

# DAILY BRIEFING BOOK

*for*

HHS SECRETARY

XAVIER BECERRA



Monday  
10/18/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

# Monday, October 18, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

<u><a href="#">Overview of Today's Schedule</a></u>	.....	page 5
<u><a href="#">Meeting with New York Presbyterian Hospital</a></u>	.....	page 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>New memo</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (BHCC) – Meeting with Overdose Prevention and Suicide Prevention and Crisis Care Subcommittees</a></u>	.....	page 16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 13<sup>th</sup>; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Slide deck</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Follow-Up Call with Senator Robert Menendez (D-NY)</a></u>	.....	page 27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>New memo</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Biography</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Weekly COVID-19 Senior Leadership Meeting</a></u>	.....	page 32
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Standing memo; No updates</i></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Meeting with Administrator Milgram (DEA)</a></u>	.....	page 34
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 13<sup>th</sup>; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Biography</i></li></ul></li></ul>		

National Academy of Medicine (NAM) Annual Meeting.....page 39

- *Memo previewed on October 13<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biographies*
  - *Full run of show (for reference)*
  - *NAM Grant Challenge on Human Health and Climate Change (for reference)*
  - *Talking Points*

Democratic Women's Caucus (DWC) Meeting.....page 58

- *Memo previewed on October 13<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biographies for DWC Leadership*
  - *List of DWC Members with Committees of Jurisdiction Assignments*

UC CORE Meeting.....page 78

- *Standing memo; No updates*

**PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD:**

**10/19: Call with Congresswoman Norma Torres (CA-35)**.....page 80

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

**10/19: Bilateral Meeting with Minister Budi of Indonesia**.....page 84

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *U.S. Government/HHS-Indonesia Activities*
  - *Talking Points*
  - *Key Biographies*

**10/20: Breakfast with Four Corners: House and Senate Labor-HHS Appropriations Committee Chairs and Ranking Members.....page 93**

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

**10/20: Maternal Health Roundtable.....page 100**

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Participant Biographies*
  - *Organizational Participants' Recent Engagements and Highlights*

**10/20: Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) Check-In Meeting.....page 112**

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

**10/21: Overdose Prevention Strategy (OPS) / Opioid Public Health Emergency (PHE) Briefing.....page 119**

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Slide Deck*
  - *PHE Decision Memo and Appendices*
  - *Draft OPS Rollout Plan*



**Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule**

**Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**9:00am – 9:30am ET      PREPARATION FOR DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CAUCUS (DWC) MEETING AND MEMBER CALLS**

Location: Conference call

Participants: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Rose Sullivan (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Lauren Jee (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL), and Kelsey Mellette (Special Assistant, ASL)

**9:30am – 10:00am ET      MEETING WITH THE NEW YORK PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Mike Breslin (Chief Financial Officer) and Laura Aronson (Partner, Mehlman Castagnetti Rosen & Thomas)

Staff: Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Carrie Pugh (Director, External Affairs), Diana Espinosa (Acting Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration [HRSA]), and Jordan Grossman (Chief of Staff, HRSA)

**10:00am – 10:30am ET      BREAK**

**10:30am – 11:00am ET**

**UC CORE MEETING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Kate Wolff (Counselor to the Secretary), Andrés Argüello (Policy Advisor), Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Jorge Silva (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Paul Rodriguez (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), Norris Cochran (Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources [ASFR]), Jonathan Warsh (Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response [ASPR]), Cindy Huang (Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement [ORR]), Administration for Children and Families [ACF]), and Jose Garibay-Medrano (Special Assistant, ACF)

**11:00am – 12:00pm ET**

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COORDINATING COUNCIL (BHCC) SUBCOMMITTEE CHECK-IN**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Steven Lopez (Counselor to the Secretary), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary), Aakash Shah (White House Fellow), Dr. Rochelle Walensky (Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]; Suicide Prevention and Crisis Care [SPCC] Subcommittee Co-Chair), Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon (Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use; SSPC Subcommittee Co-Chair), Richard McKeon (Chief, Suicide Prevention Branch, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA]; SSPC Subcommittee Staff Lead), Sonia Chessen (Senior Advisor, SAMHSA), Dr. Janet Woodcock (Acting Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration [FDA]; Overdose Prevention [OP] Subcommittee Co-Chair), Marta Sokolowska (Associate Director for Controlled Substances, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, FDA; OP Subcommittee Staff Lead), Dr. Francis Collins (Director, National Institutes of Health [NIH]; OP Subcommittee Co-Chair), Wilson Compton (Deputy Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH; OP Subcommittee Staff Lead), Dr. Rachel Levine (Assistant Secretary for Health [ASH]), Sarah Boateng (Chief of Staff, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health [OASH])

<b>12:00pm – 12:30pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>12:30pm – 12:45pm ET</b>	<b>CALL WITH SENATOR BOB MENENDEZ</b>
	Location: Conference call
	Participants: Senator Bob Menendez and staff
	Staff: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Lauren Jee (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), and Kelsey Mellette (Special Assistant, ASL)
<b>12:45pm – 1:00pm ET</b>	<b>PREPARATION FOR MEETING WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA)</b>
	Location: Conference call
	Participants: Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), and Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary)
<b>1:00pm – 1:30pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>1:30pm – 2:00pm ET</b>	<b>WEEKLY COVID-19 SENIOR LEADERSHIP MEETING</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Dawn O'Connell (Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response [ASPR]), AJ Pearlman (Chief of Staff, COVID Response), Kathryn Alvarez (Senior Advisor to the ASPR), Dr. Rachel Levine (Assistant Secretary for Health [ASH]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Ian Sams (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Dr. Anthony Fauci (National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases [NIAID] Director and Chief Medical Officer), Dr. Rochelle Walensky (Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]), Dr. Janet Woodcock (Acting Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration [FDA]), Dr. Marcella Nunez Smith (Chair of the Equity Task Force), and Dr. Vivek Murthy (U.S. Surgeon General)

<b>2:00pm – 3:00pm ET</b>	<b>PRINCIPALS COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Cabinet Secretaries and Biden-Harris Administration Leadership
	Staff: UC Core Team
<b>3:00pm – 3:30pm ET</b>	<b>MEETING WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA)</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Anne Milgram (Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration) and staff
	Staff: Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary), and Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary)
<b>3:30pm – 3:40pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>3:40pm – 4:00pm ET</b>	<b>NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE (NAM) ANNUAL MEETING</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Dr. Victor Dzau (President, National Academy of Medicine [NAM]), Dr. Sue Curry (Program Chair of NAM Annual Meeting), and 1,300 registrants [expected viewership]
	Staff: Carrie Pugh (Director, External Affairs)
<b>4:00pm – 4:30pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>4:30pm – 5:00pm ET</b>	<b>DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CAUCUS (DWC) MEETING</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Members of the Democratic Women's Caucus
	Staff: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), and Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL)

# DAILY BRIEFING BOOK

*for*

HHS SECRETARY

XAVIER BECERRA



Tuesday  
10/19/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

# Tuesday, October 19, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

<u><a href="#">Overview of Today's Schedule</a></u>	.....	page 5
<u><a href="#">Call with Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA)</a></u>	.....	page 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>New memo</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Biography</i></li><li>○ <i>Senator Grassley and Warren's Letter to the FDA Acting Commissioner Regarding OTC Hearing Aids</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Bilateral Meeting with Minister Budi of Indonesia</a></u>	.....	page 15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 17th; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>U.S. Government/HHS-Indonesia Activities</i></li><li>○ <i>Talking Points</i></li><li>○ <i>Key Biographies</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Hearing Aid Announcement Press Call</a></u>	.....	page 25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>ASPA shared separately via email as well.</i></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Joint AFP/BBB/BID Cabinet Member Call</a></u>	.....	page 29
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Standing memo; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Weekly Counselors Check-In Meeting</a></u>	.....	page 35
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>New memo</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li></ul></li></ul>		

**Briefing: Status of Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**  
**Review of Premarket Tobacco Product Applications (PMTAs)**  
**for Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS)**.....page 38

- *Memo previewed on October 14th; Updated slide deck*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Slide deck (updated)*
  - *Information memo*

**Call with Representative Norma Torres**.....page 49

- *Memo previewed on October 17th; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biography*

**Medicare Payment for Physician Administration of Preventive Vaccines**.....page 54

- *Memo previewed on October 14th; Updated background section*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*

**Call with Senator Ben Lujan**.....page 57

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

**Preparation: Four Corners Member Breakfast Meeting**.....page 62

- *Memo previewed on October 17th; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biographies*

**PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD:**

10/20: [CMS Administrator Check-In](#).....page 69

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

10/20: [Oversight of Gain-of-Function Research Briefing](#).....page 70

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

10/21: [Social Determinants of Health Briefing](#).....page 77

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



**Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule**

**Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**8:45am – 9:00am ET      CALL WITH SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY**

Location: Conference call

Participants: Senator Chuck Grassley and staff

Staff: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation) and Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation)

