



From the Director:

Our summer months are here! Our City's Parks, Recreation and Marine kicked off it's 100 days of summer on May 24th with a concert at Marine Stadium. There are concerts, films and events all over Long Beach and I encourage you get out and enjoy all the free and fun entertainment! Here is a link for all the activities: <http://longbeach.gov/park/recreation/programs/programs-and-classes/summer-family-entertainment/summer-family-entertainment/>

Our Department also has a number of events this summer, starting off with the Power Up Your Summer Kickoff Event this Saturday, June 8th, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Martin Luther King Jr. Park. It's free and open to the community. Activities include a pedestrian rodeo, jump rope, hula hoop play, healthy food samples, and more! Free bike safety helmets while supplies last! For more information, email: HealthyActiveLB@longbeach.gov or reach them at (562) 570-4364. Watch this newsletter for new events each month!

On another note, THANK YOU to all of you who participated in the employee survey! We exceeded our response rate from the previous survey which means we'll be celebrating Department-wide. You'll be hearing more about a celebration soon! We are busy analyzing the data now and will make sure you all hear about the results and our next steps.

Kelly

Employee of the Month:

June's employee of the month is Sundaram Rama. Sundaram, also known as Sam, works at the Housing Authority and was chosen as employee of the month for his overall leadership, optimism and positivity. He has made outstanding contributions by way of leadership presentations and his generous spirit of kindness. He is a key agent for our Employee Morale and Satisfaction Committee. Sundaram always has an encouraging word for others and his calming nature is infectious. As our bureau seeks to shift the culture, Sundaram represents the change we want to see. During his free time, Sundaram likes to camp, hike, and fish with his family.



Welcome New Employees:

- Jodie Griner: Administrative Officer – Collective Impact and Operations Bureau
- Richard Jumper: Housing Aide II - Housing Authority
- Puja Brownell: Housing Specialist I - Housing Authority
- Roman Acebedo: Registered Nurse II - Physician Services Bureau/Clinical Services Division
- Adam Lara: Public Health Professional II - Human Services Bureau/Community Impact Division
- Robert Williams: Assistant Administrative Analyst II – Housing Authority

Highlights:

- On May 6, the Mayor announced the launch of Long Beach's HIV/STD Strategy 2019-2022. The Strategy stems from the Long Beach HIV Comprehensive Planning Group's (Planning Group) goals and objectives for reducing and ending new HIV and STD infections. The Planning Group is a partnership of many providers, community-based organizations, hospitals and the Health Department. The City of Long Beach has some of the highest STD rates in the State and they have increased significantly in the past 3-4 years. We are excited that the Mayor has taken a stand for reducing these rates. The Strategy document can be found at: <http://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/health/media-library/documents/planning-and-research/plans/hivstd-strategy-2019-2022/hivstd-strategy-2019-2022>



- The Early Childhood Education Program (ECEP) hosted the first ECEP Group for Health Department staff on Tuesday, May 28th. The group is open to all health Department staff who have young children or who are expecting a child. If you are interested more information can be found on our webpage: ECEProgram@longbeach.gov
- On April 27th the ECEP, in partnership with The Mayor's Fund for Education, hosted the 2nd Annual Celebration of the Young Child at CSULB. More than 550 people attended, the fun and resource rich event. Thank you to all the Health Department programs that attended the event! Save the date for the 3rd Annual Celebration of the Young Child, April 25, 2020! Hope to see you all there!
- As part of the CSULB Nursing Program, Nursing Students in their Community Health Rotation at the Senior Center completed their Community Assessment Project. Their area of concern concentrated on the Nutritional Needs of Older Adults. They noticed a lack of access to food for lower income older adults. Therefore, this semester they organized a food drive to help replenish the Long Beach Senior Center food pantry for older adults. GO BEACH!
- The Healthy Active Long Beach (HALB) team celebrated the culmination of their yearlong nutrition class at Stevenson Elementary School's Open House on May 22nd. Beginning in September 2018, the HALB team provided weekly healthy eating workshops to 4th and 5th grade classrooms reaching over 180 students. About 20 of these students joined the HALB team at Open House to prepare and distribute a sampling of our Three Sister Salad to over 150 visitors. The student volunteers also helped share their classmates' artwork that depicted the importance of eating healthy and being active.





- The Long Beach Black Infant Health Program (BIH) hosted their 4th annual Baby Shower/Enrollment event on Saturday June 1st at the FHEC. This enormously successful event featured 30 community partner and prenatal provider agencies offering pregnancy information, resources, services and free gifts. Parents enjoyed baby shower games and opportunity drawings for the chance to win amazing prizes. Pregnant participants also received an assortment of baby shower gifts courtesy of BIH program sponsors and donors. Event photos were taken by the official City Photographer and live footage filmed by LBTV. Lead BIH program staff were interviewed about the lasting impact Long Beach BIH is having on the lives of African American women and infants. The event was attended by over 185 individuals, including 80 pregnant and parenting African-American mothers along with their families and support partners. BIH successfully enrolled 12 pregnant women into the program as new participants.



- The City announced its biennial point-in-time count information on June 4. Our numbers look good compared to surrounding jurisdictions, thanks to the incredible work of our Homeless Services Division team and the many City and Community partners that provide a coordinated and robust outreach and services system. We are able to provide permanent housing to over 1,100 households each year. Our count found a 2% increase in overall homelessness which is considered a flat count statistically. Our count found 1,894 people homeless people living on the streets, in their cars, other places not meant for human habitation and in shelters or in services (compared to 1,863 in 2017). We found an 8% decline in chronically homeless people, which is great news however the number of people newly homeless is up by almost 10 percentage points which means we have much more to do to keep people from falling into homelessness.