



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Daniel Tsai
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
Daniel L. Lurie
Mayor

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of June 16, 2025

A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco

<https://sf.gov/departments/san-francisco-health-commission/past-meetings>

In alignment with the California Department of Public Health, we will no longer report on COVID-19 case data. More people are now testing themselves at home for COVID-19 and we do not get data from at-home testing. This affects the accuracy of data on testing volume. We will continue to report on [test positivity](#) and will monitor other indicators including hospitalizations.

2025 COMMUNITY PRIMARY CARE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

At this year's Annual Medical Staff Meeting, held at ZSFG's Pride Hall on June 4, three outstanding DPH clinicians were honored for their exceptional contributions to primary care.

- Andria Saldaña, Family Nurse Practitioner at Potrero Hill Health Center (PHHC), was honored for her excellent team leadership, as well as her contributions to the Contingency Management pilot program at PHHC, overhauling the CPC Standardized Procedures for Advanced Practice Clinicians, and being an instrumental voice in the development of the first ever Nurse Practitioner privileges in the SF Health Network (SFHN).
- Dr. Hong Vuong, Clinical Pharmacist at Southeast Family Health Center was recognized for her exceptional clinical skills, upbeat attitude, commitment to equity, and her significant contributions to systems level patient care over the last decade, including starting the ZSFG Pain Clinic and contributing to the creation of a pharmacy residency program.
- Dr. Tanya Majumder was acknowledged for her contributions to Whole Person Integrated Care's work in the areas of Street Medicine Palliative Care, Transitional Primary Care, as lead provider for the Sobering Center and Managed Alcohol Program, and her service as Acting Medical Director for Street Medicine, Shelter Health, and the Maria X Martinez Health Resource Center.

Additional honorees included:

- UCSF at ZSFG Interprofessional Collaboration Award: Age Friendly Emergency Department and Bridge Clinic
- UCSF at ZSFG Exceptional Advanced Practice Provider Award: Amanda Ling, NP, MS, RN and Alan Wands, PA-C
- UCSF at ZSFG Exceptional Physician Award: Jonathan Davis, MD



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- 2025 Rapaport Award for a Physician Lifetime Contribution: Brian Bast, MD, DMD, Chair of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at UCSF, Chief of OMFS at ZSFG

DIRECTOR TSAI VISITS TOM WADDELL URBAN HEALTH CLINIC

In May, DPH Director Dan Tsai toured Tom Waddell Urban Health Clinic (TWUHC) to connect with patients and our hard-working medical team. Dan was welcomed by TWUHC Medical Director Royce Lin and accompanied by SFHN's Chief Administrative Officer of Ambulatory Care Amal Lail, Primary Care Director Blake Gregory, and Director of Equity and Care Experience Tiffany Kenison. During the visit Dan met several frontline staff, including an on-site health worker, behavioral health clinician and psychiatry specialists, who deliver comprehensive and compassionate care for more than 13,000 patient visits annually.

Located in the heart of the Tenderloin, TWUHC serves individuals who often face severe mental illness, substance use disorders, and housing instability. Dan witnessed firsthand how the clinic's dedicated team provides holistic, culturally responsive services, ensuring patients get the care they need no matter their circumstances.

ZSFG INITIATES NEW INTAKE PROCESS FOR PES PATIENTS VIA AMBULANCE

On June 10, 2025, Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) at ZSFG began maintaining separate tracking on Reddinet so that patients being transported via ambulance to ZSFG for emergency psychiatric care are now accompanied by paramedics to Psychiatric Emergency Services in Building 5 after a brief security screening in the Emergency Department (ED). Ambulances are communicating directly with PES staff via radio to determine current capacity.

During COVID, patients experiencing a behavioral health crisis went through the ED for medical screening before being transferred to PES. While this was necessary at the time, it created barriers to individuals accessing the specialized services at PES when the ED is at capacity and on diversion. As the only psychiatric emergency room in San Francisco, this new intake process allows patients to be transported to PES and continue to receive the quality specialized care at ZSFG when the ED is on diversion.

DPH RECOGNIZED AT SFPD'S ANNUAL CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM AWARDS

On May 28 the San Francisco Police Department held the Annual Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Awards Ceremony to honor officers, first responders, and public servants who exemplify best practices and outstanding use of CIT principles and methodologies for de-escalation and life



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preservation. DPH was honored to have staff recognized in this ceremony:

- In Ingleside, Dr. Shivika Dharamrup was an important part of a team that showed empathy and patience in while working with a resident living in hazardous conditions, while preserving her life and dignity.
- In the Richmond, Dr. Ricardo Carrillo and clinician Brian Fields were a part of the team who responded to a woman who had caused fear in the community, bringing compassion and collaboration to the intervention.