**9:00am – 9:30am ET      BREAK**

**9:30am – 10:00am ET      MEETING WITH THE INDONESIAN MINISTER OF HEALTH**

Location: HHS 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

Participants: Budi Gunadi Sadikin (Minister of Health of Indonesia), Ida Rachmawati (Spouse of Minister Budi), Kunta Wibawa Dasa Nugraha (Secretary General of Ministry of Health of Indonesia), Iwan “Freddy” Susanto (Charge D’Affairs of the Embassy of Indonesia), Monica Ruth Nirmala (Policy Staff, Ministry of Health of Indonesia), Gilang Dony Pradana (Special Assistant, Ministry of Health of Indonesia), Raden Wirawan Kartono (Economic Section Chief, Embassy of Indonesia), and Vitronaldi (First Secretary, Embassy of Indonesia)

Staff: Ben Scott (Advance Representative), Loyce Pace (Director, Office of Global Affairs [OGA]), Colin McIff (Deputy Director, OGA), Susan Kim (Chief of Staff, OGA), Michelle McConnell (Director, Asia and the Pacific, OGA), and Bill Hawley (Indonesia Country Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC])

<b>10:00am – 10:45am ET</b>	<b>ASPA HOLD</b>  Location: HHS Studio  Participants: TBD  Staff: TBD
<b>10:45am – 11:30am</b>	<b>FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION HEARING AID ANNOUNCEMENT PRESS CALL</b>  Location: HHS Studio  Participants: Dr. Janet Woodcock (Acting Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration [FDA]) and Dr. Jeff Shuren (Director, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, FDA)  Staff: TBD
<b>11:30am – 12:30pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>12:30pm – 1:00pm ET</b>	<b>JOINT AFP/BBB/BID CABINET MEMBER CALL</b>  Location: Zoom  Participants: Secretary Miguel Cardona, Secretary Tom Vilsack, Secretary Janet Yellen, Secretary Gina Raimondo, Secretary Marty Walsh, Secretary Marcia Fudge, Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Secretary Jennifer Granholm, Brian Deese (Director of the National Economic Council), Susan Rice (Director of the Domestic Policy Council), Evan Ryan (White House Cabinet Secretary), Louisa Terrell (White House Director of Legislative Affairs), Kate Bedingfield (White House Communications Director), Kate Berner (White House Deputy Communications Director), Pili Tobar (White House Deputy Communications Director), Cecilia Rouse (Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers), Cedric Richmond (Director, White House Office of Public Engagement), Zach Butterworth (Director of Private Sector), Julie Rodriguez (Deputy Director, Office of Public Engagement), and Emmy Ruiz (Director, White House Office of Political Strategy and Outreach)  Staff: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff)

**1:00pm – 1:30pm ET**

**WEEKLY COUNSELORS CHECK-IN**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), Steven Lopez (Counselor to the Secretary), Kate Wolff (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Andres Arguello (Policy Advisor), Jessica Porras (Policy Advisor), Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), and Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA])

**1:30pm – 2:00pm ET**

**FOLLOW-UP ON TOBACCO ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS (ENDS) BRIEFING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Dan Barry (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), Lisa Barclay (Deputy General Counsel, OGC), Janet Woodcock (Acting Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration [FDA]), Julie Tierney (Acting Chief of Staff, FDA), Bret Koplow (Senior Counselor to the Commissioner, FDA), Andi Fristedt (Deputy Commissioner for Policy, Legislation, and International Affairs, FDA), Mitch Zeller (Director, Center for Tobacco Products, FDA), Michele Mital (Deputy Director, Center for Tobacco Products, FDA), Elizabeth Dickinson (Senior Deputy Associate General Counsel, FDA), David Mednick (Deputy Associate General Counsel, FDA), Wendy Vicente (Acting Deputy Associate General Counsel, FDA), and Perham Gorji (Deputy Associate General Counsel, FDA)

<b>2:00pm – 2:30pm ET</b>	<b>DAILY CHECK-IN WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY ANDREA PALM</b>
	Location: TBD
	Participants: Deputy Secretary Andrea Palm and Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff)
<b>2:30pm – 3:00pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>3:00pm – 3:15pm ET</b>	<b>CALL WITH REPRESENTATIVE NORMA TORRES</b>
	Location: Conference call
	Participants: Congresswoman Norma Torres and staff
	Staff: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), and Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL)
<b>3:15pm – 3:30pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>3:30pm – 4:00pm ET</b>	<b>MEDICARE PAYMENT FOR PHYSICIAN ADMINISTRATION OF PREVENTIVE AND COVID-19 VACCINES BRIEFING</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Jessica Porras (Policy Advisor), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), and Lauren Jee (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation)
<b>4:00pm – 4:15pm ET</b>	<b>CALL WITH SENATOR BEN LUJAN</b>
	Location: Conference call
	Participants: Senator Ben Lujan and staff
	Staff: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Rose Sullivan (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), and Kelsey Mellette (Special Assistant, ASL)

**4:15pm – 4:30pm ET      BREAK**

**4:30pm – 5:00pm ET      PREPARATION FOR FOUR CORNERS MEMBER  
BREAKFAST MEETING**

Location: Conference call

Participants: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Rose Sullivan (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Lauren Jee (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL), Kelsey Mellette (Special Assistant, ASL), and Norris Cochran (Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources [ASFR])

# DAILY BRIEFING BOOK

*for*

HHS SECRETARY

XAVIER BECERRA



Wednesday

10/20/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

<u>Overview of Today's Schedule</u>	.....	page 6
<u>Four Corners Member Breakfast Meeting</u>	.....	page 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 17<sup>th</sup>; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Biographies</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u>Live Interview with Good Morning America</u>	.....	page 18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Share separately by ASPA as well</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo with toplines</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u>Oversight of Gain of Function Research</u>	.....	page 22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 18<sup>th</sup>; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Decision memo</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u>Maternal Health Roundtable</u>	.....	page 29
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 17<sup>th</sup>; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Participant biographies</i></li><li>○ <i>Organizational participants' recent engagements and highlights</i></li><li>○ <i>Talking points</i></li></ul></li></ul>		

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
Check-In Meeting.....page 42

- *Memo previewed on October 13<sup>th</sup>; Updated slide deck*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Slide deck (Updated)*

Office for Civil Rights (OCR) Check-In Meeting.....page 58

- *Memo previewed on October 14<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Slide deck*

AFP/BBB/BID Joint Cabinet Member Call.....page 63

- *Standing memo; Updated background and talking points*

Weekly CMS Check-In Meeting.....page 68

- *Memo previewed on October 18<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*

Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information  
Technology (ONC) Check-In Meeting.....page 69

- *Memo previewed on October 17<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Slide deck*

UC CORE Meeting.....page 76

- *Standing memo; No updates*

## **PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD:**

**10/21: Meeting with DaVita Inc. CEO, Javier Rodriguez.....page 78**

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *CEO's biography*

**10/21: Meeting with Patient Rights Advocate Founder and Chairman, Cynthia Fisher.....page 85**

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biographies*
  - *Letter to you on OPPS (for reference)*
  - *Op-ed by Cynthia Fisher in Barron's and MarketWatch on the need for increased transparency (for reference)*

**10/21: G7 Health Ministers' Call.....page 115**

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

**10/21: GAO Opinion on Puerto Rico Briefing.....page 119**

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Information memo*

**10/21: Lunch with Ron Klain, White House Chief of Staff.....page 122**

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

**10/21: Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Check-In Meeting.....page 126**

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

10/22: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)  
Check-In Meeting .....page 128

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



**Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule**

**Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

<b>8:30am – 9:30am ET</b>	<b>FOUR CORNERS BREAKFAST MEETING</b>
	Location: Secretary's Large Conference Room
	Participants: Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO), Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), Congressman Tom Cole (R-OK), Laura Friedel (Minority Clerk, Office of Senator Roy Blunt), Stephen Steigleider (Majority Clerk, Office of Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro), and Joshua Grogis (Chief of Staff, Office of Congressman Tom Cole)
	Staff: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation[ASL]) and Norris Cochran (Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources [ASFR])
<b>9:30am – 9:55am ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>9:55am – 10:05am ET</b>	<b>PREP FOR LIVE INTERVIEW WITH GOOD MORNING AMERICA</b>
	Participants: Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Ian Sams (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), and Kirsten Allen (National Press Secretary, COVID)
<b>10:05am – 10:15am ET</b>	<b>LIVE INTERVIEW WITH GOOD MORNING AMERICA</b>
	Location: HHS Studio
	Participants: TBD
	Staff: TBD
<b>10:15am – 10:45am ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>

**10:45am – 11:30am ET      OVERSIGHT OF GAIN-OF-FUNCTION RESEARCH BRIEFING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Karuna Seshasai (Executive Secretary), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Ian Sams (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Kevin Barstow (Senior Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), Dr. Francis Collins (Director, National Institutes of Health [NIH]), and Dr. Lawrence Tabak (Deputy Director, NIH)

