

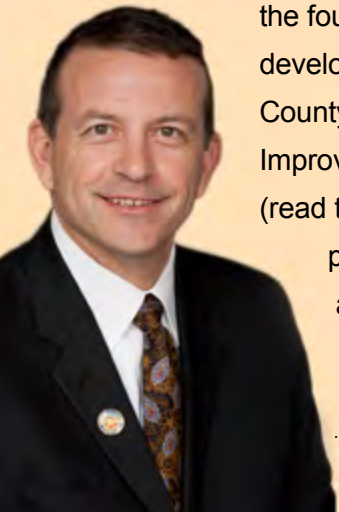
**FEATURED ARTICLES**

- Building Healthier Communities Through Grassroots Effort . . . . .2
- Event Recognizes Work of Public Health Programs . . . . .4
- Peer-to-Peer . . . . .6
- Retirement News . . . . .8
- OCHealthierTogether.org Announces New Updates and Tools . . . . .15

## PHS Director's MESSAGE

What an exciting opportunity to be able to share the great things that Public Health Services (PHS) has been working on this year in this special edition of the "What's Up" newsletter. Our work is built upon the collaborative relationships we have with our community partners whom we work with every day to improve health for all who live, work and play in Orange County.

These partnerships served as the foundation to develop the Orange County Health Improvement Plan (read the 2017-19 plan [here](#)) and launch Orange



... continued on page 2



## Family Health Division Launches New 'Every Woman OC' Website

Recognizing a need for reproductive age women to easily access accurate and current pregnancy and postpartum information, a new website ([www.everywomanoc.org](http://www.everywomanoc.org)) aims to provide essential health information and resources to women who are considering pregnancy, are pregnant or just had a baby.

"Every Woman OC has rich content with national, state and local resources," said **Dr. David Nuñez**, Family Health Medical Director. "This is truly a unique and easy-to-use resource that will benefit women

across Orange County, whether they access the website from a computer, tablet, or smartphone."

Users can easily navigate the website to find information on medical services, nutrition and healthy weight, healthy relationships, substance use, the home and work environment and infant care. Content is also available in Spanish at [www.sp.everywomanoc.org](http://www.sp.everywomanoc.org).

Through collaborative efforts of the Orange County Perinatal Council and public, private partners, the website

... continued on page 17

## Director's Message

*continued from page 1*

County's Healthier Together initiative, where more than 80 public-private partners have now come together under the umbrella of the Health Improvement Partnership. The [OHealthierTogether.org](http://OHealthierTogether.org) website that features readily accessible data and demographic snapshots of Orange County serves as a great resource for the community. Read more on [page 15](#).

Achieving national accreditation status from the Public Health Accreditation Board has also reshaped some of the work we do to focus on core public health services based on our diverse community. Our [Public Health Strategic Plan for 2017-19](#) reviewed community priorities, needs and opportunities, and while we continue to fare well, there remains key areas of disparities and improvements. Over the next three years, our work will address five focus areas to significantly influence the health of the community. Learn more on [page 8](#).

Workplace development opportunities for staff across all programs is important so that we can continue to provide quality services to our community. Our [PHS intranet](#) provides various trainings from flyer development to designing/delivering effective trainings and more. I'm pleased to also share that the California State University, Fullerton Master's in Public Health on-site certificate program will once again be available this year and is open to all Health Care Agency staff. More details to come soon!

While these are just a few of the key topics that we're working on, I encourage you to read on to learn more about all the great things that our programs are doing.

Sincerely,



**David Souleles,**  
PHS Deputy Agency Director



Youth from Las Positas Elementary School in La Habra examine sidewalks in the city to see how they can be made safer for walking.



Teen moms learn how to prepare a healthy breakfast at Gilbert High School in Anaheim.

# Building Healthier Communities Through Grassroots Efforts

Public Health Services (PHS) aims to reduce obesity and improve overall health in four Orange County cities with the highest obesity rates through a new approach that mobilizes residents and educates them on how to identify concerns, craft solutions and implement activities in their own communities.

With successful grassroots efforts helping communities make positive lifestyle changes, PHS funded community-based organizations [America on Track](#) and [Community Partnership of Orange County](#) to develop a collective impact model (framework that addresses complex social issues using a structured, collaborative approach to achieve significant and lasting change) in the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, La Habra and Santa Ana.

This new approach utilizes the organizations' sphere of influence in the community, together with the expertise of Nutrition Services staff, to implement promising practices and develop innovative strategies to address complex health issues related to obesity where people

eat, work, learn, play and shop to improve health and build healthier communities.

