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
Californians are Impacted Now

Photo: Michael Short / Special to The San Francisco Chronicle

Photo: American Red Cross

Photo: reddit.com
Goals for Today’s Public Health Workgroup

• 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

California Call to Action on Climate, Health, and Equity

U.S. Call to Action on Climate, Health, and Equity: A Policy Action Agenda
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.

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
Chief, Health Equity Policy & Planning Unit
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Thank you!