

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK

for

HHS SECRETARY

XAVIER BECERRA



Wednesday, February 01, 2023

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Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule

Wednesday, February 1st, 2023

8:30am – 9:00am ET	DEPART RESIDENCE FOR HHS
9:00am – 9:30am ET	MEETING WITH NATIONAL BLACK NURSES ASSOCIATION
9:30am – 10:00am ET	PERSONAL
10:00am – 10:15am ET	PREP FOR COMPETITION COUNCIL MEETING
10:15am – 10:45am ET	COVID PHE UPDATES (WEEKLY COVID BRIEFING)
10:45am – 11:00am ET	DEPART HHS FOR THE CAPITOL
11:00am – 12:00pm ET	NEW MEMBER MEETING
12:00pm – 12:30pm ET	TRAVEL TO WHITE HOUSE
12:30pm – 1:00pm ET	COVID-19 TEST & HOLD
1:00pm – 2:30pm ET	COMPETITION COUNCIL MEETING (POTUS ATTENDANCE)

2:30pm – 3:00pm ET	MOVE FROM STATE DINING ROOM TO HOLDING ROOM
3:00pm – 3:30pm ET	IRA MESSAGING GUIDANCE BRIEFING
3:30pm – 4:00pm ET	IHS CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS
4:00pm – 4:30pm ET	PART B/D INFLATION REBATE GUIDANCE & MEDICAID PHE UNWINDING (WEEKLY CMS CHECK-IN)
4:30pm – 6:00pm ET	WHITE HOUSE EAST ROOM EVENT



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: January 31, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
Rachel Pryor, Counselor to the Secretary
Steven Lopez, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Destiny Gregg, Confidential Assistant, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Meet and Greet with National Black Nurses Association (NBNA)

Details

What: Meet and Greet with National Black Nurses Association (NBNA)
Date: Wednesday, February 1, 2023
Time: 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Location: YOUR conference room
Primary HHS POC(s): Destiny Gregg (IEA)/Adeola Adesina (IEA)

Press: No

Topics:

The 35th Annual National Black Nurses Day on Capitol Hill will take place on February 2. This year's theme is "Health Equity, Reckoning & Wellness: NBNA's Renewed Call to Action." YOU will meet with NBNA's leadership as part of their visit to Washington to discuss to their priorities as they relate to health care and express YOUR desire to build a strong relationship between HHS and this organization.

Secretary's Role:

Listen to the leaders, identify areas of partnership, and build a strong relationship.

Acknowledgements:

YOU can thank Dr. Martha A. Dawson for leading this organization and for their work in the COVID and health equity spaces. YOU can reference how honored you feel for to have had the chance to chat with our front-line workers. YOU can also thank NBNA for their eagerness to build a relationship with HHS.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU

Other HHS Divisions:

- Adeola Adesina, IEA
- Destiny Gregg, IEA
- Erin Lunsford, ASL

WH/USG Participants:

- Congresswoman Cori Bush (D-MO-01)

Other External:

- Dr. Martha A. Dawson, President, NBNA
- Dr. Sheldon Fields, First Vice President and Chair of the Health Policy Committee, NBNS
- Dr. Marcia Lowe, First Vice President, NBNA
- Dr. Lorretta Lee, Vice Chair of the Health Policy Committee, NBNA
- Dr. Eric Williams, Immediate Past-President, NBNA
- Dr. Lovene (Low-veen) Knight, Parliamentarian, NBNA
- Dr. Evelyn Collier Dixon, Past President at Chicago Chapter, NBNA

Agenda/Run of Show:

9:00 AM - 9:03 AM Meeting begins. YOU introduce yourself and welcome the leaders.

9:03 AM - 9:07 AM YOU ask the NBNA members introduce themselves.

9:07 AM- 9:25 AM Open discussion begins

9:25 AM - 9:30 AM YOU give closing remarks and thank leaders for joining.

Discussion Prompts:

- Thank the nurses for their continued work tackling COVID-19. Ask for updates from the nursing community and what they are seeing in hospital settings. Please re-iterate your continued push to get seniors vaccinated.
- Ask the nurses what their priorities are for 2023.
- Please remember to extend an invitation to the National Black Nurses Association to attend the Black Health Summit, which is happening February 22nd from 9:30 AM- 4:30 AM.

Background:

The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) is a non-profit organization that was organized in 1971. NBNA represents 308,000 African American registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses, nursing students and retired nurses from the USA, Eastern Caribbean, and Africa with 114 chartered chapters in 34 states.

NBNA's purpose is "to serve as the voice for Black nurses and diverse populations ensuring equal access to professional development, promoting educational opportunities and improving health."

NBNA has identified seven priorities for its 2023 Day on Capitol Hill:

- Advancing racial and health equity
- Mental health: suicide rates in Black men
- Maternal health
- Reducing obesity
- Reduce climate and environmental justice
- Reducing gun violence and community effects
- Criminal justice reform

Advancing Racial and Health Equity

On January 20, 2021, President Biden signed Executive Order 13985, *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*. The Order recognized that although the ideal of equal opportunity is the bedrock of American democracy, entrenched disparities in our laws, public policies, and institutions too often deny equal opportunity to individuals and communities. The President's Order emphasized the enormous human costs of systemic racism, persistent poverty, and other disparities, and directed the Federal Government to advance an ambitious whole-of-government equity agenda that matches the scale of the challenges we face as a country and the opportunities we have to build a more perfect union.

Agencies conducted equity assessments of 3-5 of their agency's high-impact services for the American people, to uncover where systemic barriers to access may exist. Using those findings, agencies developed Equity Action Plans for addressing—and achieving—equity in their mission delivery for all Americans.

The areas of the agenda:

- Implementing the first-ever national strategy on gender equity and equality;
- Working to ensure the federal government is a model for diversity equity, inclusion and accessibility in the workforce;
- Delivering environmental justice through the Justice40 Initiative;

- And advancing LGBTQI+ civil rights.
- Reflect attention to the reality that some individuals experience discrimination based on multiple factors and are particularly underserved.

HHS Actions since the release of EO-13985:

- Established the Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE)
 - o OCCHE addresses the impact of climate change on the health of the American people and serves as a department-wide hub for climate change and health policy, programming, and analysis, in pursuit of environmental justice and equitable health outcomes.
- Developed the Minority Health Social Vulnerability Index
 - o enhances existing resources to support the identification of racial and ethnic communities at the greatest risk for disproportionate impact and adverse outcomes due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Increased engagement with individuals directly affected by HHS policy and programs
 - o HHS established the COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force, which included 12 non-federal members representing a diversity of expertise and lived experience.

The Biden-Harris Administration's Focus on Mental and Behavioral Health

President Biden's Bipartisan Unity Agenda and subsequent Fiscal Year 2023 budget prioritizes mental health, proposing reforms to health coverage and major investments in the mental health workforce. The agenda calls for full parity between physical health and behavioral health care. The budget addresses the significant connection between mental health and substance use by investing in a broad spectrum of integrated behavioral health services. The budget proposes new and historic investments totaling \$51.7 billion over ten years. As a reminder, even before President Biden's call to action, YOU made behavioral health one of the five strategic priorities for HHS, and once YOU were confirmed immediately established the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council across YOUR department.

Following President Biden's State of the Union Address, YOU kicked off HHS' National Tour to Strengthen Mental Health to hear from Americans about the behavioral health challenges they're facing and engage with local officials and leaders to strengthen the mental health and crisis care system in our communities. YOU visited Colorado, New Hampshire, California, and Pennsylvania as part of this tour.

Implementation of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (S. 2938)

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was signed into law by President Biden on June 25, 2022. This legislation is a major step forward for children and youth mental health. While

there are many strong behavioral health provisions in this bill, the provisions HHS will implement that are of critical importance to this group are:

- Adds **\$40 million** to the National Child Traumatic Stress Network to improve treatment and services for youth who have experienced traumatic events.
- Requires the Secretary of HHS to provide technical assistance and issue guidance to states on improving access to telehealth under Medicaid and CHIP including best practices to support services delivered via telehealth in schools.
- Requires the Secretary of HHS to do regular reviews of state implementation of the requirements for providing early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment (EPSDT) services under Medicaid, identify gaps and deficiencies, provide technical assistance to states to address gaps and deficiencies, and issue guidance to states on Medicaid coverage requirements for such services.
- Requires the Secretary, through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), to simplify billing for school-based health services.
- Supports SAMHSA's Project Aware through a **\$240 million investment** over four years to increase mental health awareness in schools, and trains school personnel to detect and respond to mental health issues.
- Provides **\$150 million** dollars in one-time funding to support implementation of 988, including support for children and youth.

988 Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention Hotline

The 988 Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention Hotline went live on July 16, 2022. The President's FY 2023 budget proposal provides a historic investment of \$697 million in 988 and Behavioral Health Services, which will expand access to crisis care services for people with suicidal ideations or experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

Maternal Health

There are stark racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes, with pregnancy-related mortality rates two to three times higher among Black and American Indian/Alaska Native populations compared to white populations. Nationally, 42 percent of U.S. births are paid for by the Medicaid program, with greater shares among Latino, Black, and American Indian and Alaska Native individuals; individuals under age 19; those with lower levels of educational attainment; and those who live in rural areas.

The Biden-Harris Administration has championed policies to improve maternal health and health equity. In June 2022, the White House released the *Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis*. In August 2022, the HRSA announced investments of over \$20 million to improve maternal and infant health and implement the *Blueprint*. Funding aims to help reduce disparities in maternal and birth outcomes, expand and diversify the workforce caring for pregnant and

postpartum individuals, increase access to obstetrics care in rural communities, and support states in tackling inequities in maternal and infant health.

Medicaid Postpartum Coverage

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) created an option for states to extend Medicaid postpartum coverage for 12 months through a state plan amendment (SPA). This option was made permanent as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023. On January 11, CMS approved postpartum expansions in Alabama and North Dakota, which makes 28 states and the District of Columbia that have taken up the option. The federal government estimates that if all states enacted a postpartum extension it would result in about 720,000 additional people remaining eligible through 12 months postpartum, with the number of continuously eligible increasing by 65 percentage points in non-expansion states and 38 percentage points in expansion states.

Attachments:

1. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants

DATE: January 31, 2023
TO: Xavier Becerra, Secretary
FROM: Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator
SUBJECT: CMS Hot Topics

Details

What: Secretary Briefing from CMS
Date: February 1, 2023
Time: 4:00-5:00 pm ET
Location: Zoom

Topic:

The briefing discusses hot topics on CMS issues, including the Inflation Reduction Act's inflation rebates and PHE unwinding.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
- Rachel Pryor, Counselor to the Secretary
- Stacy Sanders, Counselor to the Secretary

Other HHS Divisions:

- Melanie Egorin, Assistant Secretary for Legislation
- Marvin Figueroa, Director, Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs
- Kamara Jones, Acting Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
- Sam Bagenstos, Office of the General Counsel
- Paul Rodriguez, Office of the General Counsel
- Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Jonathan Blum, Principal Deputy Administrator & Chief Operating Officer, CMS
- Erin Richardson, Chief of Staff, CMS
- Arielle Woronoff, Director, Office of Legislation, CMS
- Dan Tsai, Deputy Administrator and Director, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services
- Hannah Katch, Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, CMS
- Kristi Martin, Senior Advisor, Center for Medicare, CMS

- Will Harris, Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, CMS
- Meghan O'Toole, Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator, CMS

Secretary's Role

Receive an update on hot topics from CMS, including forthcoming guidance on the IRA's Medicare Part B and Part D inflation rebates and PHE unwinding.

Objectives

Discuss hot topics, including forthcoming guidance on the IRA's Medicare Part B and Part D inflation rebates and PHE winding.

Agenda for the Discussion:

- IRA's Medicare Part B and Part D inflation rebates
- PHE unwinding

Attachments

1. Slide deck, "Inflation Rebate Guidance"



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: January 30, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
Rachel Pryor, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Destiny Gregg, Confidential Assistant, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Meeting with Black Health, Faith, and Civil Rights Leaders

Details

What: Meeting with Black Health, Faith, and Civil Rights Leaders

Date: Thursday, February 2, 2023

Time: 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM ET

Location: YOUR conference room

Primary HHS POC(s): Destiny Gregg (IEA)
Adrian Eng (ASPA)

Press: No

Topics:

As part of HHS' efforts to commemorate Black History Month, YOU are holding a roundtable with Black leaders that represent civil rights, faith-based, and provider organizations. YOU will highlight the Department's work to further health access and equity across the country to improve health outcomes in the Black community.

Secretary's Role:

During the roundtable, YOU will give opening remarks, moderate the conversation, and give closing remarks. YOU will re-iterate the Department's commitment to improving access to health care, addressing mental health stigma, increasing COVID-19 vaccine rates in the Black community, and connecting Black organizations to available resources.

Acknowledgements:

- In light of the recent incident, we want to share condolences with the Tyre Nichols family and community.
- Thank the leaders for joining YOU at the start of Black History Month and for their work on behalf of the Black community.
- Express YOUR eagerness to partner with them on key priorities.

List of Participants

IOS:

- YOU

Other HHS Divisions:

- Marvin Figueroa, Director, IEA
- Adeola Adesina, Senior Advisor to the Director, IEA
- Destiny Gregg, Confidential Assistant, IEA
- Kamara Jones, Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
- Adrian Eng, Senior Advisor for Broadcast and Coalition Media

Other External:

- Lydia Isaac, **(I-zic)** Vice President of Health Equity & Policy, National Urban League (NUL)
- Portia White, Vice President of Policy and Legislative Affairs Programs, National Association for the Advancement of Colored (NAACP)
 - *Ms. White attended YOUR Medicaid unwinding roundtable on January 17.*
- Tona Boyd, Associate-Director Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund
- Jacqueline Ayers, **(Aye-yurs)** Senior Vice President of Policy, Campaigns, and Advocacy, Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA)
 - *Ms. Ayers introduced YOU at the PPFA Organizing Summit on January 30.*
- Melanie Campbell, President and CEO, National Coalition of Black Civic Participation
- Dr. Garfield Clunie, **(Cloo-nee)** President, National Medical Association (NMA)
- Damon Hewitt, President, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- Jacqui **(Jacki)** Burton, President and Senior Vice President of Policy, Organizing, and Campaigns, Conference of National Black Churches
- Jerrica Mathis, Director, Federal Government Relations, Cardinal Health
- Paul A. Brathwaite, Chief Strategist, Federal Street Strategies
- Dr. Avenel Joseph, Vice President, Policy, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Rev. Matthew Lawrence Watley, Senior Pastor of Kingdom Fellowship AME Church
- Alicia Butler, Health and Wellness Policy Advisor, National Action Network

Agenda/Run of Show:

11:00 AM- 11:03 AM	Roundtable begins. YOU introduce yourself and welcome the leaders.
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11:03 AM- 11:10 AM	Leaders introduce themselves.
11:10 AM- 11:50 AM	Open discussion begins OR each leader is allowed 4 minutes to speak followed by an open discussion.
11:50 AM- 11:55 AM	Time for YOU to ask any follow up questions you may have. YOU reiterate HHS support for the Black community and continuous our support.
11:55 AM- 12:00 PM	YOU give closing remarks and thank leaders for participating.

Discussion Prompts:

- COVID
- Where are we missing the mark on expanding access to equitable, quality healthcare?
- Addressing mental and behavioral health in Black community
- Inclusive Healthcare infrastructure
- Health Equity to include abortion and birth control access
- Extend invitation for our first HHS Black Health Summit (February 22nd 9:30-4:30)

Background:

Advancing Racial and Health Equity

On January 20, 2021, President Biden signed Executive Order 13985, *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*. The Order recognized that although the ideal of equal opportunity is the bedrock of American democracy, entrenched disparities in our laws, public policies, and institutions too often deny equal opportunity to individuals and communities. The President's Order emphasized the enormous human costs of systemic racism, persistent poverty, and other disparities, and directed the Federal Government to advance an ambitious whole-of-government equity agenda that matches the scale of the challenges we face as a country and the opportunities we have to build a more perfect union.

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Behavioral Health

Behavioral health is one of the Biden-Harris Administration's top priorities. President Biden's Bipartisan Unity Agenda and subsequent Fiscal Year 2023 budget prioritizes mental health, proposing reforms to health coverage and major investments in the mental health workforce. The budget proposes new and historic investments totaling \$51.7 billion over ten years. As a reminder, even before President Biden's call to action, YOU made behavioral health one of the five strategic priorities for HHS, and once YOU were confirmed immediately established the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council across YOUR department.

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Surgeon General

Protecting youth mental health is a top priority for Surgeon General Vivek Murthy. In 2021, Surgeon General Murthy wrote an Advisory entitled "[Protecting Youth Mental Health](#)" that highlighted actions that family, community leaders, schools, and organizations can take. Some of the key actions listed regarding what educators, school staff, and school districts can do include: providing a continuum of supports to meet student mental health needs, including evidence-based prevention practices and trauma-informed mental health care; protecting and prioritizing students with higher needs and those at higher risk of mental health challenges including those who have an Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs); and learning how to recognize signs of changes in mental and physical health among students, including trauma and behavior changes.