Funding is provided through Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention (NEOP), a statewide movement of partners collectively working toward improving the health of low-income residents through increased fruit and vegetable consumption and daily physical activity that utilizes multiple venues to facilitate behavior change in homes, schools, worksites and communities. To learn more, visit HCA's NEOP program [here](#).

“ Building a healthy environment by the community and for the community, is an exciting endeavor that we're undertaking to establish healthy norms. We're excited to be part of this collaboration with our community providers.”

**Maridet Ibañez,**  
Nutrition Services Program Manager



Parents from Wilson Elementary School learn how to “rethink their drink” as they participate in a store tour at Big Saver Market in Santa Ana.

# Event Recognizes Work of Public Health Programs

Public Health Services (PHS) celebrated [National Public Health Week](#) (April 2-8) at an *Excellence in Public Health Open House* on April 3 to showcase the work of its programs and celebrate the people behind them.



“ I am

always proud of the work we do in Public Health. The posters presented as part of this year’s Public Health Week Celebration really showcased the excellent work that takes place in our programs and our staff’s commitment to continuous quality improvement.”

David Souleles,  
PHS Deputy Agency Director



This year, PHS staff shared their quality improvement (QI) stories through poster presentation that showcased how they used QI principles and tools to make improvements in their work. Open house attendees voted for their favorite of the 13 programs from across PHS that shared stories, ranging from improving client outcomes to creating more efficient processes.

**And the winners are:**

- **Most Creative: Family Health – OC Teen and Parenting Cal-Learn Programs**

The Teen Parentland themed display highlighted the program’s efforts to increase the number of participants with passing grades.

- **Best Use of QI tools: Public Health Laboratory**



**1.** Matt Haines (left) from Supervisor Do's office presented Public Health Services Deputy Agency Director David Souleles (right) with a resolution recognizing National Public Health Week by the Board of Supervisors. **2.** Public Health Laboratory received the award for "Best Use of QI Tools" for their project to streamline communication related to courier issues and ensure accuracy of specimen information. Pictured (left to right): Lydia Mikhail, Victoria Buchanan, Paterno Lopez, Minoo Ghajar, and Doug Schan. **3.** Amalia Lam is pictured with the Family Health Division's – OC Teen Parenting and Cal-Learn Programs that was voted "Most Creative" with their Teen Parentland themed display that showcased a project to increase passing grades for their teen clients. **4.** California Children's Services' Brachial Plexus Injury Work Group was voted "Most Inspirational" for their efforts to improve outcomes for children with brachial plexus. Here, Dennis Chen (middle) discusses the project with project partners Marsha Owen (left), Janet Shin (right), and other attendees.

The PH Lab showcased how they streamlined communication by creating new forms to reduce the time that lab staff spent on courier issues and ensure accuracy of information needed for specimen pick-up.

- **Most Inspirational: California Children's Services – Brachial Plexus Injury (BPI) Workgroup**

The BPI project presented an

inspirational story on their efforts to improve outcomes for children with brachial plexus palsy by working to improve coordination of care between CCS and CHOC Hospital.

PHS launched the QI program with its *Quality Academy* in 2013 and subsequently established a QI Committee to help provide trainings and support to staff. While in 2016, the Public Health Initiative for Re-

sults and Excellence (PHIRE) was launched to help staff engage in identifying key goals and objectives, community needs, and best practices. PHIRE also helped to make continuous quality improvement a part of every program's activities.

NPHW celebrates the power of prevention and champions the role of a strong public health system. The NPHW theme "Healthiest Nation 2030," focused on making the United States the healthiest nation in one generation by year 2030. To learn more, visit [www.nphw.org](http://www.nphw.org) or click [here](#) to learn how our PHS division keeps Orange County healthy by protecting us from disease and injury.

# Peer-to-Peer

## Caring Doctor Serves the Underserved at 17th Street Clinic

“ I’m incredibly proud of the care we give our patients here, especially the children. Feeling personally connected to these kids is very rewarding. We have a great team of nurses who go out of their way to help our families, many of whom speak a variety of languages. ”



**Dr. Julie Johnson**, Physician II with Public Health Services’ (PHS) Family Health Clinics, provides medical services for adults and children that includes preventive pediatric exams, immunizations and women’s health services. She and her team of nurses, nurse practitioners and clinic team members see more than 3,000 children a year at the 17th Street Clinic in Santa Ana from communities that are underserved and are uninsured.

Staff not only give medical care but provide health education, advocate for their patients who need medical specialists, help homeless families secure school records, and connect kids without resources to backpacks, books and even Christmas presents.

## 5 Things You Need About the Whole - C

**1** On September 25, 2016, Governor Brown signed a Senate Bill (SB 586) into law which transfers financial and case management responsibility for Medi-Cal beneficiaries within the California Children’s Services (CCS) program to designated County Organized Health Systems (COHS).

