

Date: January 19, 2024

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager



From: Alison King, Acting Director of Health and Human Services



For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: Status Update—Improving LGBTQIA2S+ Health and Wellbeing

On June 20, 2023, the City Council requested the City Manager to work with the Health and Human Services Department (Health Department) to develop guidelines for the collection and reporting of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) data by City of Long Beach (City) departments that provide health care and other social services, to better understand and improve the health and wellbeing of LGBTQIA2S+ Long Beach residents.

The Health Department included demographic questions on SOGI in our event feedback survey, which gathers input regarding our community events, to help inform SOGI data collection best practices in the department. A review of available local and statewide health-related data sets inclusive of LGBTQIA2S+ identities was also completed to better understand epidemiological trends.

To further understand health disparities for this community in Long Beach, the Health Department will also be launching a LGBTQIA2S+ Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)—a research project with the intended goal of identifying population-level health needs and community strengths through data collection, community engagement, and collaboration. The Health Department intends to enter into contractual agreements with community-based organizations and a research partner to facilitate listening sessions. These sessions will contribute to the development of survey questions that will subsequently be distributed to the community for feedback. After collecting and analyzing the data, a report will be developed and published. The Health Department anticipates the project will launch in early 2024. The findings and community input gathered through the completion of the CHNA will allow for the development of guidelines for the collection and reporting of SOGI data by City departments.

For more information, please contact Erica Valencia-Adachi, Collective Impact Bureau Manager, at Erica.Valencia-Adachi@longbeach.gov or (562) 570-4017.

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