Health Care Coverage

On January 25, the Biden-Harris Administration announced that a record-breaking more than 16.3 million people selected an Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace health plan nationwide during the 2023 Marketplace Open Enrollment Period (OEP) that ran from November 1, 2022-January 15, 2023 for most Marketplaces. Under this Administration, the number of people who have signed up for an affordable health care plan through HealthCare.gov has increased by nearly 50 percent. Thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act, millions of working families saved an average of \$800 on their health insurance premiums last year.

An ASPE report published on October 25 found that ACA enrollment for all racial and ethnic groups increased from 2020 to 2022, with the number of Black and Latino enrollees in Marketplace coverage experiencing the largest increases in enrollment (49 percent and 53 percent, respectively).

Maternal Health

There are stark racial and ethnic disparities in maternal health outcomes, with pregnancy-related mortality rates two to three times higher among Black and American Indian/Alaska Native populations compared to white populations. Nationally, 42 percent of U.S. births are paid for by the Medicaid program, with greater shares among Latino, Black, and American Indian and Alaska Native individuals; individuals under age 19; those with lower levels of educational attainment; and those who live in rural areas.

The Biden-Harris Administration has championed policies to improve maternal health and health equity. In June 2022, the White House released the *Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis*. In August 2022, the HRSA announced investments of over \$20 million to improve maternal and infant health and implement the *Blueprint*. Funding aims to help reduce disparities in maternal and birth outcomes, expand and diversify the workforce caring for pregnant and postpartum individuals, increase access to obstetrics care in rural communities, and support states in tackling inequities in maternal and infant health.

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Attachments:

1. Talking points
2. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants
3. HHS Reproductive Health Actions Since *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK

for

HHS SECRETARY

XAVIER BECERRA



Wednesday, February 08, 2023

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- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Talking Points*
 - *Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants*
 - *Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act*

PREP: HHS Event for the Trusted Exchange Framework and Common Agreement (TEFCA).....page 22

- *Memo previewed on February 7; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Talking points*
 - *Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Participants*

Friendship-West Baptist Church (FBWC) Youth Mental Health Event.....page 33

- *Memo previewed on February 7; Updated talking points and participants*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Talking points*
 - *Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants*
 - *Meet & Greet Participants*

LOOK AHEAD:

2/9 - The San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF) Hearts in San Francisco Gala.....page 55

- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Talking Points*
 - *Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants*
 - *The Biden-Harris Administration's Focus on Mental and Behavioral Health*

2/10 - Western Governors Association Breakfast.....page 73

- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
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- *Memo consists of:*
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Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule

Wednesday, February 8th, 2023

5:30am – 6:00am ET	DEPART RESIDENCE FOR DCA
6:00am – 6:15am ET	ARRIVE AT DCA
6:59am ET – 9:37am CT	TRAVEL DCA TO DFW
10:00am – 11:00am CT	TRAVEL TO SITE #1
10:00am – 11:00am CT	WEEKLY COUNSELORS CHECK-IN
11:00am – 12:30pm CT	SITE #1 BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE FAMILY HEALTH CENTER AT JUANITA J. CRAFT RECREATION CENTER (IRA EVENT)
12:30pm – 1:00pm CT	DEPART SITE #1 TO LUNCH
12:30pm – 12:45pm CT	PREP FOR ONC TRUSTED EXCHANGE FRAMEWORK AND COMMON AGREEMENT (TEFCA) EVENT
1:00pm – 2:00pm CT	LUNCH
2:00pm – 2:15pm CT	DEPART LUNCH EN ROUTE TO SITE #2

2:20pm – 3:00pm CT CBS MENTAL HEALTH INTERVIEW

**2:20pm – 4:30pm CT SITE #2 FRIENDSHIP-WEST BAPTIST CHURCH
(MENTAL HEALTH EVENT)**

4:30pm CT DEPART SITE #2



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 3, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Angela Ramirez, Deputy Chief of Staff
Stacy Sanders, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Adeola Adesina, Senior Advisor to the Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Baylor, Scott, and White Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Event

Details

What: Baylor, Scott, & White Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Event

Date: February 8, 2023

Time: 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM ET

Location: Baylor Scott & White Health and Wellness Center (Juanita J. Craft Recreation Center), 4500 Spring Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Adeola Adesina (IEA)

Press: Yes

Topics:

Inflation Reduction Act, focused on:

- \$35 cap on each Medicare-covered insulin
- Free preventive vaccines under Medicare Part D
- Manufacturers must pay rebates if their price increases exceed inflation
- Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices for the first time

Objective:

To highlight Inflation Reduction Act provisions.

Secretary's Role:

YOU will participate in a meet and greet, panel discussion, and press availability.

Acknowledgements:

- Thank Baylor, Scott, and White for hosting YOU at their center.
- Thank AARP and the American Diabetes Association for their work to get IRA across the finish line.
- Thank individuals in the audience for joining YOU today.

List of Participants:**IOS:**

- YOU
- Lizeth Zardeneta, Advance Representative

Other HHS Divisions:

- Sima (**See-ma**) Ladjevardian (**Ladj-vardee-uhn**), JD, Director, Region 6, IEA (*panelist*)
- Rev. Que English, PhD, Director, Partnership Center, IEA
- Julia Lothrop, Executive Officer, Region 6, IEA
- Veronica Moore, Regional Outreach Specialist, Region 6, IEA
- Samira Burns, Deputy Assistant Secretary, ASPA
- Adrian Eng-Gastelum, Senior Advisor, ASPA

External Participants:

- Venton Jones, State Representative, District 100, Texas (*audience*)
- Adam Bazaldua, City Council Member, District 7, Dallas (*audience*)
- Pete McCanna, CEO, Baylor Scott & White
- Venita Owens, President, Baylor Scott & White Health and Wellness Center (*moderator*)
- Lydia Best, MD, Baylor Scott & White Health and Wellness Center (*panelist*)
- Andrea Hayes, Marketing, Public Relations, and Community Outreach Manager, Baylor Scott & White Health and Wellness Center
- Veronica De La Garza, State Government Affairs, American Diabetes Association (*panelist*)
- Charles Cascio (**Cas-see-o**), Associate State Director, Advocacy and Outreach, AARP Texas (*panelist*)
- Carter High, Pharm.D., President, Texas Pharmacy Association (*panelist*)
- Alex Oshmyansky (**Osh-me-o-ski**), MD, PhD, CEO and Founder, Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company (*panelist*)
- Donald R. Parish, Pastor, True Lee Missionary Baptist Church (*panelist*)
- Shirley McNeese, Diabetic Patient (*panelist*)
- TBD, Diabetic Patient (*panelist*)

Audience Members:

- 100+ individuals from the community

Agenda/Run of Show:

11:00am	YOU arrive at Baylor, Scott, and White Family (Juanita J. Craft Recreation Center)
11:00 – 11:02am	Welcome - <i>YOU will be greeted by Pete McCanna, Venita Owens, and Andrea Hayes</i>
11:02 – 11:17am	YOU participate in a facility tour (<i>mask required</i>)
11:17 – 11:19am	YOU transition to panel with additional stakeholders
11:19am – 12:05pm	YOU participate in panel discussion - <i>Pete McCanna will welcome the audience</i> - <i>Venita will introduce YOU and participants (2 minutes)</i> - <i>YOU give opening remarks (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>Venita moderates conversation (42 minutes)</i>
12:05 – 12:15pm	YOU visit vaccine clinic
12:15 – 12:30pm	YOU participate in press availability
12:30pm	YOU depart

Background:

Baylor Scott and White (Juanita J. Craft Center Recreation)

The Juanita J. Craft Recreation center is named after Mrs. Craft who passionately strived for the betterment of others. This facility features the following: Baylor Diabetes Wellness Clinic, state of the art fitness center, large and small meeting rooms, and a full gymnasium. Programming at this multi designed facility includes an environment for all ages: after school program, camps, youth and adult sports, and a variety of fitness and wellness classes.

- Juanita Craft was a civil rights activist and served as a member of the Dallas City Council. Craft was the first Black woman to vote in a public election in Dallas County and served more than 50 years with the Dallas chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Please note: During YOUR visit there will be a vaccine drive at BSW. Providers will be giving shingles, TDAP, and pneumonia vaccines.

Attachments

1. Talking Points
2. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants
3. Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act



DATE: February 2, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Angela Ramirez, Deputy Chief of Staff

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Adeola Adesina, Senior Advisor to the Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Friendship-West Baptist Church (FBWC) Youth Mental Health Event

Details

What: FBWC Youth Mental Health Event

Date: February 8, 2023

Time: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM CT

Location: Friendship-West Baptist Church, 2020 W. Wheatland Road, Dallas, TX 75232

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Adeola Adesina (IEA)

Press: Yes

Topic:

Youth mental health.

Objective:

To uplift investments by HHS on mental health and the transition to 9-8-8.

Secretary's Role:

YOU will participate in meet and greet, panel discussion, and press availability.

Acknowledgements:

- Thank Assistant Secretary Miriam Delphin-Rittmon for her work in the mental health space and launching 988.
- Thank Pastor Haynes and Friendship-West Baptist Church for hosting YOU at their church for this important discussion.
- Thank individuals in the audience for joining YOU today.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU
- Lizeth Zardeneta, Advance Representative

Other HHS Divisions:

- Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D., Assistant Secretary, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (*panelist*)
- Sima (**See-ma**) Ladjevardian (**Ladj-vardee-uhn**), JD, Director, Region 6, IEA (*panelist*)
- Rev. Que English, PhD, Director, Partnership Center, IEA (*panelist*)
- Julia Lothrop, Executive Officer, Region 6, IEA
- Veronica Moore, Regional Outreach Specialist, Region 6, IEA
- Samira Burns, Deputy Assistant Secretary, ASPA
- Adrian Eng-Gastelum, Senior Advisor, ASPA

External Participants:

- Rev. Dr. Frederick Haynes III, Senior Pastor, Friendship-West Baptist Church (*moderator*)
- Pastor David McGruder, Staff Pastor, Friendship-West Baptist Church (*panelist*)
- Patrick LeBlanc (**Lah-blanc**), Founder and Executive Director, Bridging the Gap Foundation (*panelist*)
- Alisha Trusty, Chief Strategic to Pastor Haynes, Friendship-West Baptist Church
- Chloe Dawson, Admin to Youth Pastor, Friendship-West Baptist Church
- Sheneca (**Sha-knee-ca**) Wilkerson, Admin to Executive Pastor, Friendship-West Baptist Church
- (b)(6) Youth (*panelist*)
- (b)(6) Youth (*panelist*)
- (b)(6) Youth (*panelist*)
- (b)(6) Youth (*panelist*)
- (b)(6) Youth (*panelist*)
- TBD, Youth (*panelist*)

Audience Members:

- 50+ individuals from the community including students, educators, and local officials

Agenda/Run of Show:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 3:00pm | YOU and AS Delphin-Rittmon arrive at Friendship-West Baptist Church |
| 3:00 – 3:05pm | Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">- YOU and AS Delphin-Rittmon will be greeted by Pastors Haynes and McGruder, Alisha Trusty, Chloe Dawson, and Sheneca Wilkerson |

3:05 – 3:20pm	YOU and AS Delphin-Rittmon participate in meet and greet with community leaders in the Pastoral Suite Foyer - <i>List attached</i>
3:20 – 3:23pm	YOU and AS Delphin-Rittmon transition to panel discussion with youth advocates
3:23 – 4:15pm	YOU and AS Delphin-Rittmon participate in panel discussion in the Sanctuary - <i>Pastor Haynes will welcome audience (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>Pastor McGruder will introduce Secretary, AS Delphin-Rittmon, and participants (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>YOU give opening remarks (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>AS Delphin-Rittmon gives remarks (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>Pastor Haynes moderates conversation (40 minutes)</i> o <i>Live Q&A (last 10 minutes)</i>
4:15 – 4:20pm	YOU and AS Delphin-Rittmon depart for the Green Room in the church
4:20 – 5:10pm	YOU and AS Delphin-Rittmon participate in CBS interview
5:10pm	YOU and AS Delphin-Rittmon depart

Background:

Friendship-West Baptist Church (FWBC)

Friendship-West stands to pursue justice, service and equality for all of humankind throughout the city of Dallas, United States and the world.

FWBC provides the following services:

- Family Health and Wellness including: ongoing flu and COVID-19 Vaccines
- Food garden, Be Made Whole counseling services
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Hope for Hungry Food Program
- Clothing and Furniture Bank
- Homelessness Outreach
- Disaster and Crisis Relief
- Employment Assistance and Job Readiness
- FWBC also supports numerous community organizations including Homeward Bound Inc, a substance use in-patient facility.

HHS Actions on Youth Mental Health

On January 9, 2023, HHS awarded nearly \$245 million in Bipartisan Safer Communities Act funding – \$185.7 million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and nearly \$60 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) – to support youth mental health, help the health care workforce address mental health needs, and fund other critical mental health supports.

Medicaid

In August, Medicaid issued new guidance to make it easier for schools to leverage Medicaid funding to provide more health services to children in schools and hire new mental health workforce. By June, Medicaid and the Department of Education will launch a new Medicaid School-Based Health Services Technical Assistance Center. Medicaid also issued guidance strengthening requirements for mental health benefits for children in Medicaid in August. Finally, Medicaid issued proposed rulemaking mandating quality reporting for behavioral health in Medicaid for all children and adults.

SAMHSA

Specific program awards from SAMHSA through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act have included:

1. \$73.6 million for Project Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education (Project AWARE) to help develop and support school-based mental health programs and services;
2. \$57.7 million in Mental Health Awareness Training grants to prepare and train school personnel, emergency first responders, law enforcement and others to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental health challenges to enable early intervention;
3. \$14.9 million for School Based Trauma-Informed Support Services and Mental Health Care for Children and Youth to increase student access to evidence-based and culturally relevant trauma support services and mental health care;
4. \$19.5 million for the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative, to improve treatment and services for children, adolescents, and families who have experienced traumatic events; and,
5. \$20 million in Resiliency in Communities after Stress and Trauma grants to promote resilience and equity and prevent violence in communities that have recently faced civil unrest, community violence, and/or collective trauma.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The CDC often provides technical assistance for prevention through their Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) injury center. CDC's goal is to create the conditions for strong, thriving families and communities where children and youth are free from harm and preventing, identifying, and responding to ACEs at the community, state, and national level so that all people can achieve lifelong health and wellbeing.

Surgeon General

Protecting youth mental health is a top priority for Surgeon General Vivek Murthy. In 2021, Surgeon General Murthy wrote an Advisory entitled "[Protecting Youth Mental Health](#)" that highlighted actions that family, community leaders, schools, and organizations can take. Some of the key actions listed for what educators, school staff, and school districts can do include:

providing a continuum of supports to meet student mental health needs, including evidence-based prevention practices and trauma-informed mental health care; protecting and prioritizing students with higher needs and those at higher risk of mental health challenges including those who have an ACES; and learning how to recognize signs of changes in mental and physical health among students, including trauma and behavior changes.

HHS Partnership Center (PC)

HHS Partnership Center recently released a toolkit focused on [Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing in Faith and Community Settings: Practicing Connectedness.](#)

- The HHS Partnership Center's *Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing in Faith and Community Settings Toolkit* builds the capacity of faith and community leaders to address mental health of youth.
- Through the toolkit, faith and community leaders learn about the increase of mental health challenges by youth and ensures these leaders know how to connect youth in crisis to care and support.
- It also encourages these leaders to consider the unique cultural and social factors impacting youth wellbeing.
- To increase resilience in youth in the community, the toolkit points toward the power of connectedness of youth to reduce the impact or risk of mental health challenges.
- Research shows that one of the most important thing a child or youth needs to be resilient is a stable and committed relationship with a supportive adult. Analyses of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adults Health finds that adults who had strong connections when they were young are 48 – 66 percent less likely to have mental health issues later in life.
- So the toolkit points to how faith and community partners can increase a sense of connectedness among youth through schools, families and even within their own faith-based and community settings.

PC Center released a 988 Suicide Prevention PSA promoted by [African American pastors sharing lived experiences.](#)

- This past year, the U.S. transitioned to 988 as a new way to reach the former National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.
- Significant investments in capacity -- at the federal, state, and local levels --have helped ensure that the 988 Lifeline is able to respond to many more people in crisis.
- But stigma and cultural barriers still keep some communities from accessing help, even when it is just three digits away.
- That is why the HHS Partnership Center created public service announcements (PSAs) for 988 including a video lifting up the voice of lived experience of African American clergy with mental health and suicide.
- Through these videos and the voices highlighted, HHS is breaking down the cultural barriers that keep some communities for connecting to help in times of crisis.
- The PC also released a PSA with Muslim Community.
- In Spring 2023, Partnership Center is rolling out a 988 PSA with both Hindu and Spanish speaking communities

Immediate Mental Health Disaster Response Supports Available

SAMHSA has several programs that can support a state if needed in the event of a trauma disaster, like a shooting. SAMHSA works with ASPR and is generally lead on our emergency mental health coordination. We have a Mental Health disaster coordinator on staff at SAMHSA, who works with a state's Mental Health Disaster Coordinator. This individual typically reports to the state's mental health commissioner.