**2** SB 586 authorized the California Department of Health Care Services to establish the [Whole-Child Model \(WCM\)](#) program to be implemented in 21 counties with a designated COHS no sooner than July 1, 2018 for Phase I and no sooner than January 1, 2019 for Phase II. SB 586 also set the parameters to provide improved care coordination for primary, specialty and behavioral health services for both non-CCS and CCS [conditions](#); care that is consistent with CCS standards by CCS paneled providers, specialty care centers and pediatric care hospitals; and increased consumer protections such as continuity of care, oversight of network standards and quality performance. Learn more [here](#).

She spends her days treating diverse patient needs from inoculating children for school, family planning and preparing travelers for their trips with proper medical needs. Transitioning seamlessly and effectively among the different operational areas within the clinic, Dr. Johnson cherishes the time she spends with the children visiting the clinic.

Dr. Johnson began her role with the PHS clinic in 2014 following nine years at Riverside County Public Health. A true SoCal native, she was born at St. Joseph's

Hospital in Orange, earned her undergraduate degree from California State University, Fullerton, her medical degree from the University of California, Irvine and served her residency working as a primary care physician with Kaiser Permanente in Anaheim.

During her spare time, Julie and her

family like to travel and go camping. She is also an avid fan of Yorba Linda High School Lacrosse, where she watches her son play. Thank you Julie for your commitment to excellence, integrity and service! Julie is the OC Health Care Agency's Peer-to-Peer winner for April. Job well done!



## to Know Child Model

**3** In Orange County, no sooner than January 1, 2019, case management and care coordination responsibilities for approximately 12,700 CCS patients will be transitioned to CalOptima, Orange County's designated COHS. On January 1, 2019, Medi-Cal members' needs related to CCS services will be part of CalOptima's Medi-Cal plan. Visit [CalOptima](#) to learn more. Family members and those interested in keeping up-to-date with the implementation may sign-up online to receive email updates [here](#).

**4** The remaining 1,400 CCS eligible clients who are not CalOptima members will continue to be case managed by the Health Care Agency (HCA). HCA will also continue to determine CCS eligibility and retain all current responsibility for the Medical Therapy Program that provides medically necessary physical and occupational therapy services to children and youth with conditions that include: cerebral palsy, spina bifida, traumatic brain injury, muscular dystrophy, and other chronic disabilities. These services are provided in Medical Therapy Units located in public school settings throughout the county. To learn more about CCS, click [here](#).

**5** Public Health Services anticipates that implementation of the Whole-Child Model sometime after January 1, 2019, may result in staffing impacts within the CCS program. More details to come as HCA continues to work with CalOptima on the transition. For more information, visit CalOptima's Whole-Child Model webpage at [https://caloptima.org/en/CCS\\_Info.aspx](https://caloptima.org/en/CCS_Info.aspx).

# RETIREMENT NEWS

The OC Health Care Agency (HCA) bids farewell to Public Health Services (PHS) Chief of Operations **Donna Fleming** and wishes her a happy retirement. Good luck and best wishes on your future endeavors!

Donna began her career at HCA in 2005 diligently serving in a number of key management roles over the last 13 years including HIV Planning and Coordination Manager, Disease Control and Epidemiology Division Manager and PHS Chief of Operations. Notable projects include:

- Provided leadership through numerous complex public health response efforts to protect the health of the public including H1N1 Influenza, Measles, Ebola, Mycobacterium and Hepatitis A.
- Led the Orange County Health Improvement Partnership in community health assessment and planning to establish the Orange County Health Improvement Plan, outlining goals, objectives, and strategies aimed at improving the health and well-being of Orange County residents.
- Managed efforts for the HCA to receive national accreditation



PHS Deputy Agency Director David Souleles congratulated Donna Fleming at her retirement event on March 29 and presented her with a Board resolution.

## Public Health Services Strategic Plan

The Public Health Services (PHS) Strategic Plan for 2017-20 is now available online [here](#) and provides a renewed look at strategic priorities and lays out goals and objectives over the next three years.

The previous Strategic Plan was published in 2014 and led to many successes including the implementation of innovative projects funded through the [Shark Tank](#) initiative. Examples of those proj-

ects include the new [www.Every-WomanOC.org](http://www.Every-WomanOC.org) website (read more on [page 1](#)), Environmental Health Services' updated restaurant hand washing signs, and a series of trainings related to health equity.

"We are pleased to have an updated Strategic Plan that helps highlight areas where Public Health Services can create the greatest impact over the next few years," said **David Souleles**, Public Health Services



from the Public Health Accreditation Board that highlighted the distinctive work of the PHS workforce.

