



### From the Director:

Happy July! I hope you all enjoyed the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations. This month's letter highlights just a brief insight into the many accomplishments and activities our Department. Our teams are popping up throughout our City to provide fun activities and educate our residents.

We have a couple of department-wide events I'd like to highlight...Next week (**week of July 15**) we'll be celebrating all of you and your participation in the employee survey! We'll be doing frozen yogurt parties on different days at different facilities through the week. Look for an email providing information on days and times. Then on **October 3** (giving you lots of notice) we'll be holding our All-Hands Department meeting. Please mark it on your calendar to ensure you can participate.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Department and our Long Beach community. Our ability to build a healthy and thriving Long Beach cannot happen without you! **Kelly**

### Employee of the Month:

The CH Bureau Program Analyst team of Sophy Kol, JoAnn Smith, and Nga Kieu are the Employees of the month for July 2019. They have gone above and beyond during the MUNIS implementation, spending significant time in training, learning a new system, and cleaning up the conversion. The program analysts have also stepped up while the CH Bureau Analyst position is vacant.



JoAnn, Sophy and Nga's hard work behind the scenes, ensuring our programs are properly resourced, and guiding program staff through administrative processes, enables the Community Health Bureau to provide programs and services to our community. And they do so much more! Nga Kieu is always dedicated to Make It Happen. Nga also provides translation for our Vietnamese-speaking families in WIC, to ensure they benefit from nutritional services. Sophy goes above and beyond to provide fiscal oversight, guidance, and programmatic support to each of the programs within the Chronic Disease Division. Sophy is a true team player and often provides support to staff in other divisions/bureaus too. JoAnn provides budget and administrative support to a wide array of programs in the Nursing Services Division and offers suggestions to help programs support each other. JoAnn is also a dedicated member of the Public Health Week committee. She is always a positive light, even under stress. Please join us in thanking Nga, JoAnn, and Sophy, who are the unsung heroes of the Community Health Bureau!

### Welcome New Employees:

- Christian Artizada: Community Program Specialist I - Human Services Bureau/Homeless Services
- Emily Johnson: Health Educator II - Physician Services Bureau/Public Health Emergency Management
- Yesenia Beloso: Community Program Specialist II - Human Services Bureau/Homeless Services



### Highlights:

- The City Health Officer Bureau is happy to announce that Emily Holman has been promoted to the role of Communicable Disease Control Program (CDCP) Supervisor. Emily started her career with the Health Department in 2011 in the Epidemiology Program. She left the Health Department in 2015 to work at UCLA as a Clinical Epidemiologist, but we were fortunate to have her return to the Health Department in November 2016 as our Emerging Infectious Disease Coordinator in the Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) Program. Since her return to the Health Department, Emily has coordinated several disease outbreak investigations; led a Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) for Zika; developed the Public Health Situation Update that is distributed twice monthly; and launched a public health veterinarian syndrome surveillance program.



In her new role, Emily will supervise the Communicable Disease Control Program staff and serve as the Communicable Disease Control Officer for the Health Department. She will work closely with local hospitals and California Department of Public Health personnel to manage surveillance and response to emerging and hospital acquired infections; act as point of contact for surrounding local health jurisdictions and the State regarding communicable disease outbreaks/investigations; interpret and analyze data for emerging infection; and make recommendations to the City Health Officer and local healthcare providers for delivery of service. Additionally, Emily will continue to oversee several of the projects she managed in her previous role in PHEM. We are very fortunate to have Emily on our team as she is a valuable asset to our Department and the City.

- GreenlightLB has been recognized for our efforts and contributions in planning, implementing, and conducting prevention efforts to address youth cannabis use by the Rethinking Access to Marijuana (RAM) Workgroup. RAM is a diverse group of community-based organizations in LA County working together to educate people about the harms of youth cannabis use. Dan Kato, who has been representing GreenlightLB at the workgroup meetings since June 2018, has contributed to the success of the workgroup by introducing the initiatives and activities of the City of Long Beach and the Department of Health and Human Services as models of successful risk reduction strategies related to cannabis and community health.



- GreenlightLB's #BuyLicensed social media materials caught the eye of some people with The State of California, Bureau of Cannabis Control, who subsequently requested our assistance with the launch and promotion of their new community health education campaign, #WeedWise, which will encourage cannabis users to purchase their products only from licensed retailers. It's important to only #BuyLicensed so you can avoid harms associated with using products with unknown THC content, products containing allergens, or products contaminated with molds, pests, or the chemicals used to treat them.



- The Black Infant Health Program acknowledged Black Maternal Health Week with a Mommy and Baby Drive for new items to be distributed to our program participants through donations from Health Department staff. Black Maternal Health Week is an opportunity to become informed about the need to reduce the rates of Black maternal mortality and morbidity, a serious health issue in our community. Each one of us can reach out to another person with education and information to increase awareness and encourage people to become involved. Donations included diapers, wipes, lotions, books and outfits, as well as spa items for moms. Special appreciation to Rubi, Crystal and Marlem, our contacts at the three locations. Thank you to everyone who so generously donated items for our moms to enjoy. We at Black Infant Health are grateful for your support.