SAMHSA specific efforts are funded/ performed by National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative, or network (NCTSI). This program is the principal source of child trauma training and information for the nation. Through this initiative, a collaborative network of experts was created to further the development and dissemination of evidence-based clinical interventions for systems that serve children, adolescents, and families.

The NCTSI comprises three types of centers. The National Center for Child Traumatic Stress develops and maintains a collaborative network structure, supports resource development and dissemination, and coordinates national child trauma education and training efforts. The Treatment and Service Adaptation (TSA) Centers provide national expertise for specific types of traumatic events, population groups and service systems. The Community Treatment and Service Centers collaborate with the TSA Centers to develop, advance or adapt interventions to improve engagement and outcomes for traumatized youth. Recipients of this third category of grant awards provide:

- Outreach and other engagement strategies to increase participation in, and access to: trauma treatment and services; and prevention services for children and adolescents (and their families) who have experienced traumatic events, including natural and technological human-caused disasters.
- Direct, evidence-based, mental disorder treatment and services, including screening, assessment, care management, therapy and prevention for diverse and at-risk children and adolescents. Treatment must be provided in outpatient, day treatment (including outreach-based services) or intensive outpatient, homebased, or residential programs.
- Services to populations of child-serving service systems, such as child welfare, child protective services, law enforcement and courts, and the juvenile justice system, on trauma-informed practices using grantee expertise or network resources at the local, regional or state levels.

Funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) supports the [Disaster Distress Helpline](#), a national helpline dedicated to providing year-round disaster crisis counseling. This 24/7 toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to residents in the United States and its territories who are experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters, including incidents of mass violence. Call or text the hotline at 800-985-5990. Additional resources and guidance on how to address community needs after incidents of mass violence is also provided online through [SAMHSA](#). SAMHSA funding also supports the 988 [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#), a national network of local crisis centers that provides 24/7, free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress anywhere in the United States.

FEMA also offers mental health crisis (CCP) grants that are unlocked if the President declares a national emergency and SAMHSA administers these funds--but no national emergency has been declared in this instance. SAMHSA also has “SERG” grants for this purpose that can provide immediate support. A state can request \$50,000 immediately in the first ten days and has up to 90 days to request SERG mental health dollars unlimited to what we have on hand.

Attachments:

1. Talking Points
2. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants
3. Meet & Greet Participants



DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
Steven Lopez, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Tania Calle, Special Assistant, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: The San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF) *Hearts in San Francisco Gala*

Details

What: Keynote Remarks at the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF) *Hearts in San Francisco Gala*

Date: February 9, 2023

Time: 5:30 PM – 8:15 PM PST

Location: San Francisco City Hall, 1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl, San Francisco, CA 94102

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Tania Calle (IEA)

Press: Yes

Topic:

The San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF) will be hosting its annual Hearts in San Francisco Gala to fundraise for and honor the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG) on the hospital's 150th Anniversary. ZSFG is a public safety-net hospital in San Francisco, CA that primarily serves low-income, elderly, uninsured, underinsured, minority and immigrant populations. The gala will emphasize the importance of health equity, affordable healthcare, public health, and public-private partnerships.

Secretary's Role:

YOU will deliver five minutes of keynote remarks that focus on health equity.

Acknowledgements:

- YOU can thank Priya David Clemens for introducing you.
- Hospital Foundation, and the California Health Care Foundation for inviting YOU to participate in this important celebration of Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital.
- YOU can also thank all the health care staff that is present in the audience this evening for their continuous work to keep vulnerable communities in San Francisco healthy.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU
- Benjamin Scott, Deputy Director of Advance

WH/USG Participants:

- U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi (D-CA-11th)

Attendees at YOUR table:

- Sandra Hernandez, MD, President & CEO of California Health Care Foundation
- Carolina Hansen (**Car-leen-uh Han-son**), Senior Program Officer, California Healthcare Foundation
- Sequoia Hall (**Seh-quoy-uh Hall**), Health Equity Fellow, California Healthcare Foundation
- Melora Simon (**Muh-loor-uh Sigh-mun**), Associate Director, California Healthcare Foundation
- Kenna Chic (**Muh-loor-uh Sigh-mun**), Health Equity Fellow, California Healthcare Foundation
- Dalma Diaz (**Doll-muh Dee-ez**), Health Equity Fellow, California Healthcare Foundation
- Janet Boachie (**Janet Bow-chee**), Health Equity Fellow, California Healthcare Foundation
- Chris Perrone (**Chris Per-roan**), Director Improving Access, California Healthcare Foundation
- Katherine Haynes, Senior Program Officer, California Healthcare Foundation

Other External:

- Kim Meredith, CEO of San Francisco General Hospital Foundation
- Elizabeth Minick, Hearts in SF Chair and Executive at Bank of America
- Priya David Clemens, Host of KQED Newsroom and Gala MC
- London Breed, Mayor of San Francisco (*Invited, not confirmed*)
- Gavin Newsom, Governor of California
- Eleni Kounalakis, Lt. Governor
- Scott Wiener, State Senator
- Myrna Melgar, San Francisco Supervisor
- Hillary Ronen, SF Supervisor

- Rafael Mandelman, SF Supervisor
- Matt Dorsey, SF Supervisor
- Chief David Lazar, SF Assistant
- Sam Hawgood, UCSF Chancellor
- Grant Colfax, Director of Department of Public Health
- Willie Brown, Former San Francisco Mayor
- Art Agnos, Former San Francisco Mayor

Agenda/Run of Show:

The Gala program will take place in the City Hall Rotunda. Remarks will be delivered at the base of the grand staircase of the Rotunda. There will be a podium and microphone available for use during remarks. The audience will be seated in tables of 10 facing the grand staircase.

5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	YOU arrive to the Cocktail Reception on the Mayor's Balcony and are met by Kim Meredith
6:00 PM – 6:05 PM	YOU move to the dinner part of the evening in the City Hall Rotunda. YOU will find your seat at the California Health Care Fund Table, #19
6:05 PM – 6:12 PM	Welcoming remarks and speeches are delivered by Elizabeth Minick, <i>Hearts in SF</i> Chair, and Mayor London Breed
6:12 PM – 6:15 PM	The Immersive Hearts Experience, a 3D light show of the heart sculptures up for auction, is played
6:15 PM – 6:45 PM	Salad courses are cleared, and attendees may mingle
6:45 PM – 6:47 PM	Priya David Clemens, <i>Hearts in SF</i> MC, introduces YOU and you approach the podium directly from your table
6:47 PM – 6:52 PM	YOU deliver your remarks and return to your seat
6:52 PM – 6:59 PM	A video on health equity is introduced and played, followed by a fundraising announcement
6:59 PM – 7:45 PM	The second course is served
7:45 PM – 8:02 PM	Rep. Pelosi is presented with the SFGH Lifetime Achievement Award and delivers remarks
8:02 PM – 8:11 PM	Heroes Awards, which recognize healthcare staff and advocates, are presented

8:11 PM – 8:13 PM

Priya delivers closing remarks

8:13 PM – 8:15 PM

YOU will depart

Following YOUR departure, attendees will transition to the “Heart After Dark”, a post-Gala event that features drinks and dancing.

Background:

San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF)

SFGHF is the fundraising partner of the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG). SFGHF annually hosts a *Heart in San Francisco Gala* to fundraise for and honor the ZSFG. This year, SFGHF will also be celebrating the hospital’s 150th Anniversary. The program will feature many prominent California state and federal government officials as well as touch on important themes such as health equity, public health, and community. Throughout the program, hosts will highlight opportunities to financially support the hospital.

Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG)

The Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital & Trauma Center is a licensed general acute care hospital within the Community Health Network, which is owned and operated by the City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health. Since 1872, the hospital has provided care for San Franciscans through major events such as the Great San Francisco Earthquake of 1906, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

ZSFG provides inpatient, outpatient, emergency, skilled nursing, diagnostic, mental health, and rehabilitation services for primarily low-income, elderly, uninsured, underinsured, minority and immigrant populations in San Francisco. It is the largest acute inpatient and rehabilitation hospital for psychiatric patients in the City and the only acute hospital in San Francisco that provides twenty-four-hour psychiatric emergency services. ZSFG also operates the only Level 1 Trauma Center for the 1.5 million residents of San Francisco and northern San Mateo County. Moreover, ZSFG opened the first AIDS inpatient unit in the U.S. in 1981 and at the height of the pandemic, treated one-third of the city’s COVID patients.

In August 2022, Mayor Breed proclaimed August 28 as “Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital Day” in honor of the hospital’s leading role in supporting public health for the San Francisco community since 1872.

California Health Care Foundation (CHCF)

The CHCF is an independent, nonprofit philanthropy organization operating since 1996 that is focused on improving the healthcare system and increasing healthcare access for Californians, particularly low-income and underserved individuals. CHCF approaches these goals through grantmaking, program-related investing, research, stakeholder engagement, and stakeholder convening. In addition to these activities, the CHCF hosts a Health Equity Fellowship through

which emerging BIPOC leaders participate in leadership development, training, and experience with grantmaking for health equity-centered work at CHCF. Lastly, while CHCF is a sponsor of the *Hearts in SF Gala*, they are only a partner and work independently from SFGHF. Dr. Sandra Hernandez, President & CEO of California Health Care Foundation and who is seated at your table, invited you to speak at the *Gala*.

Health Equity and Language Access

HHS's Equity Action Plan

In April, HHS released its Equity Action Plan to advance equity in the delivery of health and human services. The plan – which is a response to Executive Order 13985 that President Biden signed at the beginning of his term – details some of the ways HHS is building on equity work already underway and is part of the Administration's push to ensure that government works better for all. HHS' plan specifically focuses on a main tenet of the executive order, that advancing equity must be a central component of the decision-making framework that all agency functions are routed through (e.g., grants, acquisitions, capacity building).

The Plan specifically focuses on expanding language access for issues surrounding coverage. In fact, for the first time, last year, HHS provided the “Medicare & You” handbook in other languages and increased language access efforts on healthcare.gov. For the purposes of the Equity Action Plan, HHS will focus on addressing barriers that individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) face in obtaining information, services and/or benefits from HHS federally conducted programs (e.g., the 1-800-MEDICARE number where the services are provided directly by CMS) and federally assisted programs (e.g., Medicaid, where CMS funding allows a beneficiary to receive health care services from a private provider). HHS will address access to in-language content through webpages, listserv announcements, and public outreach material; telephonic interpreter services; program and benefit information in other languages; and federal funding for recipients of HHS funds to provide language access services.

Section 1557

In July, HHS announced a proposed rule implementing Section 1557 of the ACA that prohibits discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, and disability in certain health programs and activities. This proposed rule restores and strengthens civil rights protections for patients and consumers in certain federally funded health programs and HHS programs after the 2020 version of the rule proposed by the Trump Administration limited its scope.

The proposed rule would require entities to give staff training on the provision of language assistance services for individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) and effective communication and reasonable modifications to policies and procedures for people with disabilities. In addition, it requires covered entities to provide a notice of nondiscrimination along with a notice of the availability of language assistance services and auxiliary aids and services.

HHS Actions since the release of EO-13985:

Additional HHS Actions Focused on Health Equity

- *Latino Health Tour*
 - o YOU kicked off the Latino Health Tour in Sacramento, CA in October of 2022. The tour aimed to bring health services and care to communities who would otherwise be unable to gain access to such care. Through the tour, HHS has partnered with community partners and health systems like UC Davis to increase language access within healthcare and ease access to services.
- *SDOH Working Group*
 - o The Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Working Group published the HHS SDOH Action Plan in April, which will includes more than 90 action steps from across HHS.
- *Established the Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE)*
 - o OCCHE addresses the impact of climate change on the health of the American people and serves as a department-wide hub for climate change and health policy, programming, and analysis, in pursuit of environmental justice and equitable health outcomes.
- *Developed the Minority Health Social Vulnerability Index*
 - o Enhances existing resources to support the identification of racial and ethnic communities at the greatest risk for disproportionate impact and adverse outcomes due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- *Increased engagement with individuals directly affected by HHS policy and programs*
 - o HHS established the COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force, which included 12 non-federal members representing a diversity of expertise and lived experience.

Attachments:

1. Talking Points
2. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants
3. The Biden-Harris Administration's Focus on Mental and Behavioral Health



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
Rachel Pryor, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Western Governors Association Breakfast

Details

What: Western Governors Association Breakfast

Date: Saturday, February 11, 2023

Time: 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM ET

Location: Marriott Marquis, Magnolia Room
901 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Lee Stevens, IEA
Jess Smith, IEA
Zach Kahan, IEA

Press: No

Topics:

The Western Governors Association (WGA) is holding a breakfast meeting as part of the National Governors Association (NGA) Winter Meeting. The governors will hear from Administration officials. Topics governors will likely want to hear from YOU include 988, mental and behavioral health.

Objective:

To share HHS and Administration priorities, listen to Governors' concerns, identify ways HHS can assist them, and build relationships.

Secretary's Role:

Along with other Administration officials, YOU will give remarks and engage in a discussion with Governors moderated by Governor Polis.

Acknowledgements:

Thank governors for their engagement over the past year as HHS has worked in partnership with states to launch the 988 Suicide Prevention Lifeline this year. Express the desire to continuing to work with governors to improve this important resource to help save lives and get people the mental and substance use treatment and recovery care they need.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU
- Cynthia Palafox, Director of Scheduling and Advance
- Alex Rosenberg, Scheduler

Other HHS Divisions:

- Jessica Smith, Deputy Director, IEA
- Ilse Zuniga, Press Secretary, ASPA

WH/USG Participants:

- Secretary Tom Vilsack, Department of Agriculture
- Secretary Marcia Fudge, Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Secretary Denis McDonough, Department of Veterans Affairs
- Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman, Small Business Administration

Governors attending:

- Jared Polis, Governor of Colorado (D) WGA Chair **(PO-liss)**
- Mark Gordon, Governor of Wyoming (R) WGA Vice Chair
- Doug Burgum, Governor of North Dakota (R) **(Burr-GUM)**
- Greg Gianforte, Governor of Montana, (R) **(Gee-ANH-four-tay)**
- Kevin Stitt, Governor of Oklahoma (R)
- Josh Green, Governor of Hawaii (D)
- Brad Little, Governor of Idaho (R)
- Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of New Mexico (D)
- Lourdes Leon Guerrero, Governor of the Territory of Guam (D) **(Guh-RARE-oh)**

Agenda/Run of Show:

8:00 AM – 8:15 AM Breakfast is available

8:15 AM – 8:20 AM Governor Polis offers greetings and opening comments

8:20 AM – 8:25 AM Governor Polis will recognize WGA Vice Chair and Wyoming Governor Mark Gordon (if in attendance) for short opening comments.

8:25 AM – 9:25 AM Governor Polis will recognize each attending Governor for short comments (2-3 minutes).

9:25 AM – 9:40 AM Governor Polis will recognize each Cabinet official for short comments (3-4 minutes). **YOU will speak after Sec. Vilsack, see order below.** As Cabinet officials raise different issues, Governors (and Cabinet officials) should feel free to engage in conversation as needed.

- Secretary Tom Vilsack, Department of Agriculture
- **Secretary Xavier Becerra, Department of Health and Human Services**
- Secretary Marcia Fudge, Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Secretary Denis McDonough, Department of Veterans Affairs
- Administrator Isabel Guzman, Small Business Administration

9:40 AM – 9:55 AM Open discussion. Governor Polis will manage and moderate as needed.

9:55 AM – 10:00 AM Group Photo/Meeting concludes

Background:

WGA is comprised of 19 states and three U.S. territories. The 2023 Executive Committee is made up of Chair Governor Jared Polis (D-CO) and Vice Chair Mark Gordon (R-WY).

Mental and Behavioral Health remains a key priority for Western Governors, particularly inequities and disparities that have been exacerbated by the COVID

The Biden-Harris Administration's Focus on Behavioral Health

President Biden's Bipartisan Unity Agenda and subsequent Fiscal Year 2023 budget prioritizes mental health, proposing reforms to health coverage and major investments in the mental health workforce. The agenda calls for full parity between physical health and behavioral health care. The budget addresses the significant connection between mental health and substance use by investing in a broad spectrum of behavioral health services. The budget proposes new and historic investments totaling \$51.7 billion over ten years.