PHS celebrated Donna's retirement at an event held at the 17th Street Clinic in Santa Ana where PHS Deputy Agency Director **David Souleles** presented her with a Board of Supervisors resolution to commemorate the occasion.

Marc Meulman will serve as Interim Chief of Operations while the Agency conducts a recruitment to fill the position on a permanent basis.



Pictured (left to right): Pat Orme, Marc Meulman, Megan Crumpler, David Souleles, Donna Fleming, Jenna Sarin, Jane Chai, Dr. Helene Calvet, Harriet Fain and Amy Buch.

# Services Publishes Updated



Deputy Agency Director.

The planning process took place between April and December 2017 and began with efforts to provide

information for and involve staff at all levels. PHS provided updates at "State of Orange County's Health" presentations that discussed how Orange County was doing on key health topics. The Strategic Planning Work Group, made up of 58 individuals from throughout Public Health Services met in June to review and guide key elements of the plan.

The process helped to affirm the PHS vision, mission, and values and identify system improvements for the service areas. Staff also reviewed

local data as well as state and national priorities and identified five focus areas that represented unique opportunities for PHS to significantly influence the health of the community over the next three years.

These five focus areas include:

- 1) Maternal and Infant Health;
- 2) Healthy Weight and Fitness;
- 3) Chronic Disease Prevention and Management;
- 4) STDs and HIV; and
- 5) Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other

... continued on page 20

# Orange County's Healthier Together Initiative Highlights Key Achievements

Since *Orange County's Healthier Together* initiative launched in 2014 to implement the Orange County Health Improvement Plan, more than 80 partners have come together under the umbrella of the [Health Improvement Partnership](#) to improve the health of Orange County. Read the plan [here](#).



The 2017-19 Orange County Health Improvement Plan builds off the inaugural plan (published in 2014) and identifies continued efforts in four priority health areas: 1) infant and child health; 2) older adult health; 3) obesity and diabetes; and 4) behavioral health. The plan also identifies [new areas of interest](#) for exploration including: 1) access to health care; 2) oral health; and 3) social determinants of health. Work groups for these areas meet regularly to coordinate activities and identify new strategies to tackle the greatest health

issues in Orange County.

Key achievements by priority area work groups include:

- **Infant and Child Health:** In partnership with the Orange County Perinatal Council (OCPC), HCA launched [www.everywomanoc.org](http://www.everywomanoc.org) and [www.sp.everywomanoc.org](http://www.sp.everywomanoc.org) to provide information to women in English and Spanish, who are thinking about pregnancy, are pregnant or just had a baby. Read more on [page 1](#). Thanks to the work of HCA, OCPC and the Orange County Hospital Breast-

feeding Consortium, seven out of 15 hospitals in Orange County are now designated as Baby-Friendly (hospitals that offer an optimal level of care for infant feeding and mother/baby bonding), which means that most women are having babies in a Baby-Friendly hospital.

- **Obesity and Diabetes:** The Obesity Workgroup identified four cities (Anaheim, Buena Park, La Habra, and Santa Ana) at greatest risk of obesity in Orange County and were able to direct

Federal Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention funding to these cities to help create environments and support behaviors that reduce obesity. Also, as a result of diabetes being identified as a priority, there is now an Orange County Diabetes Collaborative working to stabilize increasing rates of diabetes in the county.

- **Older Adult Health:** The Orange County Healthy Aging Initiative has created an [Annual Wellness Toolkit](#) to make it easier for providers to offer this Medicare covered benefit, which helps identify health and safety risks for older adults. View this video [here](#) to learn more.
- **Behavioral Health:** HCA conducted the Conditions of Last Drink (COLD) survey, which is offered to DUI offenders after their conviction. Several courts have had a 100% response rate. The data is being used to better understand how to reduce impaired driving in Orange County.
- **New Areas of Interest:** An ad-hoc work group led by co-chairs from the American Heart Association, Orange

County Department of Education, and Mission Hospital was formed to take a more in-depth look at [Social Determinants of Health](#). On the topic of oral health, Public Health Services' Family Health Division is leading a community assessment to look at oral health needs in Orange County. Read more on [page 12](#).

*Orange County's Healthier Together* is a community-wide initiative, administered by Public Health Services, that aligns public and private resources within the public health system to improve health for all communities. To learn more, watch this [video](#) or visit [www.ochealthiertogether.org](http://www.ochealthiertogether.org).

▼ This video featuring Dr. Helene Calvet, former Deputy County Health Officer and Dr. Debbie Rose, Director of the Center for Successful Aging, provides a brief overview of the Annual Wellness Toolkit and demonstration of the Annual Wellness Visit.