**11:30am – 12:00pm ET      BREAK**

**12:00pm – 12:30pm ET      LUNCH**

**12:30pm – 1:30pm ET      MATERNAL HEALTH ROUNDTABLE**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Dr. Zsakeba Henderson (Senior Vice President and Maternal and Child Health Impact Deputy Medical Officer, March of Dimes), Christina Wurster (CEO, Society for Maternal and Fetal Medicine), Dr. Joia Crear-Perry (Founder and President, National Birth Equity Collaborative), Dr. John Cullen (Institute for Healthcare Improvement, Better Maternal Outcomes Clinical Faculty, Former President of American Academy of Family Physicians), Dr. Kimberlee McKay (Clinical Vice President, Avera Health), Nicolle Gonzales (Executive Director, Changing Woman Initiative), Jazmin Long (CEO, Birthing Beautiful Communities), and Dr. Lexi Light (Provider, Obstetrician-Gynecologist)

Staff: Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), Steven Lopez (Counselor to the Secretary), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Carrie Pugh (Director, External Affairs), and Cayla Kaplan (Communications Specialist, IEA)

<b>1:30pm – 1:45pm ET</b>	<b>STAKEHOLDERS MEETING DEBRIEF</b>
	Location: Conference call
	Participants: Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), Steven Lopez (Counselor to the Secretary), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Carrie Pugh (Director, External Affairs), and Cayla Kaplan (Communications Specialist, IEA)
<b>1:45pm – 2:00pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>2:00pm – 2:30pm ET</b>	<b>CHECK-IN WITH THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC)</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Sarah Lovenheim [TBD] (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Dr. Rochelle Walensky (Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]), and Sherri Berger (Chief of Staff, CDC)
<b>2:30pm – 3:00pm ET</b>	<b>CHECK-IN WITH THE OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS (OCR)</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary), Lisa J. Pino (Director, Office for Civil Rights [OCR]), and Laura Durso (Chief of Staff, OCR)
<b>3:00pm – 3:30pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>3:30pm – 4:00pm ET</b>	<b>JOINT AFP/BBB/BID CABINET MEMBER CALL</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Secretary Miguel Cardona, Secretary Tom Vilsack, Secretary Janet Yellen, Secretary Gina Raimondo, Secretary Marty Walsh, Secretary Marcia Fudge, Secretary Pete Buttigieg,

Secretary Jennifer Granholm, Brian Deese (Director of the National Economic Council), Susan Rice (Director of the Domestic Policy Council), Evan Ryan (White House Cabinet Secretary), Louisa Terrell (White House Director of Legislative Affairs), Kate Bedingfield (White House Communications Director), Kate Berner (White House Deputy Communications Director), Pili Tobar (White House Deputy Communications Director), Cecilia Rouse (Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers), Cedric Richmond (Director, White House Office of Public Engagement), Zach Butterworth (Director of Private Sector), Julie Rodriguez (Deputy Director, Office of Public Engagement), and Emmy Ruiz (Director, White House Office of Political Strategy and Outreach)

Staff: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff)

**4:00pm – 4:15pm ET**

**CHECK-IN WITH THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS)**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff) and Chiquita Brooks-LaSure (Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [CMS])

**4:15pm – 4:30pm ET**

**BREAK**

**4:30pm – 5:00pm ET**

**NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION (ONC) CHECK-IN**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), Micky Tripathi (National Coordinator for Health IT, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology [ONC]), and Steve Posnack (Deputy National Coordinator for Health IT, ONC)

**5:00pm – 5:30pm ET**

**UC CORE MEETING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Kate Wolff (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Andrés Argüello (Policy Advisor), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Jorge Silva (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Paul Rodriguez (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), Norris Cochran (Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources [ASFR]), Jonathan Warsh (Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response [ASPR]), Cindy Huang (Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement [ORR], Administration for Children and Families [ACF]), and Jose Garibay-Medrano (Special Assistant, ACF)

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK  
*for*  
HHS SECRETARY  
XAVIER BECERRA



Thursday  
10/21/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

# Thursday, October 21, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

<u>Overview of Today's Schedule</u>	page 5
<u>G7 Health Ministers' Call</u>	page 11
• <i>Memo previewed on October 19<sup>th</sup>; Updated sub header in the background section and new attachments (listed below)</i>	
• <i>Memo consists of:</i>	
○ <i>Cover memo</i>	
○ <i>Talking points</i>	
○ <i>Non-Paper on Targeted Amendments to the International Health Regulations [new]</i>	
○ <i>Meeting chair's biography [new]</i>	
<u>NPR Interview</u>	page 23
• <i>ASPA shared separately as well</i>	
• <i>Memo consists of:</i>	
○ <i>Cover memo and toplines</i>	
<u>Social Determinants of Health Briefing</u>	page 25
• <i>Memo previewed on October 18<sup>th</sup>; No updates</i>	
• <i>Memo consists of:</i>	
○ <i>Cover memo</i>	
○ <i>Slide deck</i>	
<u>Meeting with DaVita Inc. CEO, Javier Rodriguez</u>	page 43
• <i>Memo previewed on October 19<sup>th</sup>; Updated discussion prompts</i>	
• <i>Memo consists of:</i>	
○ <i>Cover memo</i>	
○ <i>CEO's biography</i>	
○ <i>Talking points</i>	

Meeting with Patient Rights Advocate Founder  
and Chairman, Cynthia Fisher.....page 53

- *Memo previewed on October 19<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biographies*
  - *Letter to you on OPPS (for reference)*
  - *Op-ed by Cynthia Fisher in Barron's and MarketWatch on the need for increased transparency (for reference)*
  - *Talking points*

Lunch with White House Chief of Staff, Ron Klain and Acting  
Office of Management and Budget Director Shalanda Young.....page 85

- *Memo previewed on October 19<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*

GAO Opinion on Puerto Rico Briefing.....page 89

- *Memo previewed on October 19<sup>th</sup>; No updates to information memo*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Information memo*

Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR)  
Check-In Meeting.....page 93

- *Memo previewed on October 19<sup>th</sup>; Updated background section*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*

Overdose Prevention Strategy/Opioid Public Health  
Emergency (PHE) Briefing.....page 95

- *Memo previewed on October 17<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Slide deck*

- *PHE decision memo and appendices*
- *Draft OPS rollout plan*

House Democratic Caucus Reception.....page 133

- *New memo*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Background on Build Back Better (BBB) negotiations as of October 19, 2021*
  - *Invitation (for reference)*
  - *Current RSVP list (for reference)*

**PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD:**

**10/25: FY 2021 Agency Financial Report Process Overview.....page 141**

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *FY 2021 agency financial report process overview slide deck*
  - *Chief Financial Officers Act audit requirements*
  - *Expected audit results for FY 2021*
  - *Possible interview questions for consideration*

**10/26: FY 2021 Audit Interview.....page 154**

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Ernst & Young representative biographies*



## Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule

**Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

**8:00am – 9:00am ET      G7 MINISTERS OF HEALTH CALL**

Location: Microsoft Teams

Participants: Patty Hajdu (Minister of Health, Canada), Stella Kyriakides (Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, European Union [EU]), Olivier Véran (Minister of Solidarity and Health, France), Jens Spahn (Minister of Health, Germany), Roberto Speranza (Minister of Health, Italy), Norihisa Tamura (Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan), and Syed Salah Kamall, Baron Kamall (Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, United Kingdom)

Staff: Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Peter Schmeissner (Director for Europe/Eurasia, Office of Global Affairs [OGA]), and Mara Burr (Director of Multilateral Relations,)

**9:00am – 9:15am ET      BREAK**

**9:15am – 9:30am ET      CHECK-IN WITH ASPA AND CHIEF OF STAFF**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff) and Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA])

**9:30am – 9:40am ET      PREPARATION FOR INTERVIEWS**

Location: Conference call

Participants: Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), and Hannah Kim (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs)

**9:40am – 9:50am ET**

**INTERVIEW WITH NPR**

Location: Phone call

Participants: Selena Simmons-Duffin

Staff: Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA])

**9:50am – 10:00am ET**

**INTERVIEW WITH CNN**

Location: Phone call

Participants: Tami Lubhy

Staff: Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA])

**10:00am – 10:30am ET**

**SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH FOLLOW-UP BRIEFING**

Location: Zoom

Confirmed Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Steven Lopez (Counselor to the Secretary), Andres Arguello (Policy Advisor), Rebecca Haffajee (Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation [ASPE]), Ben Sommers (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation), Nancy De Lew (Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, ASPE), Adelle Simmons (Senior Program Analyst, ASPE), Andre Chappel (Director, Public Health Services Division, ASPE), Steven Sheingold (Director of Health Care Financing Policy, ASPE), Victoria Aysola (ASPE), Dr. Lawrence Tabak (Deputy Director, National Institutes of Health [NIH]), and Dr. Nathan Stinson (Director of the Division of Scientific Programs, NIH)

Invited: Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Admiral Rachel Levine (Assistant Secretary for Health [ASH]), Felicia Collins (Director, HHS Office of Minority Health, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health [OASH]), David Wong (Medical Officer, OASH), Micky Tripathi (National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology [ONC]), Samantha Meklir (Senior Advisor, ONC), Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, (Administrator, Centers for Medicare and