HHS Accomplishments for Substance Use Disorder:

- The number of health care providers with waivers to prescribe buprenorphine for opioid use disorder (OUD) increased by 19% over the last year;
- Implementation of the recent removal of the requirement for practitioners to obtain a waiver to prescribe medications (like buprenorphine), for individuals that are seeking treatment;
- Ensure every jail and prison across the nation can provide treatment for substance use disorder for individuals who are in jails and prisons, to continue their treatment in their communities. CMS will provide guidance this spring allowing states to use

Medicaid funds to provide health care services—including treatment for people with substance use disorder—to individuals in those facilities prior to their release, since more than 90 percent of individuals who are incarcerated are in state and local jails and prisons.

- The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will provide enhanced technical assistance to states who have existing State Opioid Response funds, and will host peer learning forums, national policy academies, and convenings with organizations distributing naloxone beginning this spring.

Examples of HHS Mental Health Accomplishments:

- Issued Medicaid guidance strengthening mental health benefit entitlements for children in Medicaid;
- Issued new Medicaid mobile crisis option;
- Issued two toolkits at the Secretary level, and a new Medicaid guidance, to expand access to school-based health services to expand mental health in schools;
- Issued unprecedented funding increases to decrease mental health stigma and train community members -in mental health issues via the Project Aware and Mental Health Awareness Training Programs;
- Launched the 988 nationwide suicide prevention lifeline, including a nationwide text and chat function.
- Awarded more than \$1 billion in National Health Service Corps, Nurse Corps, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program, achieving the largest field strength in history for these loan repayment and scholarship programs, with more than 11,900 members working in behavioral health disciplines.
- Awarded \$103 million to 45 health care organizations to reduce health care provider burnout and support health care workers' mental health and wellness.
- Announced the availability of \$226.5 million to launch the Community Health Worker (CHW) Training Program, which will increase the number of CHWs who play a critical role in connecting people to care, including mental health and substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services.
- Authorized enhanced federal reimbursement of certain Medicaid home and community-based services, including behavioral health services; encouraged - PDF states to invest these funds into enhancing and strengthening behavioral health services, including through temporary rate increases for behavioral health providers.
- Issued the HHS Roadmap to Health Integration, advancing a new and bold set of policy options to address the President's mental health strategy over the next two year.

Top HHS Overdose Prevention Accomplishments:

- Issued new Overdose Prevention Strategy that prioritized prevention and treatment, and for the first time, harm reduction and long term recovery. The Strategy has had demonstrated success, for example, under our strategy, we have increased access to prescription ~~prescription~~ naloxone by nearly 40 percent.
- Published new CDC opioid prescribing guidelines

- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) issued joint warning letters to operators of websites illegally selling Schedule II stimulants.
- For the first time, Medicare finalized new payments for person-centered, comprehensive management and treatment of chronic pain effective January 1, 2023. These aligned with HHS' National Pain Strategy, and the recommendations of its inter-age

Recent Behavioral Health Grant Announcements

HHS has recently made several significant behavioral health announcements, including:

- HHS has dedicated more than **\$1.5 billion to youth behavioral health alone in the last year, \$1.6 billion** in investments for communities throughout the country addressing the **addiction and overdose crisis** via SAMHSA's State Opioid Response (SOR) and Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) grant programs and HRSA's rural communities' opioid response programs – September 23, 2022 [[Source](#)]
- **\$300 million** awarded in September for new and existing Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs) along with **\$15 million** in additional funding announced in October for CCBHC planning. This additional round of planning grants kicked off national CCBHC expansion under the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act and will expand access to planning grants for CCBHC's to all 50 states. -- October 18, 2022 [[Source](#)]

As part of the recognition of the one-year anniversary of HHS' Overdose Prevention Strategy in November 2022, **two announcements** were made:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that every state, local, and territorial awardee of the CDC Overdose Data to Action cooperative agreement can use a portion of their funds to purchase naloxone, giving public health departments robust access to naloxone.
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published a Federal Register Notice stating that certain naloxone products have the potential to be safe and effective for over-the-counter use. In the notice, FDA encouraged applications for over-the-counter naloxone products.

In the first year of HHS' Overdose Prevention Strategy, HHS has increased waived providers by nearly 20 percent, expanded access to prescribed naloxone by nearly 40 percent, and outside studies suggest that in the time of the HHS overdose strategy, naloxone distributed on the streets via harm reduction programs (purchased with HHS grant dollars) has increased four-fold.

Recent actions HHS has taken to drive integrated behavioral health care

HHS has engaged a full Department approach to delivering integrated and equitable behavioral health care. On December 2, 2022, YOU and your Department leadership co-authored a piece in *Health Affairs* which lays out the vision of the health system we are trying to create. In addition, we lifted-up several recent actions to drive integration which include:

- **Guidance Strengthening Behavioral Health for Kids with Medicaid Coverage:** HHS has issued new guidance strengthening behavioral health benefits for children with Medicaid coverage, new guidance on Medicaid school-based health services, and required new national quality reporting for behavioral health in Medicaid via new proposed regulations.
- **Expand access to behavioral health by integrating behavioral health into primary care settings:** CMS recently finalized a new Medicare policy that will allow payment for integrated behavioral health care services provided by clinical psychologists and clinical social workers as part of a primary care team, where the behavioral health services furnished by a clinical psychologist or clinical social worker are serving as the focal point of care integration, starting January 1, 2023.
- **Recruit, train and support a diverse behavioral health workforce:** The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will advance creation of a training pipeline from Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Minority Serving Institutions, and other institutions of higher education that reach underserved populations.
- **Engage several of the highest risk populations:** The Administration for Community Living (ACL) will expand access to behavioral health services, including crisis services, for people with co-occurring intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and behavioral health needs through its recently launched National Co-occurring Resource Center that will build capacity among state behavioral health, developmental disabilities and Medicaid agencies; strengthen and expand the direct care workforce; and expand access to resources and opportunities for people with co-occurring I/DD and behavioral health needs.
- **Integrate promotion and prevention programs in community-based settings from early childhood to young adulthood, inclusive of schools:** The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) will advance the Children & Youth Resilience Challenge, a prize competition to fund innovative solutions to support resilience in children and youth.
- **Implementation of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (S. 2938)**

President Biden signed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) into law by on June 25, 2022. This legislation is a major step forward for children and youth mental health. Some provisions include:

- Adds **\$40 million** to the National Child Traumatic Stress Network to improve treatment and services for youth who have experienced traumatic events.
- Requires the Secretary of HHS to provide technical assistance and issue guidance to states on improving access to telehealth under Medicaid and CHIP
- Requires the Secretary of HHS to do regular reviews of state implementation of the requirements for providing early and periodic screening, diagnostic, and treatment (EPSDT) services under Medicaid, and issue guidance to states on Medicaid coverage requirements for such services.
- Requires the Secretary, through CMS, to issue new guidance that simplifies billing for school-based health services, and requires the Secretary of HHS, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to establish a technical assistance center, for the purposes of expanding the capacity of state Medicaid agencies, school districts, and school-based entities to provide assistance under Medicaid. This provision also provides \$50 million

for fiscal year 2022 for the Secretary of HHS to award grants to states to implement, enhance, or expand the provision of assistance through school-based entities under Medicaid or CHIP.

- Supports SAMHSA’s Project Aware and RECAST programs. The Act appropriates **\$240 million** over four years for Project Aware, which increases awareness of mental health issues among school-aged youth, provide training for school personnel and other adults who interact with school-aged youth to detect and respond to mental health issues, and connect school-aged youth who may have behavioral health issues and their families to needed services. The \$240 million includes a set aside of **\$28 million** for the RECAST program, which provides grants to support trauma care in school settings.
- Provides **\$150 million** dollars in one-time funding to support implementation of 988, including support for children and youth.

Attachments:

1. Talking points
2. State Profiles

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK

for

HHS SECRETARY

XAVIER BECERRA



Thursday, February 09, 2023

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- *Memo consists of:*
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- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
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Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule

Thursday, February 9th, 2023

9:00am – 9:40am CT DEPART FOR DFW

9:00am – 9:30am CT WEEKLY UC CORE MEETING

**9:30am – 9:45am CT PREP FOR BUDGET APPEAL CALL WITH OMB
DIRECTOR YOUNG**

9:40am – 10:00am CT ARRIVE DFW

10:40am CT – 12:44pm PT TRAVEL: DFW TO SFO

1:15pm – 1:45pm PT TRAVEL TO LUNCH

1:45pm – 2:30pm PT LUNCH

2:30pm – 3:00pm PT DEPART LUNCH FOR SITE #1 STOP 1

**3:00pm – 4:05pm PT SITE #1 STOP #1 IRA DRUG PRICING EVENT AT
WELLMAN'S PHARMACY**

4:05pm – 4:10pm PT DEPART STOP #1 FOR STOP #2

4:10pm – 4:45pm PT	SITE #1 STOP #2 IRA DRUG PRICING EVENT AT ON LOK POWELL CENTER
4:45pm – 5:00pm PT	DEPART SITE #1 FOR SF CITY HALL
5:00pm – 6:00pm PT	HEARTS IN SAN FRANCISCO GALA - RECEPTION
6:00pm – 8:00pm PT	HEARTS IN SAN FRANCISCO GALA - DINNER & PROGRAM
11:05pm PT – 7:12am ET	TRAVEL: SFO TO BWI



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
Stacy Sanders, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Adeola Adesina, Senior Advisor to the Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Wellman's Pharmacy IRA and On Lok Senior Event

Details

What: Wellman's Pharmacy IRA and On Lok (Lock) Senior Event

Date: February 9, 2023

Time: 3:00 PM – 4:45 PM PT

Location:

- Stop 1- Wellman's Pharmacy, 728 Pacific Ave, San Francisco, CA 94133
- Stop 2- On Lok Powell Center, 1440 Powell St, San Francisco, CA 94133

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Adeola Adesina (IEA)

Press: Yes

Topics:

Inflation Reduction Act, focused on:

- \$35 cap on each Medicare-covered insulin
- Free preventive vaccines under Medicare Part D
- Manufacturers must pay rebates if their price increases exceed inflation
- Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices for the first time

Objective:

To speak with community leaders and highlight Inflation Reduction Act provisions.

Secretary's Role:

YOU will deliver remarks on IRA implementation, meet with local seniors, and participate in a press gaggle. After gaggle, YOU will visit a Pace Senior Center.

Please note: YOU are the first Secretary of HHS to visit On Lok Powell Center.

Acknowledgements:

- Thank Peter Lo (**Low**) and Stuart Fong for inviting YOU to discuss the Inflation Reduction Act.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU
- Cynthia Palafox, Director of Scheduling and Advance

Other HHS Divisions:

- Jeffery Reynoso, Director, Region 9, IEA
- Bonnie Preston, Executive Officer, Region 9, IEA
- Adrian Eng-Gastelum, Senior Advisor, ASPA
- Dan Tsai, Deputy Administrator and Director of the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS), CMS (*joining for the On Lok stop*)
- Jeannette Marsh, Office of Program Operations and Local Engagement, CMS, San Francisco

External Participants:

- David Chiu (**Chew**), City Attorney, San Francisco
- Peter Lo (**Low**), Pharmacist, Wellman's Rx
- Dr. Jow Woo, Community Doctor
- Dr. Kenneth Chang, Community Doctor
- Dr. Gustin Ho, Community Doctor
- Anni Chung, President and CEO, Self-Help for the Elderly
- Vivian Liang (**Lee-ang**), Government & Community Affairs Representative, North East Medical Services (NEMS)
- Grace Li, Chief Executive Officer, On Lok PACE Powell Center
- Eileen Kunz, Chief of Government Affairs & Compliance, On Lok
- Ben Lui, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, On Lok PACE Powell Center
- Stuart Fong, Government & Community Relations Manager, On Lok PACE Powell Center
- Catherine Yee, Attorney At Law
- Barnaby Hall, Center Director, On Lok PACE Powell Center
- Katherine Kelly, Director of Government Affairs, On Lok PACE Powell Center
- Juliana Wong, Housing Manager, On Lok PACE Powell Center

Agenda/Run of Show:

3:00pm	YOU Arrive at Wellman's Pharmacy - <i>YOU will be greeted by Peter Lo, Wellman's Pharmacy, RD Reynoso</i>
3:00 – 3:10pm	YOU will discuss pharmacy services with Peter Lo - <i>Dr. Woo and Anni Chung participant in presser will introduce themselves</i>
3:10 – 3:15pm	David Chiu Introduces YOU with Cantonese Translator (Catherine Yee) for Crowd
3:15 – 3:25pm	YOU will arrive at podium to deliver Remarks with Cantonese Translator for Crowd
3:25 – 3:30pm	Dr. Woo Delivers Remarks in English and then Cantonese
3:30 – 3:35pm	Anni Chung Delivers Remarks about how IRA impacts seniors in English & Cantonese
3:35 – 3:40pm	YOU take Q&A with reporters
3:40 – 3:50pm	YOU meet and take photos with seniors and clinic operators at vaccine clinic - <i>YOU will be greeted by Vivian Liang and Dr. Woo at door to NEMS vaccine clinic site</i>
3:50 – 4:05pm	YOU participate in press availability
4:05pm	YOU depart for next stop
4:10pm	YOU Arrives at On Lok - <i>YOU will be greeted by Grace Li, CEO of On Lok</i>
4:10 – 4:45pm	YOU tour facility - <i>YOU will stop at the medical clinic, senior center, and housing unit</i> - <i>Each stop will include conversations with leadership, staff, and patients</i>
4:45pm	YOU depart

Background:**Wellman's Pharmacy**

- Established in 1987, is an independent Pharmacy with two retail outlets in the heart of San Francisco (Chinatown).
- Offer bi-lingual services in English and Chinese and accept all coverage plans.
- Majority of their customers are seniors who are dual eligible (Medicare & Medi-Cal) hence their Insulin and Vaccine co-pay are already below \$35 for insulin and \$0 for Vaccine.
- Pharmacy has noticed a trend that more and more of their customers have \$0 co-pay overall.
- North East Medical Services (NEMS) and physicians from [AAMG](#) will be holding a vaccination clinic for seniors on the same retail plaza across a walkway from Wellman's Pharmacy. NEMS is an FQHC serving San Francisco Chinatown.

On Lok PACE Powell Center

- Full Service Health Care and Senior Services – All inclusive Medicare + Medi-Cal
- On Lok serves: Located in California, the On Lok PACE program currently serves San Francisco County, Santa Clara County, and the cities of Fremont, Newark, and Union City in Alameda County.
- By pioneering the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, PACE, On Lok created a full-service healthcare and senior services program to support clients' quality of life and empowers their independence. Clients are Medicare/Medi-Cal beneficiaries and qualify for nursing home level of care. On Lok PACE Health Care Team is made up of:
 - Primary care providers
 - Registered nurse
 - Social worker
 - Physical therapist
 - Occupational therapist
 - Activity therapist
 - Registered dietitian
 - Home care coordinator
 - Caregivers
 - Drivers
- PACE centers offer a strong sense of community and a variety of activities, including exercise and dance, music and art classes, cultural celebrations, and community meals with other seniors.
- A medical clinic and rehabilitation gym are located onsite, so care team can coordinate all medical and social needs
- For those participants who can no longer stay in their homes, a collaboration with HUD provides for the first in the nation senior supportive housing for those needing nursing home level care.
 - On Lok believes safe, stable, and affordable housing is one of the foundations of good health.
 - On Lok housing program provides housing options for the elderly in three buildings in San Francisco. Together they have 131 units.
 - Marie-Louise Ansak On Lok House, 1441 Powell Street is one of the three

- ❖ 54 studio units, designed for one or two occupants and reserved for the frail elderly under HUD Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly program.
- ❖ Residents must meet HUD Section 8 housing assistance requirements. On Lok House manages the housing in this building.

Attachments

1. Talking Points
2. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants
3. Biographies for On Lok Staff
4. Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act



DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
Steven Lopez, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Tania Calle, Special Assistant, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: The San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF) *Hearts in San Francisco Gala*

Details

What: Keynote Remarks at the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF) *Hearts in San Francisco Gala*

Date: February 9, 2023

Time: 5:30 PM – 8:15 PM PST

Location: San Francisco City Hall, 1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett Pl, San Francisco, CA 94102

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Tania Calle (IEA)

Press: Yes

Topic:

The San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF) will be hosting its annual Hearts in San Francisco Gala to fundraise for and honor the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG) on the hospital's 150th Anniversary. ZSFG is a public safety-net hospital in San Francisco, CA that primarily serves low-income, elderly, uninsured, underinsured, minority and immigrant populations. The gala will emphasize the importance of health equity, affordable healthcare, public health, and public-private partnerships.

Secretary's Role:

YOU will deliver five minutes of keynote remarks that focus on health equity.