“Orange County’s Healthier Together initiative has focused the spotlight on health issues throughout Orange County and fostered a strong collaboration between those in the public and private healthcare sectors. This unique public-private partnership has fostered creative solutions to improve the overall health and wellness of Orange County residents.”

– Pamela Pimentel  
RN, CEO of MOMS Orange County  
Co-chair of Health Improvement  
Partnership



# Innovative Program Engages Residents to Help Cities Build Healthier Communities

Several cities in Orange County recently implemented the FIT (Fifteen in Twenty Twenty) program, a unique initiative that assures that resident engagement becomes part of the natural process of how cities embark on new projects.

“Resident engagement offers a meaningful opportunity to further healthy community efforts in the county,” said **Amy Buch**, Health Promotion Division Manager. “Many jurisdictions receive resident input, however, very few have true resident engagement opportunities.”

Thanks to a grant from Kaiser Permanente, Orange County cities with higher childhood obesity rates were awarded mini grants by the Health Care Agency to implement projects utilizing resident engagement. Cities were required to send community members to participate in a Resident Leadership Academy hosted by a FIT cities consultant where participants were trained in assessment tools, data, storytelling, civic engagement and public speaking to assist them in interacting with their city.

This training opportunity provided a forum for city staff to interact with their residents while also engaging in an open dialogue about projects

within their city. A Parks and Recreation Manager said, “When the DNA of the community is in it (involved in a city project), there is less vandalism. Having everyone together changes how decisions are made in our city.” While another said that they expected residents to simply validate the city’s project, but after an injury data presentation was given, residents voiced their concerns and requested that the city instead prioritize a safety project, so it was moved if forward.

► Community members attend a Resident Leadership Academy to learn how to engage and interact with city representatives to discuss projects and concerns affecting their neighborhoods.



## Orange County Establishes Local Oral Health Program

Orange County was awarded \$749,810 annually for the next five years from \$30 million in funding that the state received through [Proposition 56](#) (increase in cigarette tax by \$2 per pack) to pave the way for counties to develop a Local Oral Health Program (LOHP) that supports the California Department of Public Health’s [2018-2028 California Oral Health Plan](#).

“This funding allows us to assess community capacity and explore opportunities for collaboration and public education on ways to improve oral health in Orange County,” said **Jenna Sarin**, Family Health Division Manager.

The CA Oral Health Plan follows a public health framework that focuses on healthy environments and

# Residents to Communities



“The Academy was well-received and many city staff were surprised that the result of engaged residents was not a list of demands, but rather an educational opportunity for residents to understand how decisions are made at the city level and how they can become part of the decision making process,” Amy said. “Just as city staff were transformed by their interaction with engaged residents, the residents too were also transformed.”

A resident who completed the Academy talked about wanting to teach classes to her community on how to report crime since she felt that people in her neighborhood were afraid to do

so. Now that she has working relationships with city staff, she wants her fellow residents to know that if they don’t report crime, change will likely not occur.

Since the initial training, a train-the-trainer Resident Leadership Academy was also held. County, city and community-based organization staff are now teaming up to conduct additional academies in neighborhoods where individuals are more likely to experience health disparities. To learn more about the project, email [Rebecca Marsile](#), Health Educator or call (714) 834-6610.

## lishes New rogram

habits, linkage to clinical care, infrastructure capacity, communication and health literacy, and surveillance and evaluation.

Housed within Public Health Services Family Health Division under Community Programs, the program’s work will concentrate primarily on establishing a local infrastructure and conducting a comprehensive

Oral Health Community Assessment during its first year. Specific community-wide interventions will be implemented in years 2 through 5.

The program hosted an All-Community Strategic Retreat last month that included diverse oral health stakeholders in the community who discussed issues, oral health needs, participated in asset mapping and

development of an OC Oral Health Strategic Plan and LOHP Work Plan.

If you’re interested in learning more about the LOHP or participating in the Orange County Oral Health Advisory Committee, email [Maya Thona](#), Program Manager, Family Health Community Programs.



# New Technology Helps Public Health Nurses Streamline Client Care

The Public Health Nursing Division (PHND) acquired a new online nursing case management system called *Persimmony* that provides nurses with the ability to electronically document and access client information securely and at locations where care is being provided via laptop, iPad or any mobile device.

*Persimmony* also produces statistical, management and outcome reports to help supervisors monitor nursing care. These reports are also utilized by management to determine allocation of resources and effectiveness of nurses' interventions.

Eleven local health jurisdictions along with the Health Care Agency currently utilize *Persimmony* and collaborate to maximize the software's functionality to help improve client care and streamline nursing services. To learn more about Public Health Nursing, click [here](#).