Medicaid Services [CMS]), LaShawn McIver (Director, Office of Minority Health, CMS), Ellen-Marie Whelan (Chief Population Health Officer, CMS), Dr. Rochelle Walensky (Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]), Karen Hacker (Director of Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, CDC), Diana Espinosa (Acting Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration [HRSA]), Susan Monarez (Director, Office of Planning, Analysis, and Evaluation, HRSA), JooYeun Chang (Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families [ACF]), Lauren Antelo (Associate Director for Strategic Initiatives, ACF), Alison Barkoff (Acting Administrator, Administration for Community Living [ACF]), Kelly Cronin (Deputy Administrator, Center for Innovation and Partnership, ACF), David Meyers (Acting Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality [AHRQ]), Patricia Keenan (Senior Advisor, Program Specialist, AHRQ), Elizabeth Fowler (Acting Director, Indian Health Service [IHS]), Jana Towne (Area Nurse Consultant, IHS), Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon (Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use), and Trina Dutta (Senior Advisor, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA])

**10:30am – 11:00am ET      BREAK**

**11:00am – 11:20am ET      MEETING WITH DAVITA’S CEO, JAVIER ROFRIGUEZ**

Participants: Javier Rodriguez (CEO, DaVita) and Melanie Nathanson (Founder, Nathanson+Hauck)

Staff: Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), and Carrie Pugh (Director, External Affairs)

**11:30am – 11:50am ET      MEETING WITH PATIENT RIGHTS ADVOCATE CEO, CYNTHIA FISHER**

Participants: Cynthia Fisher (Founder and Chairman, Patient Rights Advocate), Linda Bent (President, Patient Rights Advocate), and Debra Nixon (Principal, Ferox Strategies)

Staff: Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary) and Carrie Pugh (Director, External Affairs)

**12:00pm ET      DEPART HOME EN ROUTE TO THE WHITE HOUSE**

<b>12:00pm – 12:30pm ET</b>	<b>DAILY CHECK-IN WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY ANDREA PALM</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Deputy Secretary Andrea Palm and Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff)
<b>12:30pm – 1:30pm ET</b>	<b>LUNCH MEETING WITH RON KLAIN AND OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTING DIRECTOR SHALANDA YOUNG</b>
	Location: The White House – Office of the Chief of Staff
	Participants: Ron Klain (Chief of Staff, The White House) and Shalanda Young (Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget [OMB])
<b>1:30pm ET</b>	<b>COVID-19 TESTING AHEAD OF NEW YORK TRIP</b>
	Location: The White House Medical Unit
<b>1:45pm ET</b>	<b>APPROX. DEPART THE WHITE HOUSE EN ROUTE TO HOME</b>
<b>2:00pm – 2:30pm ET</b>	<b>BRONX, NEW YORK TRIP CALL</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Cynthia Palafox (Director for Scheduling and Advance), Billy Czerwinski (Scheduler), Esmeralda Orozco (Special Assistant for Scheduling), Ben Scott (Advance Representative), Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary), Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Cody Pomeranz (Director of Speechwriting, ASPA), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), and Molly Doris-Pierce (Special Assistant, IEA)

**2:30pm – 3:00pm ET**

**GAO OPINION ON PUERTO RICO BRIEFING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Rose Sullivan (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Dan Barry (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), and Paul Rodriguez (Deputy General Counsel, OGC)

**3:00pm – 3:30pm ET**

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE (ASPR) CHECK-IN**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Dawn O'Connell (Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response [ASPR]), and Nikki Bratcher-Bowman (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response)

**3:30pm – 4:15pm ET**

**OVERDOSE PREVENTION STRATEGY / OPIOID PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY BRIEFING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Aakash Shah (White House Fellow), Karuna Seshasai (Executive Secretary), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Bill Hall (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Health), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Rebecca Haffajee (Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE)), Tisa Marie (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation), Alicia Swenson O'Brien (Special Assistant, ASPE), Barbara McGarey (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), Ian Rucker (Senior Attorney, OGC), Admiral Rachel Levine (Assistant Secretary for Health [ASH]), Sarah Boateng (Chief of Staff, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health [OASH]), Meriam Mikre (Senior

Advisor, OASH), Chris Jones (Director, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]), Deb Houry (Acting Principal Director, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC), Chiquita Brooks-LaSure (Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [CMS]), Shari Ling (Deputy Chief Medical Officer, CMS), Dr. Janet Woodcock (Acting Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration [FDA]), Marta Sokolowska (Associate Director for Controlled Substances, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, FDA), Dr. Francis Collins (Director, National Institutes of Health [NIH]), Wilson Compton (Deputy Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH), Anna Jacobs (Senior Attorney, NIH), Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon (Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration), and Tom Coderre (Acting Assistant Secretary, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA])

<b>4:15pm – 4:30pm ET</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>4:30pm ET</b>	<b>APPROX. DEPART HOME EN ROUTE TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS</b>
<b>4:30pm – 4:45pm ET</b>	<b>PREPARATION FOR THE HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS &amp; DEMOCRATIC SPOUSES FORUM</b>  Location: Phone call  Participants: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]) and Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA])
<b>5:00pm – 7:00pm ET</b>	<b>HOUSE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS AND DEMOCRATIC SPOUSES FORUM AUTUMN RECPETION</b>  Location: The Great Hall at the Library of Congress
<b>7:00pm ET</b>	<b>APPROX. DEPART TO HOME</b>

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK  
*for*  
HHS SECRETARY  
XAVIER BECERRA



Friday  
10/22/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

# Friday, October 22, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

<u>Overview of Today's Schedule</u> .....	page 4
<u>Biweekly COVID-19 Briefing</u> .....	page 8
• <i>Standing memo; No updates</i>	
<u>Event with Vice President Kamala Harris</u> .....	page 10
• <i>New memo</i>	
• <i>Memo consists of:</i>	
○ <i>Cover memo</i>	
○ <i>VP's biography</i>	
○ <i>Remarks</i>	
<u>Weekly Cabinet Affairs Meeting</u> .....	page 19
• <i>New memo</i>	

### **PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD:**

<b>10/25: <u>Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Site Visit</u></b> .....	page 21
• <i>Memo consists of:</i>	
○ <i>Cover memo</i>	
○ <i>Key Messages/Additional Background</i>	
○ <i>Biographies for Participants</i>	
○ <i>Draft Press Release</i>	
<b>10/26: <u>CDC Blood Lead Reference Values Briefing</u></b> .....	page 31
• <i>Memo consists of:</i>	
○ <i>Cover memo</i>	
○ <i>Slide deck</i>	
○ <i>Information memo</i>	

10/26: Alliance of Community Health Plans (ACHP) Board of Directors Meeting.....page 39

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biographies for Meeting Participants and List of Board Members*
  - *Questions for Q&A Section*
  - *ACHP Letter to HHS on Medicare Advantage, Audio-Only Telehealth*
  - *ACHP Letter to HHS on Compliance Deadlines*
  - *CMS FAQs about No Surprises Act Implementation*

**Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule****Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021****6:45am ET DEPART HOME EN ROUTE TO DCA****8:00am – 9:20am ET WHEELS UP DCA TO LGA (Queens, New York)****9:50am ET APPROX. DEPART LGA EN ROUTE TO WESTCHESTER COUNTY AIRPORT****9:40am – 10:00am ET BRONX, NEW YORK TRIP CALL**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Cynthia Palafox (Director for Scheduling and Advance), Billy Czerwinski (Scheduler), Esmeralda Orozco (Special Assistant for Scheduling), Ben Scott (Advance Representative), Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary), Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Cody Pomeranz (Director of Speechwriting), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), and Molly Doris-Pierce (Special Assistant, IEA)

**10:00am – 10:30am ET BI-WEEKLY COVID-19 BRIEFING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Dawn O'Connell (Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response

[ASPR]), AJ Pearlman (Chief of Staff for COVID Response), Kathryn Alvarez (Senior Advisor, ASPR), Tom Inglesby (Senior Advisor, ASPR), Robert Johnson (Chief Operating Officer, Countermeasures Acceleration Group, ASPR), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Ian Sams (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, COVID Response), Amanda Cohn (Chief Medical Officer, National Center for Immunizations and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) and Executive Secretary, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]), and Nikki Romanik (White House and HHS Liaison to the Vaccine Task Force, COVID-19 Response, CDC)

**11:15am ET**

**TARMAC GREET FOR VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS**

Location: Westchester County Airport

Participants: Vice President Kamala Harris, Representative Mondaire Jones (D-NY-17), Representative Jamaal Bowman (D-NY-16), Governor Kathy Hochul (N-NY) [Tentative], and Mayor Thomas Roach [Tentative]

**11:20am ET**

**DEPART WESTCHESTER AIRPORT EN ROUTE TO THE NORTHEAST BRONX YMCA**

Location: Northeast Bronx YMCA, 1250 East 229th Street, Bronx, New York 10466

**12:00pm – 1:00pm ET**

**NORTHEAST BRONX YMCA VISIT WITH VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS**

Location: Northeast Bronx YMCA, 1250 East 229th Street, Bronx, New York 10466

Greeters: Sharon Greenberger (President and Chief Executive Officer, YMCA of Greater New York), Willy Valle (Aquatics Director, Northeast Bronx YMCA), Ayanna Penn (Healthy Lifestyles Coordinator, Northeast Bronx YMCA), Shawn Taylor (Floor Staff, Northeast Bronx YMCA), and Verna Joy White (Front Desk Staff, Northeast Bronx YMCA)