Acknowledgements:

- YOU can thank Priya David Clemens for introducing you.
- Hospital Foundation, and the California Health Care Foundation for inviting YOU to participate in this important celebration of Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital.
- YOU can also thank all the health care staff that is present in the audience this evening for their continuous work to keep vulnerable communities in San Francisco healthy.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU
- Benjamin Scott, Deputy Director of Advance

WH/USG Participants:

- U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi (D-CA-11th)

Attendees at YOUR table:

- Sandra Hernandez, MD, President & CEO of California Health Care Foundation
- Carolina Hansen (**Car-leen-uh Han-son**), Senior Program Officer, California Healthcare Foundation
- Sequoia Hall (**Seh-quoy-uh Hall**), Health Equity Fellow, California Healthcare Foundation
- Melora Simon (**Muh-loor-uh Sigh-mun**), Associate Director, California Healthcare Foundation
- Kenna Chic (**Muh-loor-uh Sigh-mun**), Health Equity Fellow, California Healthcare Foundation
- Dalma Diaz (**Doll-muh Dee-ez**), Health Equity Fellow, California Healthcare Foundation
- Janet Boachie (**Janet Bow-chee**), Health Equity Fellow, California Healthcare Foundation
- Chris Perrone (**Chris Per-roan**), Director Improving Access, California Healthcare Foundation
- Katherine Haynes, Senior Program Officer, California Healthcare Foundation

Other External:

- Kim Meredith, CEO of San Francisco General Hospital Foundation
- Elizabeth Minick, Hearts in SF Chair and Executive at Bank of America
- Priya David Clemens, Host of KQED Newsroom and Gala MC
- London Breed, Mayor of San Francisco (*Invited, not confirmed*)
- Gavin Newsom, Governor of California
- Eleni Kounalakis, Lt. Governor
- Scott Wiener, State Senator
- Myrna Melgar, San Francisco Supervisor
- Hillary Ronen, SF Supervisor

- Rafael Mandelman, SF Supervisor
- Matt Dorsey, SF Supervisor
- Chief David Lazar, SF Assistant
- Sam Hawgood, UCSF Chancellor
- Grant Colfax, Director of Department of Public Health
- Willie Brown, Former San Francisco Mayor
- Art Agnos, Former San Francisco Mayor

Agenda/Run of Show:

The Gala program will take place in the City Hall Rotunda. Remarks will be delivered at the base of the grand staircase of the Rotunda. There will be a podium and microphone available for use during remarks. The audience will be seated in tables of 10 facing the grand staircase.

5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	YOU arrive to the Cocktail Reception on the Mayor's Balcony and are met by Kim Meredith
6:00 PM – 6:05 PM	YOU move to the dinner part of the evening in the City Hall Rotunda. YOU will find your seat at the California Health Care Fund Table, #19
6:05 PM – 6:12 PM	Welcoming remarks and speeches are delivered by Elizabeth Minick, <i>Hearts in SF</i> Chair, and Mayor London Breed
6:12 PM – 6:15 PM	The Immersive Hearts Experience, a 3D light show of the heart sculptures up for auction, is played
6:15 PM – 6:45 PM	Salad courses are cleared, and attendees may mingle
6:45 PM – 6:47 PM	Priya David Clemens, <i>Hearts in SF</i> MC, introduces YOU and you approach the podium directly from your table
6:47 PM – 6:52 PM	YOU deliver your remarks and return to your seat
6:52 PM – 6:59 PM	A video on health equity is introduced and played, followed by a fundraising announcement
6:59 PM – 7:45 PM	The second course is served
7:45 PM – 8:02 PM	Rep. Pelosi is presented with the SFGH Lifetime Achievement Award and delivers remarks
8:02 PM – 8:11 PM	Heroes Awards, which recognize healthcare staff and advocates, are presented

8:11 PM – 8:13 PM

Priya delivers closing remarks

8:13 PM – 8:15 PM

YOU will depart

Following YOUR departure, attendees will transition to the “Heart After Dark”, a post-Gala event that features drinks and dancing.

Background:

San Francisco General Hospital Foundation (SFGHF)

SFGHF is the fundraising partner of the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG). SFGHF annually hosts a *Heart in San Francisco Gala* to fundraise for and honor the ZSFG. This year, SFGHF will also be celebrating the hospital’s 150th Anniversary. The program will feature many prominent California state and federal government officials as well as touch on important themes such as health equity, public health, and community. Throughout the program, hosts will highlight opportunities to financially support the hospital.

Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG)

The Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital & Trauma Center is a licensed general acute care hospital within the Community Health Network, which is owned and operated by the City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health. Since 1872, the hospital has provided care for San Franciscans through major events such as the Great San Francisco Earthquake of 1906, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

ZSFG provides inpatient, outpatient, emergency, skilled nursing, diagnostic, mental health, and rehabilitation services for primarily low-income, elderly, uninsured, underinsured, minority and immigrant populations in San Francisco. It is the largest acute inpatient and rehabilitation hospital for psychiatric patients in the City and the only acute hospital in San Francisco that provides twenty-four-hour psychiatric emergency services. ZSFG also operates the only Level 1 Trauma Center for the 1.5 million residents of San Francisco and northern San Mateo County. Moreover, ZSFG opened the first AIDS inpatient unit in the U.S. in 1981 and at the height of the pandemic, treated one-third of the city’s COVID patients.

In August 2022, Mayor Breed proclaimed August 28 as “Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital Day” in honor of the hospital’s leading role in supporting public health for the San Francisco community since 1872.

California Health Care Foundation (CHCF)

The CHCF is an independent, nonprofit philanthropy organization operating since 1996 that is focused on improving the healthcare system and increasing healthcare access for Californians, particularly low-income and underserved individuals. CHCF approaches these goals through grantmaking, program-related investing, research, stakeholder engagement, and stakeholder convening. In addition to these activities, the CHCF hosts a Health Equity Fellowship through

which emerging BIPOC leaders participate in leadership development, training, and experience with grantmaking for health equity-centered work at CHCF. Lastly, while CHCF is a sponsor of the *Hearts in SF Gala*, they are only a partner and work independently from SFGHF. Dr. Sandra Hernandez, President & CEO of California Health Care Foundation and who is seated at your table, invited you to speak at the *Gala*.

Health Equity and Language Access

HHS's Equity Action Plan

In April, HHS released its Equity Action Plan to advance equity in the delivery of health and human services. The plan – which is a response to Executive Order 13985 that President Biden signed at the beginning of his term – details some of the ways HHS is building on equity work already underway and is part of the Administration's push to ensure that government works better for all. HHS' plan specifically focuses on a main tenet of the executive order, that advancing equity must be a central component of the decision-making framework that all agency functions are routed through (e.g., grants, acquisitions, capacity building).

The Plan specifically focuses on expanding language access for issues surrounding coverage. In fact, for the first time, last year, HHS provided the “Medicare & You” handbook in other languages and increased language access efforts on [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov). For the purposes of the Equity Action Plan, HHS will focus on addressing barriers that individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) face in obtaining information, services and/or benefits from HHS federally conducted programs (e.g., the 1-800-MEDICARE number where the services are provided directly by CMS) and federally assisted programs (e.g., Medicaid, where CMS funding allows a beneficiary to receive health care services from a private provider). HHS will address access to in-language content through webpages, listserv announcements, and public outreach material; telephonic interpreter services; program and benefit information in other languages; and federal funding for recipients of HHS funds to provide language access services.

Section 1557

In July, HHS announced a proposed rule implementing Section 1557 of the ACA that prohibits discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, and disability in certain health programs and activities. This proposed rule restores and strengthens civil rights protections for patients and consumers in certain federally funded health programs and HHS programs after the 2020 version of the rule proposed by the Trump Administration limited its scope.

The proposed rule would require entities to give staff training on the provision of language assistance services for individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) and effective communication and reasonable modifications to policies and procedures for people with disabilities. In addition, it requires covered entities to provide a notice of nondiscrimination along with a notice of the availability of language assistance services and auxiliary aids and services.

HHS Actions since the release of EO-13985:

Additional HHS Actions Focused on Health Equity

- *Latino Health Tour*
 - o YOU kicked off the Latino Health Tour in Sacramento, CA in October of 2022. The tour aimed to bring health services and care to communities who would otherwise be unable to gain access to such care. Through the tour, HHS has partnered with community partners and health systems like UC Davis to increase language access within healthcare and ease access to services.
- *SDOH Working Group*
 - o The Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Working Group published the HHS SDOH Action Plan in April, which will includes more than 90 action steps from across HHS.
- *Established the Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE)*
 - o OCCHE addresses the impact of climate change on the health of the American people and serves as a department-wide hub for climate change and health policy, programming, and analysis, in pursuit of environmental justice and equitable health outcomes.
- *Developed the Minority Health Social Vulnerability Index*
 - o Enhances existing resources to support the identification of racial and ethnic communities at the greatest risk for disproportionate impact and adverse outcomes due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- *Increased engagement with individuals directly affected by HHS policy and programs*
 - o HHS established the COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force, which included 12 non-federal members representing a diversity of expertise and lived experience.

Attachments:

1. Talking Points
2. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants
3. The Biden-Harris Administration's Focus on Mental and Behavioral Health



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Overview of the NGA Winter Meeting 2023

Details

What: NGA Winter Meeting 2023

Date: February 9 – 11, 2023

Time: February 10: 2:00 PM – 4:30 PM – Meetings with individual Governors
February 11: 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM – Western Governors Association (WGA) breakfast
February 11: 6:00 PM – Governors Ball at the White House

Location: Marriott Marquis Lobby, Second Level
901 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Lee Stevens, IEA
Jess Smith, IEA
Zach Kahan, IEA

Press: Onsite at meeting, not in S1 meetings

Topics:

Public sessions at the Winter Meeting will focus on youth mental health, technology, career development and workforce and emergency preparedness for large-scale energy disruptions.

Objective:

To share HHS and Administration priorities, listen to Governors' concerns, identify ways HHS can assist them, and build relationships.

Secretary's Role:

On Friday afternoon, YOU will have four 20-minute one-on-one meetings with Governors Bryan, Guerrero, Kotek, and Polis.

YOU will have a pull aside with Governor Josh Green after the Western Governor Association Breakfast.

On Saturday morning, YOU will give remarks at the Western Governors Association (WGA) breakfast and respond to any inquiries from Governors.

Please see accompanying memos for more details about your one-on-one meetings and your remarks to the WGA.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU
- Cynthia Palafox, Director of Scheduling and Advance
- Alex Rosenberg, Scheduler

Other HHS Divisions:

- Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator, CMS
- Eden Tesfaye, Advisor, CMS
- Dr. Vivek Murthy, United States Surgeon General (participating in a plenary with Governor Phil Murphy)

Other External:

YOU will have one-on-one meetings with:

- Gov. Albert Bryan Jr., D-United States Virgin Islands
- Gov. Tina Kotek, D-Oregon
- Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero, D-Guam
- Gov. Jared Polis, D-Colorado
- Gov. Josh Green, D-HI

Agenda/Run of Show:

Friday, February 10, Marriott Marquis Dahlia Boardroom, 2nd Floor, arrival time by 2:30 pm

- 20 minute 1 on 1 meetings with Governors

Saturday, February 11, Marriott Marquis Magnolia Room, 2nd Floor, arrival time by 8:00 am

- WGA Breakfast
- White House Governors Ball

Background:

NGA's 115th Winter Meeting will take place February 9-11, in Washington, DC. Governors will join federal officials and leaders from business, academia, and philanthropy for conversations around the top issues in states and territories. During the Friday afternoon session, YOU will be meeting with Governors Albert Bryan (D-USVI), Tina Kotek (D-OR), Leon Guerrero (D-GU), and Jared Polis (D-CO). Each meeting has a separate meeting memo.

All public sessions will occur on Saturday, February 11:

- **Plenary 1:** NGA Chair New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy will join U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy and health policy leaders on Saturday, February 11, for an opening plenary session on his NGA Chair's Initiative, Strengthening Youth Mental Health.
- **Plenary 2:** This session, moderated by Montana Governor Greg Gianforte, will discuss current challenges in the labor market and highlight how Governors can work with the private sector to implement scalable solutions to addressing worker shortages.
- **Community Renewal Task Force Meeting on Academic and Career Success:** Idaho Governor Brad Little and Colorado Governor Jared Polis will co-host a discussion on how Governors are working to meet the needs of students today so they can achieve career success tomorrow.
- **Economic Development and Revitalization Task Force Meeting on Governors' Leadership in Technology and Energy Innovation:** Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear and South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster will lead a discussion on the cross-collaboration needed to successfully invest in renewable energy, grid modernization, technology innovation (from chip fabrication plants to electric vehicles and their charging infrastructure), reshoring, and supply chains.
- **Public Health and Disaster Response Task Force Meeting on How Governors Can Respond to Large-Scale Energy Disruptions:** This panel, led by Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont and Vermont Governor Phil Scott, will examine how Governors can prepare their states and territories for potential large-scale, sustained energy disruptions through leveraging federal resources available to build resiliency, establish best practices, and strengthen response efforts.

Attachments:

1. NGA Winter Meeting Agenda
2. Governors picture book



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Angela Ramirez, Deputy Chief of Staff
Steven Lopez, Counselor

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA)
Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, IEA
Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, IEA

SUBJECT: Meeting with Governor Lourdes “Lou” Leon Guerrero (D-Guam)

Details

What: Meeting with Gov. Lourdes “Lou” Leon Guerrero (D-Guam)

Date: February 10, 2023

Time: 3:40 PM – 4:00 PM Eastern

Location: Marriott Marquis Dahlia Boardroom on the 2nd floor
901 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Zach Kahan, IEA

Press: No

Topic:

YOU and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure will speak one-on-one with Governor Guerrero at the National Governors’ Association (NGA) Winter Meetings.

The Governor wants to discuss hospital issues facing the island including:

- Hospital funding
 - o The Governor will update you on her desire for a new hospital
 - o The Governor will discuss a regional hospital center for island territories relative to military response
- Health Professional Shortage Designation
 - o Conversation focused on the designation being revoked for 2021 and 2022

Secretary's Role:

To listen to the Governor's concerns and respond appropriately.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU

Other HHS Divisions:

- Jessica Smith, Principal Deputy Director, IEA
- Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, IEA
- Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, IEA
- Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator, CMS
- Eden Tesfaye, Advisor, IEA

Other External:

- Guam Governor Lourdes "Lou" Leon Guerrero (D)
- Jon Calvo, Chief of Staff, Governor Guerrero

Agenda/Run of Show:

3:40 PM – 3:45 PM	Brief introduction
3:45 PM – 3:55 PM	Discussion
3:55 PM – 4:00 PM	Wrap up

Background:

Governor Guerrero requested a meeting with YOU during the NGA Friday session.

In April 2020, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a report, *Facilities Condition Assessment Guam Memorial Hospital (GMH) Tamuning, Guam*. The report detailed GMH's overall state of failure due to age, environmental exposure, lack of financial resources, and lack of adherence to building codes. The report stated that extensive repair and/or replacement of all GMH facility sections is required. The estimated costs associated with repairs to support renewed compliance and adequately protect staff, patients, and visitors would be \$21 million. That cost would be on top of an estimated over \$740 million for a new hospital.

The Governor had said she intends to pledge \$300 million from American Rescue Plan funding to partially cover expenses for the campus, although a final spending plan is still pending federal guidance.

After winning re-election in 2022, the Governor re-iterated her desire to continue moving forward with her plan to build a new medical complex and hospital on military land on Eagles Field in Mangilao on the eastern shore of the island. However, landowners in the area have expressed concern surrounding the hospital being built on this land – there was a public hearing

in October 2022 on this issue. Family members of the original landowners want the land to be returned to them instead of a monetary compensation or land exchange.

Medicaid Coverage Unwinding

Key Messages:

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2023 includes new conditions that states and territories will have to comply with for public health emergency (PHE) Unwinding in order to qualify for enhanced federal funding (FMAP)
- All states and territories must comply with requirements for completing renewals and can leverage a variety of CMS strategies to support this work
- Importantly, states need to improve how they contact beneficiaries in order to reduce procedural terminations. There are multiple strategies for this, including:
 - Collecting updated beneficiary contact information ahead of performing redeterminations
 - Employing multiple outreach modalities (e.g., phone, email, texting) to contact beneficiaries for whom the state/territory receives returned mail
- CMS is meeting with every state and territory to evaluate their compliance with meeting the Unwinding requirements necessary to receive temporary enhanced FMAP
- States and territories will need to implement meaningful mitigation strategies in order to receive enhanced FMAP. CMS is readily available to support these efforts.

Guam Specific:

Has significant challenges due to staffing shortages and a fully in-person paper-based eligibility process. CMS is working closely with the territory to identify compliance strategies, as they are eager to receive enhanced FMAP to support increased provider rates. Significant work needed.

