



City and County of San Francisco
Daniel L. Lurie
Mayor

San Francisco Department of Public Health

Daniel Tsai
Director of Health

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of August 17, 2026

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.

DPH'S WIC Program Wins Prestigious National Breastfeeding Award

The DPH Women, Infants and Children (SF WIC) Program has received the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service's Premiere Breastfeeding Award of Excellence, one of the nation's highest honors for local WIC agencies. The award was presented during DPH's Breastfeeding Awareness Walk and Rally in recognition of National Breastfeeding Month.

The award recognizes SF WIC's leadership in helping families successfully breastfeed through innovative services, culturally responsive care, and strong community partnerships. It honors local WIC agencies that demonstrate excellence in supporting breastfeeding families and advancing maternal and infant health.

Over the past year, SF WIC has expanded innovative breastfeeding support services that connect families with trusted guidance throughout pregnancy and early parenthood.

By the Numbers (FY 2024-2025)

- Served 13,149 WIC participants
- Peer counselors made 2,369 contacts with families
- 828 parents participated in the peer counselor program
- International board-certified lactation consultants completed 36 in-home visits for medically or logistically complex cases

SF WIC's nationally recognized approach combines professional lactation support with peer counselors who are former WIC participants themselves, providing culturally responsive guidance



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rooted in lived experience. The program also offers multilingual services, breastfeeding education, and breast pumps for eligible families to help reduce barriers to breastfeeding.

The award also recognizes SF WIC's leadership in shaping policies that support breastfeeding families and its alignment with Mayor Daniel Lurie's Strong Starts Initiative, which seeks to improve outcomes for children and families from pregnancy through early childhood.

Continuing National Breastfeeding Month

DPH's Breastfeeding Awareness Walk and Rally brought together families, healthcare providers, advocates, and community organizations to celebrate National Breastfeeding Month and raise awareness about the lifelong health benefits of breastfeeding.

Later this month, DPH and the Mother's Milk Bank will host the 3rd Annual Human Milk Donation Drive at ZSFG Hospital, on August 26 from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Last year's drive collected approximately 2,500 ounces of donor milk to support premature and medically fragile infants in San Francisco and across the country.

Mayor's Office Visits the Wraparound Project at ZSFG

The Wraparound Project team at ZSFG hosted representatives from the Mayor's Office recently for an onsite visit highlighting the program's impact. The delegation was welcomed for a closer look at how the Mayor's Office's support strengthens violence intervention and prevention efforts across the hospital and community.

During the visit, guests received an overview of Wraparound's mission, services, and partnerships, followed by a guided tour of key clinical areas to illustrate how care begins for patients experiencing acute trauma. The group visited the ICU and Emergency Department and had the opportunity to meet members of hospital staff, including several trauma surgeons, who shared insights into the continuum of trauma care and how Wraparound integrates with clinical operations.

The visit underscored Wraparound's collaborative work and provided an important opportunity to reaffirm the more than 150-year partnership between DPH and UCSF, while highlighting ZSFG's commitment to supporting patients and communities affected by violence.

DPH Director of HIV Health Services Honored by San Francisco AIDS Foundation

DPH HIV Health Services Director Bill Blum was recently recognized by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) at its inaugural policy and advocacy event, "The Agenda", on August 5, 2026. Bill received the HIV Community Advocacy Award for his decades of leadership, activism, and service to people living with HIV—a recognition made even more meaningful as he was honored alongside Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi. The Speaker Emerita was celebrated with the Nancy Pelosi



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Award for HIV Leadership in Elected Office, acknowledging her transformative national leadership advancing HIV prevention, care, and funding.

During the award presentation, SFAF leaders praised Bill as a driving force in San Francisco's HIV movement, whose advocacy and compassion continue to strengthen care and advance health equity.

Since 2009, Bill has led San Francisco's HIV care system, helping the city maintain one of the world's most effective networks of support. As a person living with HIV, Bill brings lived experience and decades of leadership from San Francisco, San Mateo County, New York City, and Puerto Rico. He has worked with multiple and diverse populations living with HIV including Vietnam veterans, women, monolingual Latine patients, street youth, men who have sex with men (MSM), injection drug users and others in multiple community, clinic, hospital and governmental settings. Congratulations, Bill, on this well-deserved recognition!

Southeast Behavioral Health Renovation

DPH and SF Public Works partnered to renovate the Southeast Behavioral Health Center, which opened to patients on July 30, 2026. The new location at 2401 Keith Street is formerly the home of primary care services prior to the opening of the Southeast Family Health Center in 2022.

The project scope included modernization of outdated mechanical, electrical, and fire alarm systems, along with exterior improvements to refresh the building's appearance and an upgrade to vibrant, modern interior finishes.

Located next to the Southeast Family Health Center, this renovation enhances opportunities for stronger integration between primary care and specialty behavioral health services, improving the client experience for families in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood.

DPH extends its appreciation to our state and federal partners for funding and supporting this project.

Patients and Caregivers Share Insights to Shape Head and Neck Cancer Care at ZSFG

On August 3, ZSFG hosted a focus group and appreciation lunch for patients and caregivers who have received head and neck cancer care at the hospital. The goal was to hear directly from the people we serve. Community members shared their experiences navigating head and neck cancer care, from diagnosis through treatment. We gathered feedback on barriers and identified new opportunities to expand care navigation. We are grateful for our better understanding of the head and neck cancer care journey from the perspectives of our patients. The event was made possible by ZSFG's clinical team and students: Dr. Mary Xu, Dr. Arushi Gulati, Vivian Lee, Savinnie Ho, Sophia



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Durney, Hudson Lin, and Laura Chen along with support from the Mount Zion Health Fund and ZSFG partners Danyelle Diggs, Shayda O'Hara, Justin Dauterman, and Dr. Marlene Martin.

COVID-19 Update

As of 08/12:

- San Francisco's 7-day rolling average of COVID test positivity is 5.2%.
- Twenty-six percent of SF residents are fully up to date on their COVID vaccinations and have received the updated vaccine.