Pre-Program Participants: Governor Kathy Hochul (D-NY)  
[Tentative]

Program Participants: Vice President Kamala Harris and Representative Jamaal Bowman (D-NY-16)

Speaking Program Audience: Chairman Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY-18), Chairwoman Nydia Velazquez (D-NY-07) [Tentative], Representative Adriano Espaillat (D-NY-13), Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY-14), Representative Thomas Suozzi (D-NY-03) [Tentative], New York Mayor Bill DeBlasio (D-NY) [Tentative], First Lady of New York City Chirlane McCray [Tentative], Representative Carl Heastie (D-NY-83) [Tentative], Senator Andrea Stewart Cousins (D-NY-35) [Tentative], Lieutenant Governor Brian Benjamin (D-NY) [Tentative], Attorney General Letitia James (D-NY) ( [Tentative], and Senator Kevin Bailey (D-NY-36) [Tentative]

Staff: Ben Scott (Advance Representative), Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary), and Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning)

1:00pm ET

APPROX. DEPART YMCA EN ROUTE TO LGA

**1:00pm – 2:00pm ET**

## WEEKLY CABINET AFFAIRS

Location: Zoom

Participants: Jen O'Malley Dillon (Deputy Chief of Staff, The White House), Mike Donilon (Counselor to the President, The White House), Jennifer Klein (Co-Chair of the White House Gender Policy Council), Julissa Reynoso (Co-Chair of the White House Gender Policy Council), Shalanda Young (Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget [OMB]), and other Cabinet Secretaries and Chiefs of Staff

Staff: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff)

<b>2:00pm – 2:30pm ET</b>	<b>DAILY CHECK-IN WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY ANDREA PALM</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary) and Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff)
<b>3:00pm – 4:15pm ET</b>	<b>WHEELS UP LGA TO DCA</b>
<b>4:45pm ET</b>	<b>APPROX. DEPART DCA EN ROUTE TO HOME</b>
<b>4:45pm – 5:15pm ET</b>	<b>PREPARATION FOR FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES SITE VISIT</b>
	Location: Zoom
	Participants: Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Cynthia Palafox (Director for Scheduling and Advance), Billy Czerwinski (Scheduler), Esmeralda Orozco (Special Assistant for Scheduling), Ben Scott (Advance Representative), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Jorge Silva (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Molly Doris-Pierce (Special Assistant, IEA), Joo Chang (Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families [ACF]), and Samira Burns (Communications Director, ACF)

# DAILY BRIEFING BOOK

*for*

HHS SECRETARY

XAVIER BECERRA



Monday  
10/25/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

# Monday, October 25, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

<u>Overview of Today's Schedule</u>	.....	page 5
<u>Family Prevention and Services Site Visit</u>	.....	page 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 21<sup>st</sup>; Updated agenda; New attachments noted below</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Key Messages/Additional Background</i></li><li>○ <i>Biographies for Participants</i></li><li>○ <i>Press Release</i></li><li>○ <i>District Alliance for Safe Housing overview (New)</i></li><li>○ <i>Cornerstone Program Workplan (New)</i></li><li>○ <i>Talking points</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u>TV Interview</u>	.....	page 27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>ASPA shared separately as well</i></li></ul>		
<u>UC CORE Meeting</u>	.....	page 30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Standing memo; No updates</i></li></ul>		
<u>Weekly COVID-19 Senior Leadership Meeting</u>	.....	page 32
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Standing memo; No updates</i></li></ul>		
<u>FY 2021 Agency Financial Report Process Overview</u>	.....	page 34
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 20<sup>th</sup>; Updates to possible responses to question 2 on attachment 4</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>FY 2021 agency financial report process overview slide deck</i></li><li>○ <i>Chief Financial Officers Act audit requirements</i></li></ul></li></ul>		

- *Expected audit results for FY 2021*
- *Possible interview questions for consideration (updated)*

## **PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD:**

**10/27: U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)**  
**Quarterly Council Meeting**.....page 47

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *USICH-Developed Meeting Materials*

**10/27: Extreme Heat Interagency Working Group (IWG)**.....page 68

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Suggested talking points*

**10/27: Dinner Meeting with White House National Climate Advisor, Gina McCarthy**.....page 72

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

**10/27: Visit to Dee's Place (Baltimore, MD)**.....page 78

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

**10/27: Visit to Health Care for the Homeless and Overdose Prevention Strategy Rollout Press Conference (Baltimore, MD)**.....page 83

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Participant biographies*
  - *Tracking metrics and accountability for the strategy*

**10/27: Weekly CMS Check-In: Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CCIIO) Strategy Briefing.....page 94**

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



**Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule**

**Monday, October 25, 2021**

**9:10am ET**

**DEPART HOME EN ROUTE TO SITE**

**9:30am – 10:30am ET**

**FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES ACT VISIT**

Location: District Alliance for Safe Housing, Inc.

Participants: Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Rosie Hidalgo (Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence and Special Assistant to the President, White House Gender Policy Council), Koube Ngaaje (President and CEO, District Alliance for Safe Housing [DASH]), Pierre R. Berastaín (Chief Strategy and Operations Officer, DASH), Meghan McDonough (Chief Development and Communications Officer, DASH), Kandice Louis (Senior Director of Programs, DASH)

Staff: Cynthia Palafox (Director of Scheduling and Advance), JooYeun Chang (Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families [ACF]), and Shawndell Dawson (Director, Family Violence Prevention and Services, ACF)

**10:30am ET**

**DEPART SITE EN ROUTE TO HHS**

**10:30am – 12:00pm ET**

**BREAK**

**12:00pm – 12:30pm ET** **TV INTERVIEW**  
Location: HHS Studio  
Participants: Andrea Mitchell (MSNBC News)  
Note: Precise timing of hit to be confirmed on Monday morning.

**12:30pm – 1:00pm ET** **UC CORE MEETING**  
Location: Zoom  
Participants: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Kate Wolff (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Andrés Argüello (Policy Advisor), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Jorge Silva (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Paul Rodriguez (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), Norris Cochran (Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources [ASFR]), Jonathan Warsh (Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response [ASPR]), Cindy Huang (Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement [ORR], Administration for Children and Families [ACF]), and Jose Garibay-Medrano (Special Assistant, ACF)

**1:00pm – 1:30pm ET** **BREAK**

**1:30pm – 2:00pm ET** **WEEKLY COVID-19 SENIOR LEADERSHIP MEETING**  
Location: Zoom  
Participants: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Ian Sams (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, COVID), Dawn O'Connell (Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response [ASPR]), AJ Pearlman (Chief of Staff for COVID Response), Kathryn Alvarez (Senior Advisor, ASPR), Tom Inglesby (Senior Advisor, COVID Response), Dr. Anthony Fauci (National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases [NIAID] Director and Chief Medical Officer), Dr. Rochelle Walensky

(Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]), Dr. Janet Woodcock (Acting Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration [FDA]), Dr. Marcella Nunez Smith (Chair of the Equity Task Force), Admiral Rachel Levine (Assistant Secretary for Health), and Dr. Vivek Murthy (U.S. Surgeon General)

**2:00pm – 2:30pm ET**

**DAILY CHECK-IN WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY ANDREA PALM**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Deputy Secretary Andrea Palm and Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff)

**2:30pm – 3:00pm ET**

**BREAK**

**3:00pm – 3:45pm ET**

**FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT PROCESS OVERVIEW**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Angela Botticella (Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Dan Barry (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), Norris Cochran (Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources [ASFR]), Sheila Conley (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Finance and Deputy Chief Financial Officer, ASFR), Teresa Miranda (Acting Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Finance, ASFR), David Horn (Director, Office of Financial Policy and Reporting, ASFR), Christos Motsiopoulos (Director, Office of Program Audit Coordination, ASFR), and Joseph Pika (Director, Division of Payment Integrity Improvement, ASFR)

**3:45pm – 4:00pm ET**

**BREAK**

**4:00pm – 5:00pm ET**

**PRINCIPALS COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Cabinet Secretaries and Biden-Harris Administration Leadership

Staff: UC CORE Team

**5:00pm – 5:30pm ET**

**BALTIMORE, MARYLAND TRIP CALL**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Steven Lopez (Counselor to the Secretary), Cynthia Palafox (Director for Scheduling and Advance), Billy Czerwinski (Scheduler), Esmeralda Orozco (Special Assistant for Scheduling), Ben Scott (Advance Representative), Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Kimberly Espinosa [TBD] (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Bill Hall (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Cody Pomeranz (Director of Speechwriting), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Molly Doris-Pierce (Special Assistant, IEA), and others from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA] (TBD)

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK  
*for*  
HHS SECRETARY  
XAVIER BECERRA



Tuesday  
10/26/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

# Tuesday, October 26, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

**Overview of Today's Schedule**.....page 5

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)**

**Check-In Meeting**.....page 9

- *Memo previewed on October 19<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Slide deck*

**Weekly Counselors Check-In**.....page 20

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

**CDC Blood Lead Reference Values Briefing**.....page 22

- *Memo previewed on October 21<sup>st</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Slide deck*
  - *Information memo*