Health Professional Shortage Designation

Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs) can be geographic areas, populations, or facilities. These areas have a shortage of primary, dental or mental health care providers.

Graduate Medical Education Slots

In January, CMS posted the graduate medical education residency slot awards under Round 1 of section 126 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2021 on CMS.gov. This is the first round of the 1,000 new Medicare-funded medical residency positions, phased in at no more than 200 slots per year beginning in 2023, provided under Section 126 of the CAA. The law requires that the first round of 200 residency slots be announced no later than January 31, 2023, and become effective July 1, 2023. There were 335 hospitals that applied in Round 1 for the 200 available slots. Using the health professional shortage areas prioritization and other criteria, 100 hospitals will be awarded slots. On January 9, 2023 CMS announced the first round of residency positions being awarded to 100 teaching hospitals across 30 states, the District of Columbia, and

Puerto Rico, and they will be effective July 1, 2023. Of these direct graduate medical education slots, 125 of the residency slots are being allocated for primary care (including obstetrics/gynecology), and 20 slots are being allocated for psychiatry. Guam was not allocated one of the residency slots. The application period for the second round of 200 residency positions will open in January 2023 and close on March 31, 2023.

CMS is using HPSA scores to prioritize the distribution of residency positions under section 126 to the four categories of qualifying hospitals. The use of HPSA scores is consistent with the Administration's policy to prioritize training programs that have a higher likelihood of training physicians that will practice in underserved communities with the greatest need. HPSAs were designed for the National Health Service Corps to distribute physicians to where they are needed most. CMS believes that HPSA scores provide the best prioritization approach available at this time. They are transparent, widely used, publicly available, regularly updated, uniformly calculated, and have verifiable inputs for measuring the severity of a service area's need for additional physicians.

Attachments:

1. Governor Guerrero Biography
2. Territory Information
3. Executive Report of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a report, *Facilities Condition Assessment Guam Memorial Hospital (GMH) Tamuning, Guam*
4. CMS Guam Hot Topics



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
Rachel Pryor, Counselor to the Secretary
Stacy Sanders, Counselor to the Secretary
Stephen Cha, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA)
Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, IEA
Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, IEA

SUBJECT: Meeting with Governor Jared Polis (D-CO)

Details

What: Meeting with Governor Jared Polis (D-CO)

Date: February 10, 2023

Time: 4:05 PM – 4:25 PM ET

Location: Marriott Marquis: Dahlia Boardroom on the 2nd floor
901 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Zach Kahan, IEA

Press: No

Topic:

YOU and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure will speak with Governor Jared Polis. The Governor would like to discuss Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Section 1332 waivers of federal pass through funding, drug importation, Medicaid unwinding with the end of the public health emergency (PHE), and the hospital transparency rule.

Secretary's Role:

To listen to the Governor's concerns and respond appropriately.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU

Other HHS Divisions:

- Jessica Smith, Principal Deputy Director, IEA
- Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, IEA
- Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, IEA
- Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator, CMS
- Eden Tesfaye, Advisor, CMS

Other External:

- Colorado Governor Jared Polis (D)
- Alec Garnett, Chief of Staff for Governor Polis
- Eric Maruyama, Staffer for Governor Polis

Agenda/Run of Show:

4:05 PM – 4:10 PM:	Brief introduction
4:10 PM – 4:20 PM:	Discussion
4:20 PM – 4:25 PM:	Wrap up

Background:

IEA requested a meeting with Governor Polis during the NGA Friday afternoon sessions. IEA requested the meeting because the Governor is the 2023 Western Governors' Association Chair.

YOU visited Denver, CO, on June 18, 2021, and held an event with the Governor to promote COVID-19 vaccines among minority communities.

Section 1332 Waiver

Section 1332 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) permits a state to apply for a State Innovation Waiver (also referred to as section 1332 waiver) to pursue innovative strategies for providing residents with access to high quality, affordable health insurance while retaining the basic protections of the ACA. Section 1332 waivers are subject to approval by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of the Treasury (the Departments). State Innovation Waivers are approved for up to five-year periods, and can be extended.

Colorado Waiver

On August 13, 2021, the Departments, having completed a review of Colorado's waiver extension application, approved Colorado's 5-year extension request under section 1332 of the ACA. This approval is effective from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2026.

On June 22, 2022, the Departments approved Colorado's waiver amendment request under section 1332 of the ACA. This approval is effective from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2027. This approval created the "Colorado Option," a state-specific health coverage plan that increases health coverage enrollment and lowers health care costs, making insurance more affordable and accessible for nearly 10,000 Coloradans starting in 2023. It is designed to reduce racial and ethnic health disparities by providing new coverage options for Coloradans, reflecting the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to advancing health equity. Starting in 2023, the Colorado Option will be available to all Coloradans who enroll in health insurance plans on the individual market (i.e., not through an employer) and small employers with less than 100 employees. Colorado Option plans will lower health insurance premiums for individuals, families, and small businesses by up to 15% by 2025.

The amended waiver will generate savings that the federal government will pass on to the state to implement their waiver and help fund additional subsidies for state residents. As part of that program, undocumented individuals would be eligible for the state subsidy program.

Drug Importation

On December 5, 2022, Colorado submitted a Section 804 Importation Plan (SIP) and requested an approval to permit the importation of eligible prescription drugs into Colorado from Canada to the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. The state estimates that the program can save Coloradans an average of 65% on their prescriptions—totaling \$53 to \$88 million in savings each year. The Agency continues to engage proactively with Colorado and will be having a discussion with state program officials, at the state's request, in early March.

Medicaid Coverage Unwinding

Key Messages:

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2023 includes new conditions that states and territories will have to comply with for public health emergency (PHE) Unwinding in order to qualify for enhanced federal funding (FMAP)
- All states and territories must comply with requirements for completing renewals and can leverage a variety of CMS strategies to support this work
- Importantly, states need to improve how they contact beneficiaries in order to reduce procedural terminations. There are multiple strategies for this, including:
 - Collecting updated beneficiary contact information ahead of performing redeterminations

- Employing multiple outreach modalities (e.g., phone, email, texting) to contact beneficiaries for whom the state/territory receives returned mail
- CMS is meeting with every state and territory to evaluate their compliance with meeting the Unwinding requirements necessary to receive temporary enhanced FMAP
- States and territories will need to implement meaningful mitigation strategies in order to receive enhanced FMAP. CMS is readily available to support these efforts.

Colorado Specific:

Plans to take the full 12 months to complete unwinding redeterminations. Colorado has made several systems and operational updates to prepare for Unwinding. CMS has not identified any significant issues at this time.

Hospital Insurance Transparency Rule

Governor Polis signed the “Prohibition Collection Hospital Not Disclosing Prices” bill into law and it went into effect on August 9, 2022. It prevents hospitals or their collectors from initiating or pursuing debt collection from a patient if the hospital’s website was not in compliance with the CMS’ price transparency requirements at the time services were delivered. CMS’ price transparency rule requires hospitals to post a comprehensive machine-readable list of their services and prices as well as a patient-friendly tool to help shop for 300 common services since Jan. 1, 2021.

Noncompliant hospitals receive a warning and a request for a corrective action plan from the agency and, if necessary, civil monetary penalties up to \$300 per day and a public name-and-shame on CMS’ Hospital Price Transparency website.

Assessments conducted by CMS demonstrate there has been substantial progress in hospitals’ implementation efforts since the regulation first went into effect in January 2021. To further promote progress in hospitals’ implementation, CMS has recently made available several MRF sample formats. Further, CMS has levied civil monetary penalties on two hospitals. CMS indicates all other hospitals have been coming into compliance.

External reports of hospital price transparency compliance have varied significantly. These assessments yielded varying estimates of compliance with the requirements, ranging from a low of approximately 5% to a high of 83%. The variation is attributed to differing methodologies and/or different interpretations of regulatory requirements compared to CMS. For example, some organizations appear to be reviewing for things beyond the scope of the regulations.

Select patient advocates continue to raise concerns about hospitals’ noncompliance; however, as noted above, those claims are often unsupported. In the near future, CMS will release additional analyses on current compliance and efforts to enhance the hospital transparency program.

Behavioral Health

Colorado Mental Health Initiatives:

Colorado House Bill 21-1258 established a temporary behavioral health services program called “I Matter” to provide access to mental health and substance use disorder services for youth, including addressing needs that may have resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is open to youth 18 years of age or younger or 21 years of age or younger if receiving special education services. In May 2022, the Colorado State Legislature renewed the program with House Bill 22-1243 through at least June 30, 2023.

I Matter is managed by the Colorado Behavioral Health Administration. I Matter provides up to six free therapy sessions for youth in Colorado and reimburses participating licensed therapists.

I Matter also has a statewide public awareness and outreach campaign that includes digital ads on platforms such as TikTok and Snapchat, and on-the-ground outreach to schools and youth organizations. Both the awareness campaign and the IMatterColorado.org website were informed by youth feedback.

Governor Jared Polis signed the original bipartisan legislation, which dedicated \$9 million to the program as part of the Polis-Primavera administration's Colorado Comeback roadmap. The roadmap was an initiative by Governor Polis to Build Back Stronger from COVID-19. It invested roughly \$800 million of state dollars into helping all communities recover faster and build back stronger. The five big goals have guided dozens of state bills narrowly tailored to meet the challenge at hand, including strengthening small businesses, revitalizing infrastructure, supporting Colorado families, investing in rural Colorado, and developing and strengthening our workforce.

HHS Actions on Mental and Behavioral Health: Impact on Colorado

Colorado has received the following funds for Project Aware, Mental Health Awareness Training and the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) Programs, all part of the President’s budget that received-support in the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act:

- Project Aware: \$5.4 million
- Mental Health Awareness Training: \$874,179
- CCBHC Programs: \$6 million

Examples of HHS Mental Health Accomplishments:

- Issued Medicaid guidance strengthening mental health benefit entitlements for children in Medicaid;
- Issued new Medicaid mobile crisis option;
- Issued two toolkits at the Secretary level, and a new Medicaid guidance, to expand access to school-based health services to expand mental health in schools;

- Issued unprecedented funding increases to decrease mental health stigma and train community members -in mental health issues via the Project Aware and Mental Health Awareness Training Programs;
- Launched the 988 nationwide suicide prevention lifeline, including a nationwide text and chat function.
- Awarded more than \$1 billion in National Health Service Corps, Nurse Corps, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program, achieving the largest field strength in history for these loan repayment and scholarship programs, with more than 11,900 members working in behavioral health disciplines.
- Awarded \$103 million to 45 health care organizations to reduce health care provider burnout and support health care workers' mental health and wellness.
- Announced the availability of \$226.5 million to launch the Community Health Worker (CHW) Training Program, which will increase the number of CHWs who play a critical role in connecting people to care, including mental health and substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services.
- Authorized enhanced federal reimbursement of certain Medicaid home and community-based services, including behavioral health services; encouraged - PDF states to invest these funds into enhancing and strengthening behavioral health services, including through temporary rate increases for behavioral health providers.
- Issued the HHS Roadmap to Health Integration, advancing a new and bold set of policy options to address the President's mental health strategy over the next two year.

Examples of HHS Overdose Prevention Accomplishments:

- Increased providers waived to prescribe buprenorphine by nearly 20% under the HHS overdose prevention strategy.
- Issued new Overdose Prevention Strategy that prioritized prevention and treatment, and for the first time, harm reduction and long term recovery. The Strategy has had demonstrated success, for example, under our strategy, we have increased access to prescription naloxone by nearly 40 percent.
- Published new CDC opioid prescribing guidelines
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) issued joint warning letters to operators of websites illegally selling Schedule II stimulants.
- For the first time, Medicare finalized new payments for person-centered, comprehensive management and treatment of chronic pain effective January 1, 2023. These aligned with HHS' National Pain Strategy, and the recommendations of its inter-agency Pain Management Task Force.
- The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) awarded 18 grants, totaling \$8.8 million, to increase well-being, improve permanency and enhance the safety of children as a result of a parent's or caregiver's opioid or other substance misuse.

Colorado 988 Lifeline

In December 2022, Colorado had an in-state answer rate of 76 percent. Calls not answered in two minutes flip to the national backup network. This is a 12 percent increase from December 2021. Between December 2021 and December 2022, there was a 26.5 percent increase in calls received

and a 50 percent increase in calls answered in-state. Colorado is one of four states that passed a surcharge on phone bills, of about 18 cents per month, to help fund 988. Colorado has received \$3.5 million for 988 lifeline. Text and chat functions are handled nationally and maintain a 98 percent response rate.

Immigration

On December 15, 2022, Denver Mayor Michael Hancock issued an emergency declaration for the city and county of Denver in response to a surge of migrants that arrived over the previous 10 days. During the influx, the mayor converted city recreation centers to temporary shelters, but announced on January 9, 2023, that the city planned to transition its recreation centers back to its intended use and began limiting migrants' stays in shelters to 14 days.

These actions came as New York City Mayor Eric Adams and Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot wrote to Governor Polis asking that the Governor stop sending asylum-seekers to the two cities. The two mayors said that since December 2022, the cities had received hundreds of individuals from Colorado. On January 9, 2023, Governor Polis announced that he would no longer send asylum-seekers to the two cities.

Title 42

On December 19, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts put a temporary hold on the termination of Title 42 that was set to end on December 21, 2022, thus keeping the order in place. The Court's brief stated that this case should be argued during the Court's February 2023 argument session.

On January 5, 2023, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced new border enforcement measures with the goal of improving border security, limiting irregular migration, and creating additional safe and orderly processes for people fleeing humanitarian crises to lawfully enter the United States. The DHS measures included new parole processes for Cubans, Haitians, and Nicaraguans, to incorporate these populations into the preexisting Venezuelan parole process. U.S.-based supporters may initiate an online application process on behalf of eligible Cuban, Haitian, Nicaraguan, and Venezuelan nationals and their immediate family members, who are outside the U.S. and lack U.S. entry documents. These individuals will be considered on a case-by-case basis for advanced authorization to travel to the United States for temporary period of parole for up to two years. We do not have Congressional authority to serve other populations.

Attachments:

1. Talking points
2. Governor Polis Biography
3. Additional HHS Actions on Behavioral Health
4. State Data
5. CMS CO Hot Issues



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Angela Ramirez, Deputy Chief of Staff
Stacy Sanders, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Meeting with Governor Albert Bryan Jr. (D-USVI)

Details

What: Meeting with Governor Albert Bryan Jr. (D-USVI)
Date: Friday, February 10, 2023
Time: 2:50 PM – 3:10 PM ET
Location: Marriott Marquis, Dahlia Boardroom on the 2nd floor
901 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001
External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Zach Kahan, IEA

Press: No

Topic:

YOU and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure will speak one-on-one with Governor Bryan at the National Governors' Association (NGA) Winter Meetings about Governor Juan F. Luis Hospital (GJLH), a hospital on St. Croix that was damaged by Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017 and which is currently operating in a temporary structure. Governor Bryan is likely to ask for CMS exceptions/waivers to the certification requirements of the "temporary" and "permanent" hospital-once built and/or make a request for additional funding. The hospital has not provided CMS with specifics on what the request may be. Beyond CMS' baseline expectation that hospitals participating in the Medicare program meet the participatory requirements (Life Safety requirements and the Conditions of Participation), CMS staff have recommended that a listen-only approach may be best.

Secretary's Role:

Listen to Governor Bryan's concerns and respond appropriately.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU
- Jessica Smith, Principal Deputy Director, IEA
- Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, IEA
- Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, IEA

Other HHS Divisions:

- Jessica Smith, Principal Deputy Director, IEA
- Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, IEA
- Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, IEA
- Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, Administrator, CMS
- Eden Tesfaye, Advisor, CMS

Other External:

- U.S. Virgin Islands Governor Albert Bryan Jr. (D)
- Teri Helenese, U.S. Virgin Islands Director, State-Federal Relations and Washington Representative

Agenda/Run of Show:

2:50 PM – 2:55 PM	Brief introduction
2:55 PM – 3:05 PM	Discussion
3:05 PM – 3:10 PM	Wrap up

Background:

Governor Bryan requested a meeting with YOU during the NGA Friday session.

Governor Juan F Luis Hospital & Medical Center (GJLH) is one of two Medicare certified hospitals in the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI). The hospital was damaged in September 2017 by Hurricane Maria. Afterward, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) agreed to fund a complete rebuild over three phases:

- **Phase One** (2018-2023): A temporary structure housing all the hospital's operations will be built in parking lot of the hospital GJLH CEO Doug Koch provided a timeline of completion of this phase to be the end of January 2023, following which CMS intends to conduct a Medicare survey of the temporary structure.

- **Phase Two (2023-2028):** Demolish old permanent structure, build new permanent structure in same location and move all operations to new permanent structure. This phase is expected to be completed five years from completion of phase one.
- **Phase Three (2028):** Demolish temporary structure.