1. Rosa Macias, PHN III, utilizes *Persimmony* during a client in-home visit. 2. Public Health Nursing *Persimmony* Implementation A-Team pictured (left to right): Robyn Baran, PHN III, Pamela Douglas, Supervising PHN II, Jody Nguyen, Supervising PHN II, and Mahdere Negash, Program Manager. Not pictured: Patricia Orme, Division Manager, Judy Ogan, Program Manager, Marcia Salomon, Supervising PHN and Connie Munguia, Office Supervisor.



# OCHealthierTogether.org Announces New Updates and Tools

Since its launch in 2014, [OCHealthierTogether.org](http://OCHealthierTogether.org) has become the hub for sharing community health data, information, and resources about Orange County. The website is maintained locally by Public Health Services and receives more than 10,000 page views each month.

“The website has been a great resource and has helped us better understand disparities in health and collaborate with our partners on issues impacting health in our communities,” said **Jane Chai**, Public Health Projects Manager and administrator of the website.

The website was recently updated with a new [Location Report Builder](#), which offers an easy way to tell a community’s stories – users can select a location of interest and then add in indicators, maps, and custom text. There are also updated [City Profiles](#) that show key social, health, education, and transportation indicators for each city in Orange County.



Other key features of the website include:

- Updates on events and activities related to the [Orange County Health Improvement Plan](#).
- Trends and disparities on more than 300 health, social, and economic indicators for Orange County on easy to read dashboards.
- Dashboards for older adults, women’s health, and highlighting disparities in Orange County.

... continued on page 20

“ It is very helpful for our nurses to be able to access a client’s health history, medication list and care plan online in the field. Nurses can also quickly provide referrals to medical providers and community resources listed in Persimmony along with contact information. Soon, teaching materials will be imbedded in the software for nurses to use in the home with a client. ”

– Patricia Orme  
Public Health Nursing Division Manager

# Public Health Lab's New Tool Helps Track Disease Outbreaks

Our Public Health Laboratory (OCPHL) recently acquired a new instrument called *Illumina MiSeq* for performing whole genome sequencing (WGS) on bacteria isolates. In other words, *MiSeq* helps the lab look at DNA 'letters' in one organism and compare it to the 'letters' in another to determine if they're similar. This would suggest that both of these bacteria may have come from the same source.

"This next-generation sequencing equipment further expands our WGS capabilities in the lab enabling the Disease Control and Epidemiology program to better track local food-borne (intestinal) disease outbreaks and builds upon our extensive experience in DNA testing," said **Megan Crumpler**, Laboratory Director.

For example, WGS can be used to look at *Salmonella* isolates from patients who ate at the same restaurant. If WGS results show that organisms are similar and the epidemiological



Pictured with the MiSeq system is Angelica Torres, Public Health Microbiologist I.

## PrEP Helps Clients

To decrease the transmission rate of HIV in Orange County, Public Health Services STD/HIV clinic aims to increase awareness about Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) or a pill (called Truvada). People who are HIV negative and may be exposed to HIV through sex or injection drug use, can stay HIV negative by taking Truvada once a day.

"PrEP is one of the most important tools in getting to zero new HIV infections," said **Natalie Silva**, PrEP Program Manager. "Though it's been around for years now, only a small portion of those at high risk for HIV infection use PrEP, partly



because many don't know about it. By increasing awareness with our providers and the community, more patients are likely to start taking it and the transmission rate of HIV disease in Orange County will hopefully





data shows a link, we can be fairly confident that the organisms are the same and both patients became ill by eating at the same restaurant.

The OCPHL has participated in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [PulseNet](#) program (compares the DNA fingerprints of bacteria from patients to find clusters of disease that might represent unrecognized outbreaks) to track food-borne disease outbreaks on both the local and national level since 2004. To learn more about the Public Health Lab, visit [www.ocphlab.com](http://www.ocphlab.com).

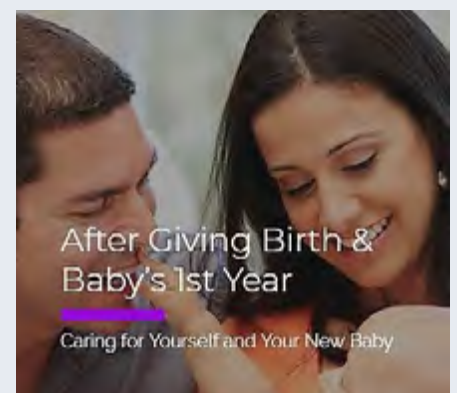
## Family Health Division Launches New 'Every Woman OC' Website

*continued from page 1*



was developed by the Public Health Services (PHS) Family Health division using \$25,000 in funding received during the 2016-17 ['Shark Tank'](#) Challenge (modeled after the NBC network show *'Shark Tank'* that encouraged HCA staff to pitch projects aligned with goals in the PHS Services [Strategic Plan](#) and [Orange County Health Improvement Plan](#)). Learn more [here](#).

