Prevention and Healthcare Reform: Why It’s Important for Alameda County

April 23, 2012

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The Toll of Chronic Disease in U.S.

- Chronic disease accounts for 7 out of every 10 deaths in the U.S.
- 75% of all U.S. healthcare spending is attributable to chronic disease
- Close to 50% of Americans have at least one chronic condition – expected to rise by more than 25% by 2020.
- The cost to employers of obesity among full-time employees is $73.1 billion a year (Duke University)
The Toll of Chronic Disease in CA

Map 1. Percentage of Adults with One or More Chronic Conditions, by County, 2007

*Chronic conditions consist of active asthma, congestive heart failure, diabetes, hypertension or psychological distress.

Source: 2007 California Health Interview Survey
Health and Inequities in Alameda

Figure 5.5: Life Expectancy at Birth by City

Table 5.29: Life Expectancy at Birth by Race/Ethnicity and Gender

Source: Alameda County Vital Statistics Files, 2006-08.
Prevention is the Smart Investment

• Effective Prevention tackles main drivers of chronic disease
  • Tobacco use
  • Physical inactivity
  • Poor nutrition
  • Excessive alcohol abuse
• Builds community environments that support healthy living
• Creates effective links to healthcare system (immunizations and more)
• ROI estimated at 5.4:1

Health is largely determined by the economic, social, physical, and service environments in which people live, work, study, and play.

World Health Organization Commission on Social Determinants of Health

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What Prevention Looks Like

• **Regional Asthma Management and Prevention**, a nationally recognized program, works to address social and environmental inequities that lead to asthma in California.

• **Healthy Eating, Active Communities** improved access to healthy food and physical activity in six low-income communities across California to reduce childhood obesity.

• The *Network for a Healthy California* is a national gold standard for nutrition outreach and education to low-income communities.

• The California Endowment’s **Building Healthy Communities** initiative works in 14 communities across the state to improve employment opportunities, education, housing, neighborhood safety, environmental conditions, access to healthy foods and more.
Healthcare Reform: Prevention Goes National
Prevention in the Affordable Care Act

ACA results in first ever Prevention and Public Health Fund and National Prevention Strategy
Breakdown of the Prevention and Public Health Fund

For FY11, the Prevention Fund was invested in:

- **State and Local Chronic Disease Prevention** ($197 million)
  - $145 million for Community Transformation Grants (CTG)
- **Tobacco Prevention** ($50 million)
- Access to Clinical Prevention ($114 million)
- Behavioral Health Screening, Surveillance, & Primary Care Integration ($88 million)
- Public Health Infrastructure ($40 million)
- Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity ($45 million)
- Expand the Public Health Workforce ($45 million)
- Environmental Health Tracking ($35 million)
- Community and Clinical Prevention Research ($49 million)
ACA Prevention and CPPW

– The Prevention and Public Health Fund’s chronic disease prevention efforts build upon and expand much of the work started by the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) program funded by the stimulus.

– CCPW is a locally driven initiative supporting 50 communities to tackle obesity and tobacco use by implementing environmental changes to make healthy living easier.
What Has Already Been Accomplished

• More than **50 million Americans** (1 in 6) live in a community that benefits from the Communities Putting Prevention to Work initiative.
  - over **9.5 million Americans** can take advantage of pricing policies in which healthier foods and beverages are priced less than or equal to their less healthy counterparts.
  - over **3.8 million Americans** live in a neighborhood that has undergone structural improvements, such as the creation of bike lanes and walking trails, to encourage physical activity.
  - over **64.9 million Americans** have been protected from deadly secondhand smoke because of tobacco-free policies.
Community Transformation Grant Program in California

- California awarded $22.3 million in CTG funding in 2011, or 20% of national total

- PHI working with CDPH and local health departments in 42 small and rural counties
CTG’s 3 Main Goals

- Maximize health impact through prevention.
- Advance health equity and reduce health disparities.
- Expand the evidence base for local systems, environmental, and infrastructure changes that impact health.

Core belief:
Communities have the power to shape their own health and well-being.
Prevention in CA: Public Support

• All major segments of the voter population view unhealthy eating or a lack of physical activity as the greatest health risk to state’s kids.

• 73% believe public investments to keep people healthy pay for themselves by preventing disease and reducing health care costs

• 68% support a comprehensive program to prevent childhood obesity even if it increased government spending
Vulnerability of Prevention Funding

- Prevention Fund a consistent target of ACA opponents
- In February 2012 the Fund was cut by $5 billion
- Cutting prevention is short-sighted, ineffective policy
- ACA remains under attack
Where Do We Go From Here?

Opportunities for Alameda County:

- **LEVERAGE** strong community clinic network to expand prevention in clinical setting AND community
- **SUPPORT** Alameda County Public Health Department
- **ADVOCATE** for prevention funding - not just sustained levels, but increases
- **BUILD** community-wide investment in prevention, including from business
- **ADOPT** a Health in All Policies framework
- **SUPPORT** and **EXPAND** what is working