- Healthy Active Long Beach (HALB), A CalFresh Healthy Living Program, hosted its annual “Power Up Your Summer Kick-Off” event at Martin Luther King Jr. Park on June 8th to motivate children and their families to get at least 60 minutes of active play each day and to eat more fruits and vegetables. The team held a variety of activities including a physical fitness station with different games, an interactive grocery store checkout challenge, DIY garden crafts, and healthy food samples. In partnership with LBDHHS’s Walk and Roll Long Beach Program, participants also had an opportunity to receive free bike helmets with fittings and participate in a pedestrian safety rodeo. The free community event served as a glimpse into the activities the HALB team has planned for different parks throughout the summer to encourage children and families to combat the summer “slump.”



- The Homeless Services Division has a new team to help people who get housing keep it. Meet Antoinette Miller and Alan Pan, a dynamic pair who use a whole-person approach to find ways to address barriers related to physical health, mental health, and economic strain that remain after a person attains housing. Antoinette, a Housing Retention Specialist, focuses on social case management and links clients to resources like in home health supportive services, food banks, clothing resources, mental health providers, and community/faith-based organizations, etc. Medical case management is provided by Alan, a Public Health Nurse (PHN) located at the MSC. Alan conducts assessments and education and for higher-risk clients, like those with end stage renal disease or cancer, arranges transportation to dialysis and chemotherapy and provides help with additional follow-up on diagnostic results.



Navigating the healthcare system can be challenging and confusing so having Alan on board to provide support is critical to housing retention. These two greet people at their door with reassuring smiles and a welcome home “Bucket of Love” filled with home goods to celebrate the client’s successful placement in housing.



- The Bureau of Environmental Health is proud to announce that Linda Kolinski, CUPA (Certified Unified Program Agency) Program Coordinator, was voted to the CUPA Executive Board to serve as the Secretary for 2019-2020. The mission of the Unified Program is to protect public health and safety by carrying out several various hazardous materials regulatory programs. Ms. Kolinski administers the City's CUPA program and oversees inspection and educational activities performed by Hazardous Materials Specialists and Fire Inspectors.



- On Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, staff from the Bureau of Environmental Health attended the Camp Littles event held at El Dorado Park East. Camp Littles summer kick-off event connects parents with local providers and parent-related services that will assist families with children. Over 1,500 families received information on food safety, water safety, and tips on how to remove mosquito breeding sites in and around their home and protect themselves from mosquito-borne diseases.



- On Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> Lead Hazard Control, Healthy Homes and Asthma Program representatives and other members from the Bureau of Environmental Health assisted with the planning, coordination and implementation of the Annual Healthy Communities Resource Fair. This year's event was held at Admiral Kidd Park in Long Beach and more than 150 families attended the resource fair. The goal of the fair was to provide health and housing resources for children and adults in Long Beach. Preventative asthma case management information, childhood lead poisoning materials, healthy homes information, and other health screenings were also distributed.

- On Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> the Tobacco Retail Enforcement Program (TREP) conducted its fifth tobacco decoy operation with the Long Beach Police Department (LBPD) in Council District 4 for 2019. Thirty-two tobacco retail facilities were visited and two stores sold to the decoys. The Bureau of Environmental Health LBPD issued administrative citations to the stores who illegally sold to minors. In 2018, approximately, 10% of stores in Long Beach sold tobacco products to youth under the age of 21 compared to the 5.4% of illegal sales rate in California for 2019. TREP program staff will conduct tobacco retailer education workshops to increase compliance with State and local tobacco control laws.

The Sale of Tobacco Products to Persons **Under 21** Years of Age Is Prohibited by Law and Subject to Penalties

To Report an Unlawful Tobacco Sale Call  
**1-800-5 ASK-4-ID**

U.S. Armed Forces active duty personnel with military ID must be at least 18 years of age

**Valid Identification May Be Required**

This sign must be readable by the consumer and must not be altered, covered or obliterated in whole or in part

Business and Professions Code Section 22962



- The Bureau of Environmental Health would like to congratulate Glenn Fong, Hazardous Materials Specialist, for his 38 years of dedicated service and commitment to the City of Long Beach. Mr. Fong coordinated several key environmental health programs such as the medical waste management program and body art compliance program, as well as responding to thousands of emergency response services related to hazardous materials spills or releases and abandonment that occur in Long Beach. THANK YOU, Glenn, for keeping us safe and protecting all of us from these environmental hazards all these years. If you are interested in joining our retirement celebrations for Glenn, please contact the Bureau of Environmental Health at (562) 570-4132.



- The City of Long Beach Nutrition Services Division; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program has been a Certified Well WIC Worksite with the California WIC Association since 2014. Beginning in April 2019, the Long Beach WIC Wellness Committee has challenged each site to work together to complete weekly fitness challenges, such as doing 2,500 calf raises in 1 week. Collectively to date, they have completed 11,610 squats, 13,298 calf raises, 12,747 shoulder raises, 10,984 arm circles, 10,776 seconds of wall sits, 13,180 high knees, 13,090 bicep curls, 16,760 booty kicks, and more. Long Beach WIC team members are putting their values into action by implementing healthy lifestyle practices throughout the work day. As a result of this friendly competition, WIC staff are growing both in strength and in teamwork!