POP-UP COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR IN THE WESTERN ADDITION

Over Memorial Day Weekend staff and volunteers from across SFHN and community programs participated in bringing our health services to the Western Addition at a pop-up Community Health Fair at the Fillmore and Turk Mini Park. Community members were able to get health screenings, CPR training, watch “Stop the Bleed” demonstrations, as well as gain stroke awareness, learn about overdose prevention, and get access to nutrition resources, and vocational guidance.

We were joined by our partners at UCSF, Department of Emergency Management, the Wraparound Project, Max 415, and Project Open Hand in sharing critical health information and increasing awareness and engagement with our services.

Thanks to the organizers of this wonderful event and to all of the people who came out to lend a hand to help empower health, opportunity and connection.

ANNUAL CARNAVAL

The DPH Raza and Indigenous Affinity Group successfully coordinated over 30 DPH staff volunteers in support of the annual Carnival celebration on Saturday, May 24 in the Mission District. This is the third consecutive year that DPH staff have come out to support this event with representatives from every DPH Division. At Carnival, volunteer DPH staff serve as welcomers, which gives us the opportunity to meet and engage with the community. Carnival celebrates the Latino culture and brings people from all walks of life together to enjoy music and dance, culminating in the Carnival Grand Parade. This year's SF Carnival theme was AfroMundo: African Diaspora in the Americas. AfroMundo stands as a powerful testament to the resilience, joy, strength, and enduring spirit of the African diaspora, a people who have profoundly shaped the cultural fabric of the Americas.



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ZSFG HONORS STAFF AT SECOND ANNUAL EQUITY AWARDS

ZSFG leaders joined the Equity Council at an event emceed by Co-Equity Council Lead and COO Sabrina Robinson, to recognize staff who have made extraordinary contributions to advancing equity, inclusion, and belonging both in patient care and in support of one another. Congratulations to this year's honorees:

- Building a Culture of Inclusion and Belonging: Food and Nutrition Services Team
- Eliminating Health Disparities: Dr. Taylor Clark, Associate Medical Director for Quality, Children's Health Center
- Ensuring Workforce Equity: Elaine Martin, RN, Charge Nurse, Radiology
- Career Achievement: Tanvi Bhakta, Clinical Director, Medical-Surgical Nursing and 4A Skilled Nursing Facility

Thank you to the team at ZSFG whose work is not only a powerful reminder of what's possible when we commit to equity at every level of care and leadership, but also helps improve our ability to meet our public health mission to serve all San Franciscans.

NEW FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSING TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES COULD TRANSFORM CONCUSSION CARE

As the only Level 1 Trauma Center serving San Francisco and northern San Mateo counties, ZSFG is the hub of emergency care, disaster response, and recovery for our region, but Trauma care doesn't stop at the emergency room doors.

Dr. Geoff Manley, chief of neurosurgery at ZSFG and a professor of neurosurgery at UCSF has been leading work with an international team on a proposal published in *Lancet Neurology* which develops a more precise framework for assessing traumatic brain injuries. Although ZSFG already follows advanced protocols in providing care for these types of injuries, sharing this framework provides the benefits and treatments to other trauma centers, especially those located in rural areas, to have better tools and a more precise assessment for the patients they serve. The new framework will soon be phased in at trauma centers across the country on a volunteer basis. The story was recently covered by CBS, SF Chronicle, and the New York Times and available to view via the ZSFG website at or zsfgcare.org.

AMENDMENT TO CALIFORNIA RETAIL FOOD CODE AND THE LOCAL PERMIT PROCESS

California Senate Bill 972 (SB 972) amended the California Retail Food Code on January 1, 2023 by establishing a new Chapter in the California Retail Food Code (CRFC) titled "Compact Mobile Food



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Operations.” A CMFO is defined as a mobile food facility that operates from an individual or from a pushcart, stand, pedal-driven cart, wagon, showcase, rack, or other nonmotorized conveyance. The bill standardized the way food vending carts are regulated across the State. Mayor Lurie has prioritized creating a legal pathway for street vending in San Francisco and DPH Environmental Health Branch (EHB) has developed a draft process for permitting CMFOs that is designed to have fewer barriers as well as among the lowest permitting fees in the State. EHB recently presented the draft process to the Mayor’s CMFO Working Group and when the time comes, will take a proactive approach that ensures that those who want to operate legally are educated on the permitting process.

COVID-19 UPDATE

As of 6/11:

- San Francisco’s 7-day rolling average of COVID test positivity is 2.6%.
- Thirty-one percent of SF residents are fully up to date on their COVID vaccinations and have received the updated vaccine.