**Alliance of Community Health Plans (ACHP) Meeting**.....page 30

- *Memo previewed on October 21<sup>st</sup>; Updated Q&A attachment*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biographies for meeting participants and list of board members*
  - *Questions for Q&A section and suggested responses (updated)*
  - *ACHP letter to HHS on Medicare Advantage, Audio-Only Telehealth*
  - *ACHP letter to HHS on compliance deadlines*

- *CMS FAQs about No Surprises Act implementation*
- *Remarks*

**Follow-Up: Oversight of Gain-of-Function Research**.....page 68

- *Memo previewed on October 18<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Decision memo*

**Fiscal Year 2021 Audit Interview**.....page 75

- *Memo previewed on October 20<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Ernst & Young representative biographies*

**PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD:**

**10/27: Briefing on Return to Workplace**.....page 81

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

**10/27: Nation-to-Nation Dialogue on COVID-19**.....page 90

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Dear Tribal Leader letter*

**10/28: Principals Meeting of the Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children**.....page 96

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Contextual information for the principals meeting*
  - *Biographies for meeting participants*
  - *Run of show with suggested talking points*

10/28: AARP's Global Conference Fireside Chat.....page 117

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Full conference day agenda*
  - *Confirmed additional conference speakers [for reference]*

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION:**

Information: Federal Workforce Weekly Vaccine Allocation

Update.....page 131



**Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule**

**Tuesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**8:30am – 9:30am ET      MEETING**

Location: Office of the Secretary

**9:30am – 10:00am ET      AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND  
QUALITY (AHRQ) CHECK-IN**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), and David Meyers (Acting Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality [AHRQ])

**10:30am – 11:30am ET      ASPA HOLD**

Topic: Call on expanding the post-partum period for Medicaid recipients

**11:30am – 12:00pm ET      BREAK**

**12:00pm – 1:00pm ET      ETHICS TRAINING**

Location: Zoom

**1:00pm – 1:30pm ET      WEEKLY COUNSELORS CHECK-IN**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Steve Cha (Counselor to the Secretary), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Josie

Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), Steven Lopez (Counselor to the Secretary), Kate Wolff (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Andres Arguello (Policy Advisor), Jessica Porras (Policy Advisor), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Sarah Lovenheim (ASPA), and Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA])

**2:00pm – 2:30pm ET**

**DAILY CHECK-IN WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY ANDREA PALM**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Deputy Secretary Andrea Palm and Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff)

**2:30pm – 3:00pm ET**

**CDC BLOOD LEAD REFERENCE VALUES BRIEFING**

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Steven Lopez (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Andres Arguello (Policy Advisor), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Bill Hall (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Arsenio Mataka (Senior Policy for Health Equity and Climate, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health [OASH]), Leith States (Medical Doctor, OASH), Deborah Houry (Acting Principal Deputy Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]), Patrick Breysse (Director, National Center for Environmental Health, CDC), Celeste Philip (Deputy Director for Non-Infectious Diseases, CDC), John Auerbach (Director, Intergovernmental and Strategic Affairs, CDC), and Pamela Protzel Berman (Associate Director for Policy, National Center for Environmental Health, CDC)

**3:00pm – 3:30pm ET** **MEETING WITH THE ALLIANCE OF COMMUNITY HEALTH (ACHP) PLANS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Ceci Connolly (President and CEO, Alliance of Community Health Plans [ACHP]), Senior ACHP staff, and CEOs of the 26 ACHP Board Member Plans

Staff: Counselors (TBD) and Carrie Pugh (Director, External Affairs)

**3:30pm – 4:00pm ET** **BREAK**

**4:00pm – 4:30pm ET** **FOLLOW-UP OVERSIGHT OF GAIN-OF-FUNCTION RESEARCH BRIEFING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Counselor to the Secretary), Karuna Seshasai (Executive Secretary), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Ian Sams (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Dr. Francis Collins (Director, National Institute of Health [NIH]), and Dr. Lawrence Tabak (Deputy Director, National Institute of Health [NIH])

**4:30pm – 5:00pm ET** **FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2021 HHS SECRETARY'S AUDIT INTERVIEW**

External Participants: Tom Sand (Partner, Ernst and Young [EY]), Eleanor Crawford (Managing Director, EY), Angel Estrada (Senior Manager, EY), and Lisa Lally (Information Technology Partner, EY)

HHS Participants: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Anne Reid (Chief of Staff), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Daniel J. Barry (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), Norris Cochran (Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources [ASFR]), Sheila O. Conley (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Finance and Deputy Chief Financial Officer, ASFR), Teresa Miranda (Acting Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for

Finance, ASFR), and David C. Horn (Director, Office of Financial Policy and Reporting, ASFR)

USG Participants: Joseph D. Cummings (Director, Financial Statements Audits and Related Services, Office of Inspector General [OIG]), Amy J. Frontz (Deputy Inspector General for Audit Services, OIG), and Carla J. Lewis (Assistant Inspector General, OIG)

**5:00pm – 5:30pm ET**

**BALTIMORE, MARYLAND TRIP CALL**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Cynthia Palafox (Director for Scheduling and Advance), Billy Czerwinski (Scheduler), Esmeralda Orozco (Special Assistant for Scheduling), Ben Scott (Advance Representative), Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Bill Hall (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Cody Pomeranz (Director of Speechwriting), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Molly Doris-Pierce (Special Assistant, IEA), Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon (Assistant Secretary, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA]), Tom Coderre (Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, SAMHSA), and others from SAMHSA (TBD)

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK  
*for*  
HHS SECRETARY  
XAVIER BECERRA



Wednesday  
10/27/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

**Overview of Today's Schedule**.....page 5

**Visit to Health Care for the Homeless and Overdose Prevention Strategy Rollout Press Conference (Baltimore, MD)**.....page 10

- *Memo previewed on October 24<sup>th</sup>; New attachments notes below; Updated list of participants*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Participant biographies*
  - *Tracking metrics and accountability for the strategy*
  - *Talking points*
  - *Draft Pre-Release Overdose Prevention Strategy Issue Brief (New)*
  - *Additional background on Overdose Prevention Strategy (New)*
  - *Q&A document (New)*

**Visit to Dee's Place (Baltimore, MD)**.....page 44

- *Memo previewed on October 24<sup>th</sup>; Updated list of participants*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Dee's Place Program Director's biography*
  - *Talking Points*

**Call with Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas**.....page 50

- *New memo*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Additional background*

Briefing on Return to the Workplace.....page 54

- *Memo previewed on October 25<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *PowerPoint*

Nation-to-Nation Dialogue on COVID-19.....page 63

- *Memo previewed on October 25<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Dear Tribal Leader Letter*
  - *Remarks*

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)  
Quarterly Council Meeting.....page 72

- *Memo previewed on October 24<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *USICH-developed meeting materials*
  - *Annotated agenda and talking points*

Extreme Heat Interagency Working Group (IWG).....page 98

- *Memo previewed on October 24<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Talking points*

Weekly CMS Check-In: Center for Consumer Information  
and Insurance Oversight (CCIO) Strategy Briefing.....page 104

- *Memo previewed on October 24<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *PowerPoint*

## **PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD:**

**10/28: Call with Congresswoman Barbara Lee.....page 110**

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

**10/28: Call with Congressman Tony Cardenas.....page 115**

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

**10/29: Meeting with American Health Care Association/  
National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL) and  
the California Association of Health Facilities (CAHF).....page 123**

- ***Memo consists of:***
  - ***Cover memo***
  - ***Participant biographies***
  - ***Nursing home graphs***
  - ***Long-term care sector update***
  - ***AHCA/NCAL letter on vaccination mandate***



**Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule**

**Wednesday, October 27, 2021**

**7:30am ET**

**DEPART HOME EN ROUTE TO BALTIMORE,  
MARYLAND**

Location: Health Care for the Homeless

421 Fallsway, Baltimore, MD 21202

**9:00am – 10:30am ET**

**VISIT TO HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS AND  
OVERDOSE PREVENTION STRATEGY ROLLOUT PRESS  
CONFERENCE**

Location: Health Care for the Homeless, 421 Fallsway, Baltimore, MD 21202

IOS: Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary) and Ben Scott (Advance Representative)

Other HHS Divisions: Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon (Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use), Dr. Yngvild Olsen (Acting Director, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA]), and Rebecca Haffajee (Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation [ASPE])

WH/USG Participants: Congressman David Trone (D, MD-6) and Regina LaBelle (Acting Director, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy)

Other External: Brian Frosh (Maryland Attorney General), Brandon Scott (Mayor of Baltimore Maryland), Kevin Lindamood (President and CEO, Health Care for the Homeless), Dr. Adrienne Trustman (Chief Medical Officer, Health Care for the Homeless), Lawanda Williams (Chief Behavioral Health Officer, Health Care for the Homeless), Barbara DiPietro (Senior Director of Policy, Health Care for the Homeless), Laura Garcia (Senior Medical

Director, Health Care for the Homeless), Joanna Diamond (Director of Public Policy, Health Care for the Homeless), Dr. Aliyah Jones (Maryland Behavioral Health Administration), Adrienne Breidenstine (Vice President of Policy and Communications, Behavioral Health Systems Baltimore), and two clients (TBD)

