

OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

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CALIFORNIA HEALTH CARE FACT BOOK RELEASED

SACRAMENTO – The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) today announced the release of its second edition of the California Health Care Fact Book. The Fact Book contains information collected from a number of State departments and private organizations. It provides a snapshot of California's population, health providers, and health care needs. Specifically, the book provides information about:

- ❖ California's population trends in terms of ethnic origin, age, geographic distribution;
- ❖ Annual expenditures for health-related services in California, health insurance coverage, the Medi-Cal program, and HMO's;
- ❖ California's health care providers and facilities;
- ❖ California statistics for pregnancy-related care, cancer, heart disease, AIDS, and other conditions, as well as for the most common causes of hospitalization, major causes of death, and prevalence of mental health and substance abuse problems;
- ❖ Issues likely to figure prominently in discussions of health care in the near future.

When asked about the report's release, OSHPD's Director David Werdegar, MD, MPH, stated "Californians must be active participants in decisions about health care in order to assure their needs are met -- both individually and as members of the larger community. The California Health Care Fact Book provides some basic facts that will assist Californians in making intelligent decisions about health care."

A copy of the California Health Care Fact Book is available on the Internet at www.oshpd.state.ca.us or in printed form. Please call the Health Care Information Resource Center at (916) 326-3802 to order your copy.