To obtain materials to share the website with your clients, contact [Maya Thona](#), Community Programs Manager at (714) 567-6234.



# Stay HIV Negative

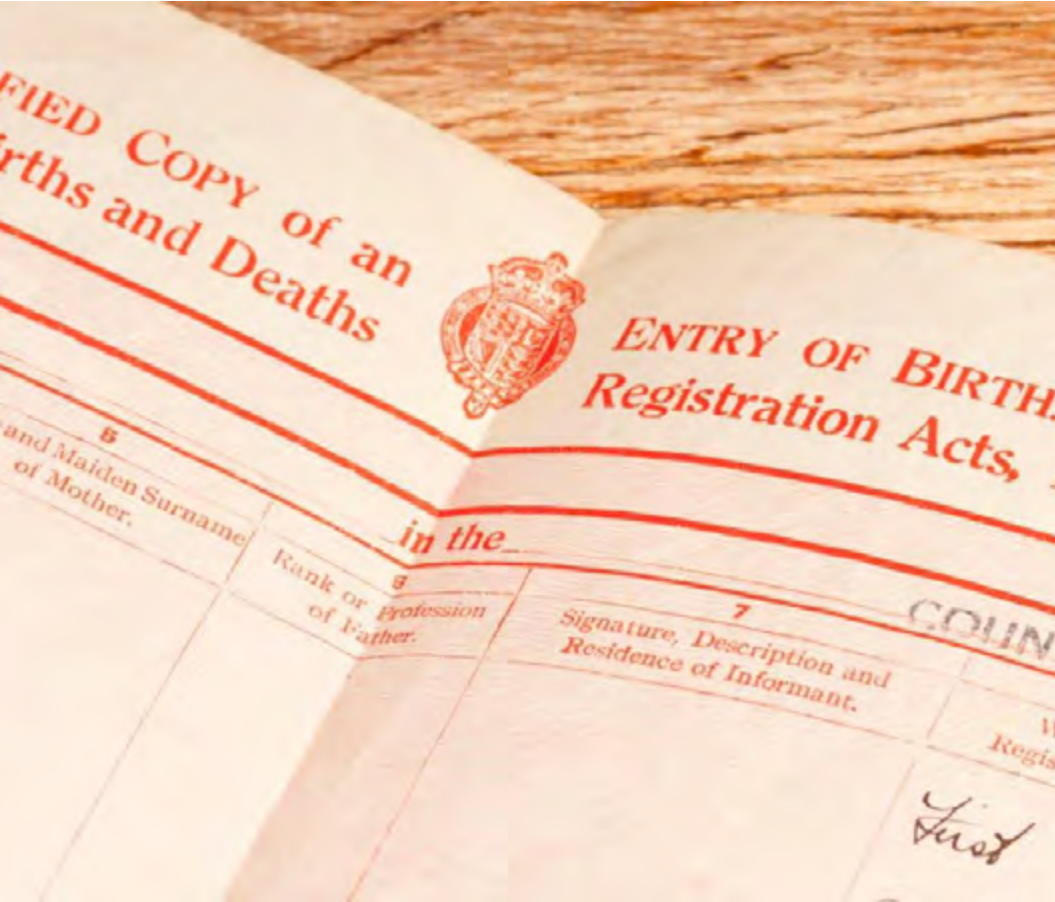


decrease.”

PrEP works by stopping HIV from taking hold and spreading through the body. When used together with condoms, PrEP is greater than 92% effective at protecting someone from

becoming HIV positive. To learn more about PrEP and see if it's right for you, read the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 'PrEP 101' fact sheet [here](#).

The 17th Street Testing, Treatment and Care clinic provides PrEP education and referrals to patients who have insurance and medical care for uninsured patients. For questions about PrEP or for information about testing, call the Health Care Agency's PrEP line at (714) 834- PREP (7737) or visit [www.ochealthinfo.com/phs/about/dcepi/ttc](http://www.ochealthinfo.com/phs/about/dcepi/ttc). Additional PrEP resources can be found online at [www.pleasePrEPme.org](http://www.pleasePrEPme.org).



# Pardon the

If you've visited the 17th Street Public Health Services (PHS) Clinic in Santa Ana recently, you may be wondering why there's a large crane towering over the building in the rear parking lot and asking yourself "what's with all of the dust and noise?"

Renovations are underway to allow for the restrooms, common hallways, conference rooms and the employee breakroom to meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, and to add a new family restroom that will be located near the public restrooms.