**10:30am ET**

**DEPART HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS TO  
DEE'S PLACE**

Location: Dee's Place

1212 North Wolfe Street Baltimore, MD 21213

**10:30am – 10:45am ET**

**PREP FOR CALL WITH SECRETARY ALEJANDRO  
MAYORKAS**

Participants: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Norris Cochran (Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources [ASFR]), Erin Mueller (Branch Chief, ASFR), Paul Rodriguez (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), JooYeon Chang (Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration for Children and Families [ACF]), and Jenifer Smyers (Chief of Staff, Office of Refugee Resettlement [ORR], ACF)

**10:45am – 11:30am ET**

**DEE'S PLACE VISIT**

Location: Dee's Place

1212 North Wolfe Street Baltimore, MD 21213

IOS: Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary) and Ben Scott (Advance Representative)

Other HHS Divisions: Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon (Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use), Dr. Yngvild Olsen (Acting Director, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA]), and Rebecca Haffajee (Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation [ASPE])

Other External: Carlos Hardy (Program Director, Dee's Place), Jenny Hope (Executive Director, Historic East Baltimore Community Action Coalition), Dr. Aliyah Jones (Maryland

Behavioral Health Administration), Robin Rickard (Executive Director, Maryland Opioid Operational Command Center), Crista Taylor (President and CEO, Behavioral Health Systems of Baltimore), Natanya Rabinowitz (Executive Director, Charm City Care Connection), Charm City Care Connection Program Participant (TBD), Bruce White (Executive Director, One Promise Counseling Service), One Promise Counseling Service Client (TBD), Jennifer Tuerk (Executive Director, Voice of Hope Cecil County Maryland), Voice of Hope Cecil County Program Participant (TBD), Tiffinee Scott (Founder, Maryland Peer Advisory Council), Reverend Vaile Leonard (Founder and Executive Director, Light of Truth Center), Monica White (Founder and Executive, MISHA House), and William "J.R." Jones (Co-Facilitator, Dee's Place All Recovery Group)

**11:30am ET**

**DEPART DEE'S PLACE EN ROUTE TO HOME**

**12:30pm – 12:45pm ET**

**CALL WITH SECRETARY ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS**

Location: Phone call

Participants: Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas

**1:00pm – 1:30pm ET**

**RETURN TO THE WORKPLACE UPDATE**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff), Angela Botticelli (Chief of Staff, Office of the Deputy Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Alia Schechter (Special Assistant to the Secretary), Shannon Myricks (Acting White House Liaison), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Cheryl Campbell (Assistant Secretary for Administration [ASA]), and Julie Murphy (Senior Advisor to the ASA)

**1:30pm – 2:00pm ET**

**BREAK/DESK TIME**

**2:00pm – 2:30pm ET**

**NATION-TO-NATION DIALOGUE**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Secretary Denis McDonough, Secretary Deb Haaland, Bechara Choucair (White House COVID-19 Response Team), and Morgan Rodman (Executive Director, White House Committee on Native American Affairs [WHCNA]),

Staff: Stacey Ecoffey (Principal Advisor for Tribal Affairs, Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA])

**2:30pm – 3:30pm ET**

**U.S. INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS (USICH) QUARTERLY MEETING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Secretary Marcia Fudge, Secretary Denis McDonough, Secretary Miguel Cardona, Secretary Marty Walsh, Ambassador Susan Rice (Domestic Policy Council), Anthony Love (Interim Executive Director, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, USICH), and other agency representatives

Staff: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), and Miranda Lynch-Smith (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation [ASPE])

**3:30pm – 4:00pm ET**

**EXTREME HEAT INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP MEETING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Admiral Rachel Levine (Assistant Secretary for Health [ASH]), Dr. John Balbus (Interim Director, Office of Climate Change and Health Equity [OCCHE], Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health [OASH]), Arsenio Mataka (Senior Advisor on Climate Change and Health Equity, OASH), Dr. Shubhayu Saha (Senior Advisor), Darrin Donato (Chief, Domestic Policy Branch, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response [ASPR]), Dr. Chris Perdue (Program Analyst, ASPR), Paul Schramm (Health Scientist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]), Trisha Castranio (Program Manager, Global Environmental Health, National Institutes of Health [NIH]), David Hayes (Special Assistant to the President for

Climate Policy), Krystal Laymon (Deputy Director for Climate Resilience), Michael Regan (Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency [EPA]), Vickie Arroyo (Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, EPA), Richard Spinrad (Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA]), Juli Trtanj (Climate and Heat Health Lead, NOAA), and other agency representatives

**4:00pm – 4:30pm ET      BREAK**

**4:30pm – 5:00pm ET      CMS WEEKLY CHECK-IN [CENTER FOR CONSUMER INFORMATION AND INSURANCE OVERSIGHT (CCIIO) STRATEGY BRIEFING]**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Melanie Fontes Rainer (Counselor to the Secretary), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Jessica Porras (Policy Advisor), Chiquita Brooks-LaSure (Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [CMS]), Jon Blum (Principal Deputy Administrator and Chief Operating Officer, CMS), Erin Richardson (Chief of Staff, CMS), Ellen Montz (Deputy Administrator and Director, Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight [CCIIO], CMS), and Jeff Wu (Deputy Director, CCIIO, CMS)

**5:00pm – 5:30pm ET      BREAK/DESK TIME**

**5:30pm – 6:00pm ET      [HOLD] MEMBER CALLS**

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK  
*for*  
HHS SECRETARY  
XAVIER BECERRA



Thursday  
10/28/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

# Thursday, October 28, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

<u>Overview of Today's Schedule</u>	.....	page 5
<u>New Jersey Postpartum Coverage Press Call</u>	.....	page 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Shared separately by Director of Speechwriting and ASPA as well</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Remarks</i></li><li>○ <i>Key messages and toplines</i></li><li>○ <i>Speaker background</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u>Biweekly COVID-19 Briefing</u>	.....	page 19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Standing memo; No updates</i></li></ul>		
<u>Call with Congressman Danny Davis</u>	.....	page 21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>New memo</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Biography</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u>Call with Congresswoman Barbara Lee</u>	.....	page 27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 26<sup>th</sup>; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Biography</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u>AARP's Global Conference Fireside Chat</u>	.....	page 32
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 25<sup>th</sup>; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Full conference day agenda</i></li></ul></li></ul>		

- *Confirmed additional conference speakers (for reference)*
- *Q&A*

Principals Meeting of the Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children.....page 46

- *Memo previewed on October 25<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Contextual information for the principals meeting*
  - *Biographies for meeting participants*
  - *Run of show with suggested talking points*

UC CORE Meeting.....page 67

- *Standing memo; No updates*

Virtual Roundtable with Senator Amy Klobuchar for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.....page 69

- *New memo*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biographies*
  - *Remarks*

Call with Congressman Tony Cardenas.....page 75

- *Memo previewed on October 26<sup>th</sup>; No updates*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biography*

**PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD**

10/29: G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting.....page 83

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Talking points (Secretary Janet Yellen's first, then yours)*

- *Biographies of G20 and guest country health ministers and leaders of international organizations*
- *Joint G20 Finance and Health Ministers' Communique*

**10/29: (Hold) Top Topics in Medicare Physician Fee and Outpatient Hospital Final Rules Briefing.....page 103**

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Appendix: Impact Table of Clinical Labor Update, By Specialty*

**11/2: Recording: 2021 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) Video.....page 111**

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



## **Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule**

Thursday, October 28, 2021

9:00am – 9:15am ET

## PREPARATION FOR PRESS CALL

Location: Conference line

Participants: Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Hannah Kim (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), and Sean Higgins (Press Secretary)

9:15am – 9:45am ET

## NEW JERSEY POSTPARTUM COVERAGE PRESS CALL

Location: Conference line

Participants: Chiquita Brooks-LaSure (Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services [CMS]), First Lady of New Jersey Tammy Snyder Murphy, and Senator Bob Menendez

Staff: Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Hannah Kim (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), and Sean Higgins (Press Secretary)

9:45am – 10:20am ET

## BREAK

10:20am – 10:30am ET

## PREPARATION FOR MEMBER CALLS

Location: Conference line

Participants: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Rose Sullivan (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Lauren Jee (Deputy Assistant Secretary for

Legislation), Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL), and Kelsey Mellette (Special Assistant, ASL)

**10:30am – 11:00am ET**

**BI-WEEKLY COVID-19 BRIEFING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Stephen Cha (Counselor to the Secretary), Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Dawn O'Connell (Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response), AJ Pearlman (Chief of Staff for COVID Response), Kathryn Alvarez (Senior Advisor, ASPR), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), and Ian Sams (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs – COVID)

**11:00am – 11:15am ET**

**CALL WITH CONGRESSMAN DANNY DAVIS**

Location: Conference line

Participants: Congressman Danny Davis and staff

Staff: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Rose Sullivan (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), and Kelsey Mellette (Special Assistant, ASL)

**11:15am – 11:30am ET**

**CALL WITH CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA LEE**

Location: Conference line

Participants: Congresswoman Barbara Lee and staff

Staff: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Rose Sullivan (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Kimberly Espinosa (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), and Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL)

