signs include being jealous or possessive.
 - Unexplained marks or bruises
 - Emailing or texting excessively
 - Demanding passwords and/or location
 - Distancing from family or extracurricular activities
- **Healthy Relationship Equality Wheel**
 - To maintain a healthy relationship, it is important to keep the following factors as a priority:
 - Non-threatening behavior, fairness, communication, shared responsibility, respect, trust and support, independence and autonomy, honesty and accountability
- When talking to your teens about relationships, it is important to follow these key points to ensure a productive and healthy conversation:
 - Conversate in a setting that has no distractions or interruptions
 - Be a non-judgmental listener
 - Provide realistic strategies to confront the problem
 - Share your own experiences from when you were a teenager
 - Acknowledge diversity (LGBTQ+, neurodiverse dynamics, long-distance)
 - Healthy love starts at home
- **Project Sister Contact Information:**
 - Office: (909)623-1619
 - 24/7 Hotline: (909)626-4357
 - Website: www.projectsister.org

CBO Business

Speaker: Karen Rodriguez, EquityInAction@dph.sbccounty.gov

Observance Learning Topic Poll:

1. Oral Health
2. Native HIV/AIDS
3. American Diabetes

Poll Results – American Diabetes

Reminder: The topics listed above are observances for March. We present these topics a month in advance, which will be February, so you have time to prepare for sharing information or hosting events during the observance month.

New Meeting Platform:

We have transitioned the CBO Collaborative meeting to Microsoft Teams. A new meeting invitation has already been sent. If you did not receive the calendar invite, please email EquityinAction@dph.sbccounty.gov to have it forwarded to you, or sign up for our mailing list to receive future invitations automatically: [Health Equity Mailing List Sign-Up](#)

We encourage you to fill out our survey — All feedback will help us to better support our community.
[CBO Collaborative Feedback](#)

Community Partner Roundtable

- **Kaiser Permanente** shared information about the Kaiser Permanente Health Coverage Program. This program is now open, and it is for individuals that do not qualify for Medi-Cal because they go a bit over the income limits and may not be able to afford to purchase their own insurance program or their employer may not provide insurance. This program is paid out of community benefit part of their charity care. There are only 2000 spots open throughout Southern California. The deadline to apply is January 31, 2026.
- **AIDS Healthcare Foundation** offers free STD testing and treatment. They accept patients without insurance. If a patient turns out to be HIV positive, the organization will link them to care so they are not left without resources.
- **San Bernardino County, Children's Network** is accepting nominations for their "Shine A Light" award ceremony happening on April 2, 2026. This event highlights people in the community who are working towards child abuse prevention and strengthening families throughout San Bernardino County.
- **Inland Valley Recovery Services** is a substance abuse treatment facility serving men, women, and children through outpatient, inpatient, and transitional living programs. The organization offers specialized services including a perinatal program in Upland that supports women and their children, provides parenting assistance, helps with CPS cases, and accompanies clients to court.

The next meeting will be on

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Via Microsoft Teams