Enhancements and upgrades in the common hallways will add new lighting, flooring, ceiling tiles and fresh paint. Employee and public restrooms are also being updated to allow for space reconfiguration and the addition of new hands-free fixtures.

Check out some of these before and after photos or stop by the clinic to visit our PHS staff and see it in-person. Construction began late October last year and occurs in six different phases (during business hours and after hours) over an estimated 14 months with expected completion in December 2018.

## OC Birth Registration Ranks 6th in State for Registration Timeliness

The California Department of Public Health's 2017 Timeliness Report ranked Orange County 6th in the state and 1st overall for larger counties regarding birth registration timeliness with 98.5% of all births being registered within the 10-day time limit.

"With more than 40,000 births recorded in Orange County each year, this is a tremendous achievement," said **Kim Pickering**, Chief Registrar. "This success is a direct result of the hard work of the County birth registration staff, hospitals

and birthing centers that we work with to register the births."

To increase timeliness, the Birth and Death Registration program streamlined the registration process by realigning staff duties and providing technical assistance to hospitals and birthing centers on issues that can lead to delays in the registration process.

Kudos to our Birth and Death Registration team! To learn more, visit the program's webpage [here](#).

# Less Dust at the 17th Street Clinic



**BEFORE**

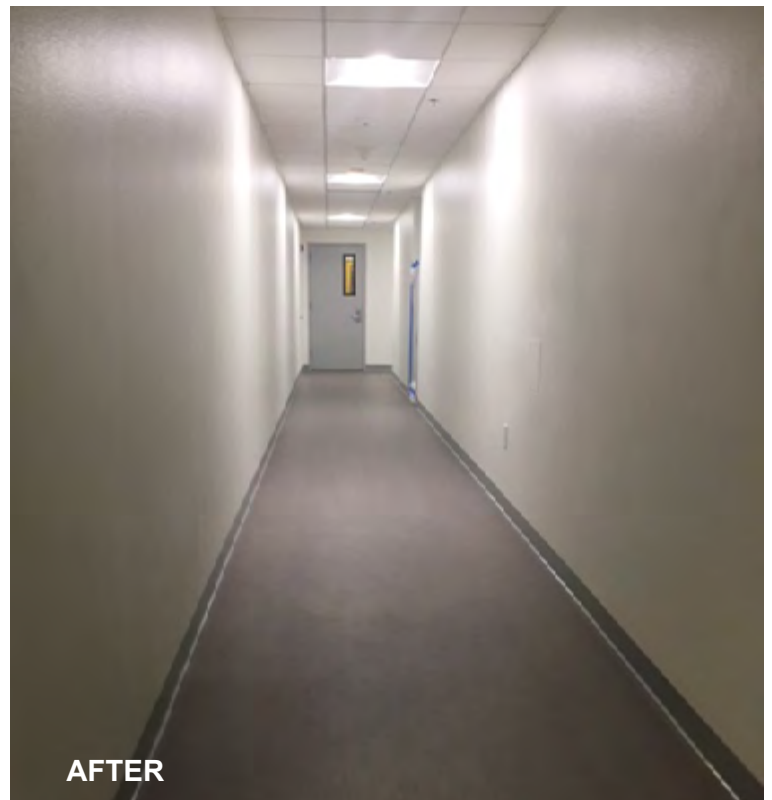


**AFTER**

Construction workers install plumbing for new restroom fixtures in the men's employee restroom (phase 1).



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

Demolition of flooring in a common hallway (phase 2).

## Public Health Services Publishes Updated Strategic Plan

continued from page 8

Drugs. Public Health Services division managers are leading work groups that have identified objectives and strategies for each focus area and are implementing next steps. To read the plan, including goals, objectives, and strategies, visit <http://intranet/phs/strategicplan>.



Health Promotion Division Manager, Amy Buch led the Chronic Disease Prevention and Management work group during a planning session to determine key strategies to include in the 2017-20 Strategic Plan.

## OCHealthierTogether.org Announces New Updates and Tools

continued from page 15

- An interactive demographic dashboard with 554 Orange County demographic items.
- Tools for data analysis and report writing.
- A database of more than 2,200 promising practices for improving health.
- A searchable resource library with links to funding opportunities, updates, and 211OC resources
- Links to over 130 Orange County reports and plans.



To learn how to use the website, watch this [webinar](#) or visit the website at [www.ochealthiertogether.org](http://www.ochealthiertogether.org).



## MISSION

In partnership with the community, protect and promote the health and safety of individuals and families in Orange County through:

- Assessment and planning
- Prevention and education
- Treatment and care



## Connect with Us



The **What's Up** newsletter is created and distributed monthly by HCA Communications. Please call (714) 834-2178 with any suggestions or comments.