**11:30am – 12:00pm ET**

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS (AARP) GLOBAL CONFERENCE**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Jo Ann Jenkins (CEO, American Association of Retired Persons [AARP])

Staff: Sarah Despres (Counselor to the Secretary), Rachel Pryor (Counselor to the Secretary), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), and Molly Doris-Pierce (Special Assistant, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA])

**12:00pm – 12:30pm ET      BREAK/LUNCH**

**12:30pm – 1:00pm ET      PREPARATION FOR THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RISKS AND SAFETY RISKS**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Steven Lopez (Counselor to the Secretary), Andres Arguello (Policy Advisor), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Admiral Rachel Levine (Assistant Secretary for Health [ASH]), Sarah Boateng (Chief of Staff, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health [OASH]), Arsenio Mataka (Senior Advisor on Climate Change and Health Equity, OASH), Elisabeth Handley (Director, Office of Research Integrity, OASH), and Leith States (Acting Director, Office of Science and Medicine, OASH)

**1:00pm – 2:00pm ET      MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RISKS AND SAFETY RISKS**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Admiral Rachel Levine (Assistant Secretary for Health [ASH]), Dr. John Balbus (Interim Director, Office of Climate Change and Health Equity [OCCHE], Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health [OASH]), Dr. Sara Kinsman (Director, Division of Child, Adolescent and Family Health, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration [HRSA]), Michael Regan, (Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] and Task Force Co-Chair), Joseph Goffman (Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, EPA), Brenda Mallory (Chair, Council on Environmental Quality), Marcia L. Fudge (Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD]), Matthew Ammon

(Director, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, HUD), and other key attendees

Staff: Arsenio Mataka (Senior Advisor on Climate Change and Health Equity, OASH) and Leith States (Acting Director, Office of Science and Medicine, OASH; HHS co-chair of Senior Staff Steering Committee for the Task Force)

**2:00pm – 2:30pm ET**

**DAILY CHECK-IN WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY ANDREA PALM**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Deputy Secretary Andrea Palm and Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff)

**2:30pm – 3:00pm ET**

**BREAK**

**3:00pm – 3:30pm ET**

**UC CORE MEETING**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Andrea Palm (Deputy Secretary), Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Kate Wolff (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Andrés Argüello (Policy Advisor), Jeff Hild (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Jorge Silva (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Paul Rodriguez (Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel [OGC]), Norris Cochran (Acting Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources [ASFR]), Jonathan Warsh (Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response [ASPR]), Cindy Huang (Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement [ORR]), Administration for Children and Families [ACF]), and Jose Garibay-Medrano (Special Assistant, ACF)

**3:30pm ET**

**VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE WITH SENATOR AMY KLOBUCHAR FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**

Location: Virtual

Participants: Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Vivian Anugwom (Manager for Health Equity, Allina Health), Santo Cruz (Senior Vice President and General Counsel, CentraCare), and Representative from the American Cancer Society (TBD)

Staff: TBD

**4:00pm – 4:15pm ET**

**CALL WITH CONGRESSMAN TONY CARDENAS**

Location: Conference line

Participants: Congressman Tony Cardenas and staff

Staff: Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Rose Sullivan (Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), Lauren Jee (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislation), and Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL)

**4:15pm – 4:30pm ET**

**BREAK**

**4:30pm – 5:30pm ET**

**PRINCIPALS COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Cabinet Secretaries and Biden-Harris Administration Leadership

Staff: UC CORE Team

**5:30pm – 5:45pm ET**

**BREAK**

**5:45pm – 6:15pm ET**

**CALIFORNIA TRIP CALL**

Location: Zoom

Participants: Josie Villanueva Prescott (Counselor to the Secretary), Cynthia Palafox (Director, Scheduling and Advance), Benjamin Scott (Advance Representative), William Czerwinski (Scheduler), Esmeralda Orozco (Special Assistant for Scheduling), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Kamara Jones (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Planning), Jorge Silva (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Cody Pomeranz (Director of Speechwriting), Israel Igualate (Deputy Speechwriter), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), Molly Doris-Perce (Special Assistant, IEA), Eden Tesfaye (Special Assistant, IEA), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), and Leslie Zelenko (Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison, ASL)

DAILY BRIEFING BOOK  
*for*  
HHS SECRETARY  
XAVIER BECERRA



Friday  
10/29/21

Prepared by: Lizeth Zardeneta

# Friday, October 29, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

### **TODAY:**

<u><a href="#">Overview of Today's Schedule</a></u>	.....	page 4
<u><a href="#">G20 Joint Finance and Health Ministers' Meeting</a></u>	.....	page 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 27<sup>th</sup>; Updated talking points, second paragraph of the topic section, first paragraph under G20 country positions, and U.S. ambitions for the proposals section</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Talking points (Secretary Janet Yellen's first, then yours) [Updated]</i></li><li>○ <i>Biographies of G20 and guest country health ministers and leaders of international organizations</i></li><li>○ <i>Joint G20 Finance and Health Ministers' Communique</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Top Topics in Medicare Physician Fee and Outpatient Hospital Final Rules Briefing</a></u>	.....	page 27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Memo previewed on October 27<sup>th</sup>; No updates</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Appendix: Impact Table of Clinical Labor Update, By Specialty</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Visit to Maxine Hall Health Center and Ella Hill Hutch Community Center</a></u>	.....	page 35
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>New memo</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Cover memo</i></li><li>○ <i>Participant biographies</i></li><li>○ <i>Talking points</i></li></ul></li></ul>		
<u><a href="#">Call with Congresswoman Jackie Walorski (R-IN)</a></u>	.....	page 45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>New memo</i></li><li>• <i>Memo consists of:</i></li></ul>		

- *Cover memo*
- *Biography*

Visit to Native American Health Center with Alameda County Department of Public Health.....page 49

- *New memo*
- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Talking points*

**PREVIEW OF DAYS AHEAD:**

11/1: Visit to the International Rescue Committee of Sacramento, California.....page 57

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

11/2: Meeting with Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.....page 60

- *Memo consists of:*
  - *Cover memo*
  - *Biographies for CAPAC leadership*

11/2: Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters Proposed Rule Briefing.....page 69



**Secretary Xavier Becerra – Daily Schedule**

**Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**6:30am – 7:00am ET      G20 HEALTH AND FINANCE MINISTER JOINT MEETING**

Location: WebEx

Participants: Janet Yellen (Secretary of the Treasury) and Andrew Baukol (Acting Under Secretary for International Affairs)

Staff: Anne Reid (Deputy Chief of Staff [covering for Sarah Despres, Counselor to the Secretary]) and Peter Schmeissner (Director, Europe/Eurasia, G7/G20, Office of Global Affairs [OGA])

**7:00am ET      APPROX. DEPART HOME EN ROUTE TO IAD**

**8:30am – 2:07pm ET      WHEELS UP IAD TO SFO (SAN FRANCISCO, CA)**

**5:30am – 11:07am PT**

**2:30pm ET      APPROX. DEPART SFO TO MAXINE HALL HEALTH CENTER**

**11:30am PT      Location: 1181 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94115**

**3:00pm – 3:15pm ET      BRIEFING ON TOP TOPICS IN MEDICARE PHYSICIAN**

**12:00pm – 12:15pm PT      FEE SCHEDULE AND OUTPATIENT HOSPITAL FINAL RULES**

Location: Conference call

Participants: Sean McCluskie (Chief of Staff), Jennifer Friedman (Counselor to the Secretary), Clare Pierce-Wrobel (Senior Policy Advisor), Jessica Porras (Policy Advisor), Melanie Egorin (Assistant Secretary for Legislation [ASL]), Sarah Lovenheim (Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs [ASPA]), Hannah Kim (Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs), Marvin Figueroa (Director, Intergovernmental and External Affairs [IEA]), and Carrie Pugh (Director, External Affairs)

**3:15pm – 3:30pm ET**      **BREAK**

12:15pm – 12:30pm PT

Location: 1181 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94115  
and 1050 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94115

Participants: Mayor London Breed, Dr. Grant Colfax (Director, San Francisco Department of Public Health), and other participants (TBD)

Staff: Billy Czerwinski (Scheduler) and Bonnie Preston (Acting Director, HHS Region 9)

**4:30pm ET DEPART SITE 1 EN ROUTE TO NATIVE AMERICAN  
1:30pm PT HEALTH CENTER**

Location: Native American Health Center

2950 International Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94601

Location: Native American Health Center

2950 International Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94601

Participants: Supervisor Wilma Chan (Alameda County, District 3), Jared Spencer (Field Representative, Alameda County District 5), Ralph Silber (CEO, Community Health Center Network), Colleen Chawla (Director, Alameda Health Services Agency), Aneeka Chaudry (Assistant Director, Alameda Health Services Agency), Greg Garrett (Chief Operating Officer, Native American Health), and Additional Native American Health Center Staff (TBD)

Staff: Billy Czerwinski (Scheduler) and Bonnie Preston (Acting Director, HHS Region 9)

**6:30pm ET**

**DEPART NATIVE AMERICAN HEALTH CLINIC EN  
ROUTE TO SACRAMENTO**

**3:30pm PT**