GJLH may be trying to receive exceptions/waivers to the certification requirements of the “temporary” and “permanent” hospital-once built and/or make a request for additional funding. The Northeast Survey and Enforcement Division (NED), a part of CMS/Center for Clinical Standards and Quality (CCSQ)/Survey Operations Group (SOG), is in regular communication with the hospital and GJLH has not provided us with any details as to what they may try to request.

42 C.F.R. 482.41(b)(2) permits the Secretary, “in consideration of a recommendation by the State survey agency or Accrediting Organization or at the discretion of the Secretary [to] waive, for periods deemed appropriate, specific provisions of the Life Safety Code, which would result in unreasonable hardship upon a hospital, but only if the waiver will not adversely affect the health and safety of the patients.”

Prior to the hurricane, GJLH had a history of noncompliance with the Conditions of Participation for Hospitals and with Life Safety Code requirements. Following the Hurricane, CMS Surveyors found GJLH to have deficiencies in many of the same areas, including physical environment, governing body, maintaining adequate supplies and ensuring qualified and appropriately trained staff were providing services. The U.S. Virgin Islands does not have a State Survey Agency. Instead, it has an agreement with CMS to perform surveys and certification actions in place of a State Survey Agency.

GJLH’s in-center End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) was condemned following the 2017 Hurricane. The ESRD moved to two trailers, initially supplied by Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), for approximately two years and the ESRD was then certified as an Special Purpose Renal Dialysis Facility (SPRDF). This continued flexibility has remained in place in part because there is only one other ESRD facility on the island – Caribbean Kidney Center (CKC), which is not affiliated with GJLH.

NED is in regular communication with GJLH and has informed GJLH that they must meet the participatory requirements, even in this “temporary” structure, to ensure safety and well-being of the patients. NED has asked GJLH to notify them once they move all services over to the “temporary” hospital and to let us know when the “old” hospital is closed. At that point, CMS will conduct a certification survey to ensure that there are no safety concerns.

According to the timeline provided by GJLH – CMS does expect that the temporary hospital will be operational for inpatients on March 25, 2023. This was the date GJLH provided. CMS expects that shortly thereafter the “old” hospital will be closed completely (no inpatients or services being provided at that location).

Medicaid Coverage Unwinding

Key Messages:

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2023 includes new conditions that states and territories will have to comply with for public health emergency (PHE) Unwinding in order to qualify for enhanced federal funding (FMAP)
- All states and territories must comply with requirements for completing renewals and can leverage a variety of CMS strategies to support this work
- Importantly, states need to improve how they contact beneficiaries in order to reduce procedural terminations. There are multiple strategies for this, including:
 - Collecting updated beneficiary contact information ahead of performing redeterminations
 - Employing multiple outreach modalities (e.g., phone, email, texting) to contact beneficiaries for whom the state/territory receives returned mail
- CMS is meeting with every state and territory to evaluate their compliance with meeting the Unwinding requirements necessary to receive temporary enhanced FMAP
- States and territories will need to implement meaningful mitigation strategies in order to receive enhanced FMAP. CMS is readily available to support these efforts.

U.S. Virgin Islands Specific:

Has significant operational and systems challenges that will be difficult to overcome, including severe staffing shortages. CMS is collaborating with the territory to support compliance efforts.

Attachments:

1. Governor Bryan Biography
2. Territory Information
3. CMS USVI Hot Topics



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 7, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
Rachel Pryor, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs (IEA)
Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, IEA
Zach Kahan, Special Assistant, IEA

SUBJECT: Meeting with Governor Josh Green (D-HI)

Details

What: Meeting with Governor Josh Green (D-HI)
Date: February 11, 2023
Time: TBD – Pull Aside after Western Governors’ Association (WGA)
Location: Marriott Marquis, Magnolia Room
901 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001
External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Zach Kahan, IEA

Press: No

Topic:

Governor Green requested a meeting with YOU following the WGA breakfast.

Secretary’s Role:

To develop a relationship and discuss mutual priorities of interest.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU

Other HHS Divisions:

- Jessica Smith, Principal Deputy Director, IEA
- Lee Stevens, Senior Advisor to the Director, IEA

Other External:

- Hawaii Governor Josh Green (D)
- Cameron Deptula, Special Assistant, Office of Governor Josh Green

Agenda/Run of Show:

8:00 – 10:00 AM	YOU participate in WGA Breakfast
10:00 – 10:20 AM	YOU and Governor Green meet

Background:

Governor Green was inaugurated on December 5, 2022. The Governor won election with 63 percent of the vote, beating Republican challenger, Duke Aiona (37 percent).

In the Governor's 2023 State of the State address, he said that housing, homelessness, and mental health would be high priority items and that his budget would reflect those priorities.

Medicaid Coverage Unwinding*Key Messages:*

- The Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2023 includes new conditions that states, and territories will have to comply with for public health emergency (PHE) Unwinding in order to qualify for enhanced federal funding (FMAP)
- All states and territories must comply with requirements for completing renewals and can leverage a variety of CMS strategies to support this work
- Importantly, states need to improve how they contact beneficiaries in order to reduce procedural terminations. There are multiple strategies for this, including:
 - Collecting updated beneficiary contact information ahead of performing redeterminations
 - Employing multiple outreach modalities (e.g., phone, email, texting) to contact beneficiaries for whom the state/territory receives returned mail
- CMS is meeting with every state and territory to evaluate their compliance with meeting the Unwinding requirements necessary to receive temporary enhanced FMAP
- States and territories will need to implement meaningful mitigation strategies in order to receive enhanced FMAP. CMS is readily available to support these efforts.

Homelessness:*Hawaii Actions on Homelessness*

Governor Green signed an emergency proclamation on January 23, 2023, that aims to streamline the construction process for housing, removing unnecessary red tape, and enables community partners to tackle homelessness and the housing shortage head-on.

HHS Actions on Homelessness and Social Determinants of Health

In December 2021, HHS and Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the expansion of a joint partnership to improve access to affordable, accessible housing and the critical services that make community living possible. The partners also announced the launch of a national Housing and Services Resource Center (HSRC) as the hub of this coordinated federal effort. HSRC is housed within HHS' Administration for Community Living (ACL) and was created for people who work in the organizations and systems that provide housing resources and homelessness services, behavioral and mental health services, independent living services and other supportive services, and others who are working to help people live successfully and stably in the community. HSRC's goal is to make community living a reality for all. This partnership between HHS and HUD will expand accessible, affordable housing; help people exit homelessness; improve home and community-based services; and address the institutional bias in America's long-term care system.

The December 2021 announcement built on President Biden's Executive Order establishing a government-wide commitment to advancing equity, including for people with disabilities.

Last November, ASPE, in collaboration with other HHS agencies, briefed YOU on specific HHS housing-related activities to inform the HHS Social Determinants of Health Action Plan. The presentation highlighted select activities including:

- The homelessness prevention strategy for the Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness (ASPE coordinated with ACF, CMS, SAMHSA, ACL, and HRSA).
- The Housing First and Domestic Violence Demonstration (ASPE and Department of Justice [DOJ] evaluation), a technical assistance initiative to address the housing needs of survivors fleeing domestic violence, an effort coordinated by ACF, DOJ, and HUD.
- In December 2022, the Biden-Harris Administration and USICH announced the All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness that has the goal of reducing homelessness 25 percent by 2025. YOU serve as a vice chair of USICH. USICH will host webinars in 2023, to help partners and communities use this plan to develop local and systems-levels plans to prevent and end homelessness, set state and local goals to reduce homelessness by 2025, hold the federal government accountable, and learn more about federal programs, strategies, and actions to prevent and end homelessness.

HHS Actions on Homelessness and Social Determinants of Health

HHS has outlined the homelessness prevention strategy for the Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, the Housing First and Domestic Violence Demonstration, a technical assistance initiative to address the housing needs of survivors fleeing domestic violence, and the Housing and Services Resource Center project.

The Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) Working Group published the HHS SDOH Action Plan in April 2022, and includes more than 90 action steps from across HHS.

In April, HHS released its Equity Action Plan to advance equity in the delivery of health and human services. The plan – which is a response to Executive Order 13985 that President Biden signed at the beginning of his term – details some of the ways HHS is building on equity work already underway and is part of the Administration's push to ensure that government works better for all. HHS' plan specifically focuses on a main tenet of the executive order, that advancing equity must be a central component of the decision-making framework that all agency functions are routed through (e.g., grants, acquisitions, capacity building).

HHS Actions on Mental and Behavioral Health: Impact on Hawaii

Hawaii has received the following funds for Project Aware and the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) Programs, all part of the President's budget that received support in the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act:

- Project Aware: \$1.8 million
- CCBHC Programs: \$999,857

Examples of HHS Mental Health Accomplishments:

- Issued Medicaid guidance strengthening mental health benefit entitlements for children in Medicaid;
- Issued new Medicaid mobile crisis option;
- Issued two toolkits at the Secretary level, and a new Medicaid guidance, to expand access to school-based health services to expand mental health in schools;
- Issued unprecedented funding increases to decrease mental health stigma and train community members -in mental health issues via the Project Aware and Mental Health Awareness Training Programs;
- Launched the 988 nationwide suicide prevention lifeline, including a nationwide text and chat function.
- Awarded more than \$1 billion in National Health Service Corps, Nurse Corps, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program, achieving the largest field strength in history for these loan repayment and scholarship programs, with more than 11,900 members working in behavioral health disciplines.
- Awarded \$103 million to 45 health care organizations to reduce health care provider burnout and support health care workers' mental health and wellness.
- Announced the availability of \$226.5 million to launch the Community Health Worker (CHW) Training Program, which will increase the number of CHWs who play a critical role in connecting people to care, including mental health and substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services.
- Authorized enhanced federal reimbursement of certain Medicaid home and community-based services, including behavioral health services; encouraged - PDF states to invest these funds into enhancing and strengthening behavioral health services, including through temporary rate increases for behavioral health providers.
- Issued the HHS Roadmap to Health Integration, advancing a new and bold set of policy options to address the President's mental health strategy over the next two year.

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK

for

HHS SECRETARY

XAVIER BECERRA



Thursday, February 16, 2023

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Weekly FDA Check In.....page 6

- *Memo previewed on February 10; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Slide Deck*

HHS Cybersecurity Updatepage 16

- *Memo previewed on February 15; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Slide deck*

Update on Pandemic Accord Negotiationspage 21

- *Memo previewed on February 14; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Zero Draft Key Topic Areas*
 - *INB Zero Draft*
 - *INB Key Dates*
 - *Slide Deck*

Office of Global Affairs (OGA) 2023 Look Ahead.....page 33

- *Memo previewed on February 14; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *OGA 2023 Calendar*
 - *OGA 2022 Summary of Accomplishment*

Weekly UC Core Meeting.....page 42

- *Standing memo; No updates*

Principals Committee (PC) Meeting on COVID-19 Response.....page 44

- *New memo*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Talking points*
 - *YOUR letter to Governors regarding the end of the PHE*
 - *COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Transition Roadmap*

Nominations for Appointments for Boards and Commissionspage 51

- *New memo*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Slide Deck*
 - *Decision memos (Attachments 2-12)*

Weekly with Dr. Jha.....page 57

- *Standing memo; No updates*

LOOK AHEAD:

2/17 - JYNNEOS Vaccine Commercialization.....page 57

- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*

2/17 - Marburg Medical Countermeasures.....page 61

- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*

2/21 – Weekly Check-in with FDApage 61

- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*



Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule

Thursday, February 16th, 2023

9:00am – 9:30am ET	RADIO INTERVIEW WITH BISHOP GABRIEL SALGUERO
9:30am – 10:00am ET	APPROPRIATIONS CALL WITH REP. CHELLIE PINGREE
10:00am – 10:30am ET	DESK TIME
10:30am – 11:00am ET	WEEKLY UC CORE
11:00am – 11:30am ET	WHITE HOUSE LIASION BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS UPDATE
11:30am – 12:00pm ET	WEEKLY FDA CHECK-IN
12:00pm – 12:30pm ET	LUNCH
12:30pm – 1:00pm ET	HHS CYBERSECURITY UPDATE
1:00pm – 1:30pm ET	LH BRIEFING
1:30pm – 2:00pm ET	PANDEMIC NEGOTIATION BRIEFING

2:00pm – 2:30pm ET	DESK TIME
2:30pm – 3:00pm ET	OGA YEAR LOOK AHEAD BRIEFING
3:00pm – 4:00pm ET	DESK TIME/PERSONAL
4:00pm – 5:00pm ET	COVID PRINCIPALS COMMITTEE MEETING

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK

for

HHS SECRETARY

XAVIER BECERRA



Monday, February 27, 2023

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Weekly COVID-19 Senior Leadership Meetingpage 5

- *Standing memo; No updates*

Urban League Senior Center Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Eventpage 7

- *Memo previewed on February 24; Updated with participants, talking points*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Talking Points*
 - *Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants*
 - *Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act*

Ballmer Institute Youth Mental Health Event.....page 20

- *Memo previewed on February 24; Updated with participants, talking points*
- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Talking points*
 - *Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants*

LOOK AHEAD:

Family First Five Year Celebration.....page 42

- *Memo consists of:*
 - *Cover memo*
 - *Talking Points*
 - *Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants*
 - *Full Agenda*



Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule

Monday, February 27th, 2023

7:00am - 7:30am PT	DEPART RON FOR SMF
7:30am – 7:45am PT	ARRIVE SMF
8:30am – 10:05am PT	TRAVEL: SMF TO PDX
10:30am – 11:00am PT	BIWEEKLY SENIOR COVID ADVISORS / SECRETARY BECERRA
10:30am – 11:00am PT	DEPART PDX FOR SITE 1
11:30am – 12:45pm PT	SITE 1 - URBAN LEAGUE SENIOR CENTER INFLATION REDUCTION ACT (IRA) EVENT
12:45pm – 1:15pm PT	DEPART SITE 1 FOR LUNCH
1:15pm – 2:00pm PT	LUNCH
2:00pm – 2:30pm PT	DEPART LUNCH FOR SITE 2
2:30pm – 4:00pm PT	SITE 2 - BALLMER INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH EVENT

4:00pm – 4:30pm PT DEPART SITE 2 FOR RON

4:30pm – 5:00pm PT ARRIVE AT RON



5

- Steve Cha, Counselor to the Secretary
- Kim Miller-Tolbert, Policy Advisor

Other HHS Divisions:

- Dawn O'Connell, Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
- Dr. Rochelle Walensky, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director
- Dr. Rob Califf, Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- Admiral Rachel Levine, Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH)
- Dr. Vivek Murthy, U.S. Surgeon General

Agenda:

- I. Introductions
- II. State of the Pandemic – Dr. Walensky
- III. Updates on Work for Week Ahead
- IV. Discussion: Thorny Issues/Concerns – ALL



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 22, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff
Stacy Sanders, Counselor to the Secretary

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Adeola Adesina, Senior Advisor to the Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Urban League Senior Center Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Event

Details

What: Urban League Multicultural Senior Center Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Event

Date: February 27, 2023

Time: 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM PT

Location: Urban League Senior Center, Address: 5325 NE MLK Drive, Portland, OR 97211

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Adeola Adesina (IEA)

Press: Yes

Topics:

Inflation Reduction Act, focused on:

- \$35 cap on each Medicare-covered insulin
- Free preventive vaccines under Medicare Part D
- Manufacturers must pay rebates if their price increases exceed inflation
- Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices for the first time

Objective:

To highlight Inflation Reduction Act provisions.

Secretary's Role:

YOU will participate in a roundtable discussion and press availability.

Acknowledgements:

- Thank Urban League Senior Center for hosting YOU at their center.
- Thank AARP and the American Diabetes Association for their work to get IRA across the finish line.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU
- Ben Scott, Deputy Director of Advance
- Alex Rosenberg, Scheduler

Other HHS Divisions:

- Jess Smith, Deputy Director, IEA
- Sharon Turner, Director, Region 10, IEA (*roundtable*)
- Priya (**Pr-ee-y-ah**) Helweg, Executive Officer, Region 10, IEA
- Adrian Eng-Gastelum, Senior Advisor, ASPA

WH/USG Participants:

- Lisa Rockower, State Director, Senator Wyden (D-OR) (*attending*)
- Grace Stratton, Field Representative, Senator Wyden (D-OR) (*attending*)

Other External Participants:

- Arleta (**Are-let-a**) Christian, Senior Director of Health & Older Adult Services, Urban League Senior Center (*greeter*)
- David Lomax (**Low-max**), Manager, Meals on Wheels
- Kashea (**Key-shay**) Kilson-Anderson, Activity Coordinator, Urban League Senior Center (*moderator*)
- J. Michael Schultz (**Sh-uul-ts**), State Volunteer President, AARP Oregon (*roundtable*)
- *American Diabetes Association (invited)*
- Kristi Veis (**Vice**), PharmD, RPh, Vice President of Pharmacy, Hi-School Pharmacy (*roundtable*)
- Eric Wiser, MD, FAAFP, Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine, Oregon Health & Science University (*roundtable*)
- Thelma Diggs, Senior (*roundtable*)
- Hazel Lockett, Diabetic Senior (*roundtable*)
- Alfreida (**Al-free-da**) Nelson, Diabetic Senior (*roundtable*)
- Carmen “Michelle” Allen, Senior (*roundtable*)
- Pennie Sims, Diabetic Senior (*roundtable*)
- Stacy Larsen, Associate State Director of Communications, AARP Oregon (*attending*)
- Nakeshia (**Nah-key-she-a**) Knight-Cole, Director, Office of Aging and People with Disabilities, Oregon Department of Human Services (*attending*)
- Edward M. Saito, PharmD, BCACP, Associate Professor, PGY2 Residency Program Director, School of Pharmacy, Pacific University (*attending*)
- Philip Bentley, J.D., President and CEO, Oregon Health Care Association (*attending*)

Agenda/Run of Show:

11:30am	YOU arrive at Urban League Senior Center
11:30 – 11:35am	Welcome - <i>YOU will be greeted by Arleta Christian and Dave Lomax</i>
11:35 – 11:37am	YOU transition to roundtable with additional stakeholders
11:37am – 12:30pm	YOU participate in roundtable discussion - <i>Kashea Kilson-Anderson will introduce YOU and participants (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>YOU give opening remarks (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>Kashea moderates conversation (41 minutes)</i>
12:30 – 12:45pm	YOU participate in press availability
12:45pm	YOU depart

Background:

Urban League Senior Center

The Urban League of Portland provides one of the only African-American culturally specific senior service programs in the state of Oregon, as in addition to serving a diverse range of seniors aged 60 and older. They provide or connect seniors with services that allow them to remain safely in their homes and communities. Their services in North/North East Portland include over the phone (OPI) Services, community resources, and a Multicultural Senior Center, which in addition to many activities, also provides some health care and preventative services including blood pressure checks, t'ai chi, and a visiting foot care clinic each month (the clinic is \$30).

These are services that Urban League Senior Center provides:

- Options Counseling; Health Issues Assistance; Minor Home Repairs; Transportation; Activities; Referrals to Meals on Wheels; Housing; Senior Law; Senior Health Insurance Benefit Assistance (SHIBA); Medical Equipment; Oregon Project Independence services including: Personal Care, Light Housekeeping.

Please note: Urban League Senior Center is the only Black senior center in the state of Oregon.

Attachments

1. Talking Points
2. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants
3. Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: February 22, 2023

TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra

THROUGH: Sean McCluskie, Chief of Staff

FROM: Marvin Figueroa, Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs
Adeola Adesina, Senior Advisor to the Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs

SUBJECT: Ballmer Institute Youth Mental Health Event

Details

What: Ballmer Institute Youth Mental Health Event

Date: February 27, 2023

Time: 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM PT

Location: Faubion (Fah-be-en) School, 2930 NE Dekum St, Portland, OR 97211

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Adeola Adesina (IEA)

Press: Yes

Topic:

Youth mental health.

Objective:

To uplift investments by HHS on mental health and the transition to 9-8-8.

Secretary's Role:

YOU will participate in a facility tour, roundtable discussion, and press availability.

Acknowledgements:

- Thank the Faubion (Fah-be-en) School for hosting YOU at their school to discuss youth mental health.
- Thank University of Oregon and Ballmer Institute for their investments in behavioral health.
- Thank Governor Kotek and First Lady for joining YOU today.

List of Participants:

IOS:

- YOU
- Ben Scott, Deputy Director of Advance
- Alex Rosenburg, Scheduler

Other HHS Divisions:

- Jess Smith, Deputy Director, IEA
- Sharon Turner, Director, Region 10, IEA (*roundtable*)
- Priya (Pr-ee-y-ah) Helweg, Executive Officer, Region 10, IEA
- Adrian Eng-Gastelum, Senior Advisor, ASPA
- David Dickinson, Regional Administrator, Region 10, SAMHSA

WH/USG Participants:

- Lisa Rockower, State Director, Senator Wyden (D-OR) (*attending*)
- Grace Stratton, Field Representative, Senator Wyden (D-OR) (*attending*)

External Participants:

- Tina Kotek (**Co-tek**), Governor, Oregon (*tour, roundtable*)
- Aimee Kotek (**Co-tek**) Wilson, First Lady, Oregon (*tour*)
- Jessica Vega Pederson, Multnomah County Chair (*tour, roundtable*)
- Guadalupe Guerrero, Superintendent, Portland Public Schools (*greeter, tour*)
- Dr. Karmin (**Car-men**) Williams, Principal, Faubion PK-8 School (*greeter, tour*)
- Andrew Scott, Chair, Portland Public School Board (*greeter, tour*)
- Gary Hollands, Vice Chair, Portland Public School Board (*greeter, tour*)
- Herman Greene, Director, Portland Public School Board (*greeter, tour*)
- Jey (**Jay**) Buno (**Boo-no**), Chief, Student Support Services, Portland Public Schools (*greeter, tour*)
- Jonathan Garcia, Chief of Staff, Portland Public Schools (*greeter, tour*)
- Dr. Randy Kamphaus (**CAMP-House**), Acting Executive Director, Ballmer Institute, Professor (*greeter, tour*)
 - YOU met Dr. Kamphaus on YOUR last visit to Portland Lines for Life and Portland Community College
- (b)(6) 12th Grade Student, Cleveland High School, Student Representative on the PPS School Board, (*roundtable*)
- (b)(6) 8th Grade Student, Faubion PK-8 School (*roundtable*)
- Ana (**A-nuh**) Hernandez, Doctoral Candidate and Ballmer Institute Graduate Employee, University of Oregon (*roundtable*)
 - Note: Ana uses the English pronunciation of her name professionally. With Spanish speakers and friends and family, she uses the Spanish pronunciation.
- (b)(6) Student Representative, Lines for Life Youth Line (*roundtable*)
- (b)(6) Student Representative, Lines for Life Youth Line (*alternate for roundtable*)
- (b)(6) Team Lead, Youth Line (*moderator*)

- (b)(6), Student Representative, Lines for Life Youth Line
*(roundtable) *from Indian County*
- Betsy Boyd, Associate Vice President of Federal Affairs, University of Oregon
(alternate)
- Karen Werstein (**WERE-steen**), Strategic Communications Director, Ballmer Institute for Children's Behavioral Health, University of Oregon
- Courtney Westling (**WEST-ling**), Senior Director of Public Affairs and Community Engagement, Ballmer Institute for Children's Behavioral Health, University of Oregon
- Freddie Mack, Senior Director of Communications, Portland Public Schools
- Dwight Holton, CEO, Lines for Life
- Angie Nielsen, Assistant Director Operations, Youth Line
- Sonya Stone, Assistant Director for Outreach, Youth Line
- James M. Schroeder (**Shrow-dr**), PA-C, MPAS, Interim Director, Oregon Health Authority
- Nickolaus Lewis, Chairman, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
- Michelle Singer, Project Manager, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
- Candace Jimenez, Health Policy Analyst, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board

Agenda/Run of Show:

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 2:30pm | YOU and Governor arrive at Faubion School |
| 2:30 – 2:35pm | <p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>YOU and Governor are greeted by Superintendent Guadalupe Guerrero, Principal Williams, Jey Buno, Dr. Randy Kamphaus, Chair Andrew Scott, Vice Chair Gary Hollands, Director Herman Greene, and Jonathan Garcia</i> |
| 2:35 – 2:50pm | <p>YOU and Governor participate in tour of the school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Principal Williams leads the tour</i> - <i>Superintendent Guerrero, Mr. Buno, Dr. Kamphaus, Chair Scott, Vice Chair Hollands, Director Greene, County Chair Pederson, First Lady, and Mr. Garcia to join</i> - <i>Tour of PreK and Kindergarten classrooms, library, and STEM class</i> |
| 2:50 – 2:53pm | YOU and Governor transition to roundtable |
| 2:53 – 3:45pm | <p>YOU and Governor participate in roundtable discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Superintendent Guerrero will introduce Secretary, Governor, County Chair, and participants (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>YOU give opening remarks (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>Governor gives remarks (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>County Chair gives remarks (2-3 minutes)</i> - <i>Genevieve moderates conversation (40-44 minutes)</i> |
| 3:45 – 4:00pm | YOU and Governor participate in press availability |

Background:

The Ballmer Institute for Children's Behavioral Health

The Ballmer Institute for Children's Behavioral Health at the University of Oregon, based in Portland, Oregon, establishes a new national model for behavioral and mental health care.

The Vision of the Ballmer Institute

- This initiative was announced on March 1, 2022, and made possible by the extraordinary gift of more than \$425 million from Connie and Steve Ballmer, co-founders of Ballmer Group Philanthropy.
- The Institute will serve youth K-12 while prioritizing the needs of children, adolescents, and families who have been persistently and/or historically underserved.
- The Ballmer Institute is creating a new workforce and undergraduate program to address the behavioral and mental health needs of children and adolescents and aims for this model to be replicated throughout other states across the country.

The Mission of Research, Training, Public Impact, and Connection to the Community

- The Ballmer Institute serves the University of Oregon's mission of research, training, and public impact, and transforms the Pacific Northwest into a national model of thought and action to address challenges in children's behavioral health.
- Being in true partnership with the community is paramount to the success of the Ballmer Institute. As part of the curriculum design process, Portland area institutions, culturally specific organizations, and community groups, were invited to share their expertise and input on children's behavioral health with our faculty. This field-expertise is woven throughout our curriculum, and we are continuing to build out formal mechanisms for community engagement.
- Ballmer Institute researchers will develop new technologies, products, and services through rigorous research efforts that ensure behavioral health and wellness programs work for all children and adolescents, including those from historically or persistently underserved communities.
- Ten new tenure-related faculty are being hired to provide national and international leadership in child behavioral health practice, research and development.
- Capitalizing on the synergies between workforce development and service delivery, new products will be studied thoroughly and disseminated quickly to respond to the urgent needs of children, adolescents, their families, and communities.

Child Behavioral Health Specialists

- The Ballmer Institute is creating a workforce solution to the challenge of meeting the behavioral health needs of children and youth – a next-generation workforce of new bachelor's level practitioners, the child behavioral health specialist.
- Child behavioral health specialists will implement prevention and promotion practices in schools and health care settings. Students showing evidence of emerging behavioral health challenges on screening measures, or elevated risk, will receive prevention services when they are most effective, and least expensive – when children's challenges are mild.

- Child behavioral health specialists will provide group and individual preventive interventions to help children and adolescents reduce their risk for developing a mental health disorder.

The Child Behavioral Health Undergraduate Degree Program

- The undergraduate program, to be launched in the fall of 2023, will support student access with a \$100 Million scholarship endowment provided by Connie and Steve Ballmer.
- Child behavioral health specialists will be prepared to enter the workforce immediately upon graduation having accumulated over 700 hours of applied training in evidence-based behavioral health promotion, prevention, and intervention practices.
- The Ballmer Institute will also expand fair and full access to promotion and prevention services in partner schools. Fifteen highly trained clinical professor faculty are being hired to design, deliver, and supervise child behavioral health trainees in schools.

The Three-course Graduate Level Credential Program for Educators

- Responding to the request by educators for new techniques and tools for meeting the urgent behavioral health promotion needs of their students, a three-course graduate level credential program for K-12 educators was launched this fall, 2022 with over 90 teachers enrolled from 15 school districts in Oregon and Washington.

Portland Public Schools

Portland Public Schools, founded in 1851, is Oregon’s largest PK-12 school district, preparing students to “lead change, and improve the world.” With more than 43,000 students in 81 schools, PPS strives to ensure academic excellence and personal success for every student, especially our Black, Native American, students of color and/or with disabilities. Central to this goal is affirming and operationalizing our deeply held community value of racial equity, social justice and inclusion

HHS Actions on Youth Mental Health

On January 9, 2023, HHS awarded nearly \$245 million in Bipartisan Safer Communities Act funding – \$185.7 million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and nearly \$60 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) – to support youth mental health, help the health care workforce address mental health needs, and fund other critical mental health supports.

Medicaid

In August, Medicaid issued new guidance to make it easier for schools to leverage Medicaid funding to provide more health services to children in schools and hire new mental health workforce. By June, Medicaid and the Department of Education will launch a new Medicaid School-Based Health Services Technical Assistance Center. Medicaid also issued guidance strengthening requirements for mental health benefits for children in Medicaid in August. Finally, Medicaid issued proposed rulemaking mandating quality reporting for behavioral health in Medicaid for all children and adults.

SAMHSA

Specific program awards from SAMHSA through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act have included:

1. \$73.6 million for Project Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education (Project AWARE) to help develop and support school-based mental health programs and services;
2. \$57.7 million in Mental Health Awareness Training grants to prepare and train school personnel, emergency first responders, law enforcement and others to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental health challenges to enable early intervention;
3. \$14.9 million for School Based Trauma-Informed Support Services and Mental Health Care for Children and Youth to increase student access to evidence-based and culturally relevant trauma support services and mental health care;
4. \$19.5 million for the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative, to improve treatment and services for children, adolescents, and families who have experienced traumatic events; and,
5. \$20 million in Resiliency in Communities after Stress and Trauma grants to promote resilience and equity and prevent violence in communities that have recently faced civil unrest, community violence, and/or collective trauma.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The CDC often provides technical assistance for prevention through their Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) injury center. CDC's goal is to create the conditions for strong, thriving families and communities where children and youth are free from harm and preventing, identifying, and responding to ACEs at the community, state, and national level so that all people can achieve lifelong health and wellbeing.

Surgeon General

Protecting youth mental health is a top priority for Surgeon General Vivek Murthy. In 2021, Surgeon General Murthy wrote an Advisory entitled "[Protecting Youth Mental Health](#)" that highlighted actions that family, community leaders, schools, and organizations can take. Some of the key actions listed for what educators, school staff, and school districts can do include: providing a continuum of supports to meet student mental health needs, including evidence-based prevention practices and trauma-informed mental health care; protecting and prioritizing students with higher needs and those at higher risk of mental health challenges including those who have an ACES; and learning how to recognize signs of changes in mental and physical health among students, including trauma and behavior changes.

Immediate Mental Health Disaster Response Supports Available

SAMHSA has several programs that can support a state if needed in the event of a trauma disaster, like a shooting. SAMHSA works with ASPR and is generally lead on our emergency mental health coordination. We have a Mental Health disaster coordinator on staff at SAMHSA, who works with a state's Mental Health Disaster Coordinator. This individual typically reports to the state's mental health commissioner.

SAMHSA specific efforts are funded/ performed by National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative, or network (NCTSI). This program is the principal source of child trauma training and information for the nation. Through this initiative, a collaborative network of experts was created

to further the development and dissemination of evidence-based clinical interventions for systems that serve children, adolescents, and families.

The NCTSI comprises three types of centers. The National Center for Child Traumatic Stress develops and maintains a collaborative network structure, supports resource development and dissemination, and coordinates national child trauma education and training efforts. The Treatment and Service Adaptation (TSA) Centers provide national expertise for specific types of traumatic events, population groups and service systems. The Community Treatment and Service Centers collaborate with the TSA Centers to develop, advance or adapt interventions to improve engagement and outcomes for traumatized youth. Recipients of this third category of grant awards provide:

- Outreach and other engagement strategies to increase participation in, and access to: trauma treatment and services; and prevention services for children and adolescents (and their families) who have experienced traumatic events, including natural and technological human-caused disasters.
- Direct, evidence-based, mental disorder treatment and services, including screening, assessment, care management, therapy and prevention for diverse and at-risk children and adolescents. Treatment must be provided in outpatient, day treatment (including outreach-based services) or intensive outpatient, homebased, or residential programs.
- Services to populations of child-serving service systems, such as child welfare, child protective services, law enforcement and courts, and the juvenile justice system, on trauma-informed practices using grantee expertise or network resources at the local, regional or state levels.

Funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) supports the [Disaster Distress Helpline](#), a national helpline dedicated to providing year-round disaster crisis counseling. This 24/7 toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to residents in the United States and its territories who are experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters, including incidents of mass violence. Call or text the hotline at 800-985-5990. Additional resources and guidance on how to address community needs after incidents of mass violence is also provided online through [SAMHSA](#). SAMHSA funding also supports the 988 [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#), a national network of local crisis centers that provides 24/7, free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress anywhere in the United States.

FEMA also offers mental health crisis (CCP) grants that are unlocked if the President declares a national emergency and SAMHSA administers these funds--but no national emergency has been declared in this instance. SAMHSA also has “SERG” grants for this purpose that can provide immediate support. A state can request \$50,000 immediately in the first ten days and has up to 90 days to request SERG mental health dollars unlimited to what we have on hand.

Attachments:

1. Talking Points
2. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants