The CA Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative and the Healthy Nail Salon Campaign

Lisa Fu, MPH  Program and Outreach Director
Julia Liou, MPH  Collaborative Manager & Asian Health Services Planning & Development Director
Presentation Outline

- Background on the CA Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative
- How the Healthy Nail Salon Program was established
- Key Features of the Healthy Nail Salon Program
Include a little background on some of the policies that were being considered and what inspired the formation of the Collaborative

- Established in 2005

- Over 40 collaborative members, including public health/ environmental advocates, nail salon workers and owners, community-based groups, and allies in public agencies

- Unifying our collective voices to leverage for change

- Three arms of work: community outreach, policy advocacy, and research
Help create conditions that assist in empowering the nail salon and cosmetology worker by:

- Engaging local grassroots leadership, workers, and when possible, owners in identifying key issues and developing solutions
- Encouraging and supporting nail salon workers and owners to be leaders and advocates

Work collectively by:

- Sharing knowledge, resources, wisdom, and best practices
- Unifying our collective activities and respective strengths to leverage greater power
- Supporting each other and not reinventing existing practices

Find constructive solutions by:

- Identifying practices that benefit both workers and, when possible, small employers in order to ensure worker health and safety, continued employment and business viability
- Predominantly targeting manufacturers of harmful products, rather than small businesses
- Engaging in policy advocacy, outreach and education, and research

Asian Health Services

• Established the Collaborative in 2005
• Noted the epidemic of health issues among Vietnamese nail salon workers
• Community Health Center whose patients are nail salon workers
Researchers, Policy wonks, and community organizers
The Collaborative focuses on fostering the inherent strength of immigrant nail salon workers to take an active role in problem solving and advocating for positive outcomes towards safe, healthy and fair working conditions that are free from environmental and workplace hazards and toxins. The nail salon population is a tight knit, family and culture focused community, with up to 80% immigrants from Vietnam. Manicurists take pride in their craft, but most work long hours, for low wages, and in unsafe conditions. Similar to most immigrants, nail salon workers seek to improve their lives and provide for their families.

The Collaborative recognizes the power of the nail salon community to create change for themselves and thousands of others in their community. The Collaborative’s leadership development approach builds upon nail salon workers’ natural strengths, assets, and experiences to organize the salon community through culturally tailoring our work. Trainings are conducted in Vietnamese, the language most commonly spoken by nail salon workers, and focus on building salon workers’ knowledge of ergonomics, chemical exposure, infectious disease, and workplace rights. Core Leaders participate in intensive leadership development training to become advocates, leaders and spokespeople. They also participate in skills building trainings to build their confidence to communicate concerns to decision makers, receive deeper guidance and opportunities for leadership and community building, and increase their leadership in the campaigns. This culturally and linguistically tailored leadership development training curriculum encourages and challenges nail salon workers and owner to lead and create sustainable change to improve the health and well-being of themselves, their families and communities.
Conduct research projects that support the Collaborative’s mission

Facilitate research collaborations among members and allies

- Research Convening: Funded by CBCRP to host a convening to discuss state of the science and research gaps for cosmetics safety. Over 120 participants (researchers, advocates, nail salon workers and owners, cosmetologists, government, and industry) public health experts. Developed a set of research recommendations, with input from various stakeholders

- Convene a Research Advisory Committee to provide technical expertise. One of the major outcomes of the research convening was establishing a multi-disciplinary Research Advisory Committee. Meets about two times per year to provide guidance on topics, ranging from chemical hazards to emerging concerns such as gel nails.
Federal Safe Cosmetics Act

• Phase out toxic chemicals
• Premarket safety assessments
• Full product ingredient lists
• FDA must develop safety standards

• Phase out on the use of known carcinogens, genetic mutagens, and reproductive toxins from cosmetics
• Premarket safety assessments of all personal care product ingredients
• Full product ingredient lists on labels and websites
• FDA must incorporate assessments & develop safety standards on the risk to those highly exposed.
### Select Compounds in Nail Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compounds</th>
<th>Nail care use</th>
<th>Potential Health Effects</th>
<th>Route(s) of Exposure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acetone</td>
<td>Nail polish remover</td>
<td>Shortens menstrual cycle</td>
<td>Inhalation, dermal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dibutyl Phthalate (DBP)</td>
<td>Nail polish</td>
<td>Endocrine disruption; developmental and reproductive effects</td>
<td>Inhalation, dermal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formaldehyde</td>
<td>Nail hardener, disinfectant</td>
<td>Known carcinogen; respiratory effects</td>
<td>Inhalation, dermal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methylenecarbonate Chloride</td>
<td>Artificial nail solvent</td>
<td>Possible carcinogen</td>
<td>Inhalation, dermal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK)</td>
<td>Nail polish thinners</td>
<td>Damaged liver and kidney, reproductive effects</td>
<td>Inhalation, dermal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methyl Methacrylate (MMA)</td>
<td>Artificial nails</td>
<td>Respiratory effects - asthma; neurological symptoms</td>
<td>Inhalation, ingestion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Titanium Dioxide</td>
<td>Acrylic nail powder, nail polish</td>
<td>Possible carcinogen</td>
<td>Inhalation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toluene</td>
<td>Nail polish, nail polish thinner, nail adhesives</td>
<td>Suspected teratogen; endocrine disruption</td>
<td>Inhalation, dermal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
\*\*Cancer\*\*

\*\+\* Regular exposure to known and suspected carcinogens

\*\*Birth Defects & Other Reproductive Health Issues\*\*

\*\+\* Phthalates transferred to the placenta
\*\+\* Toxins passed to newborns when breastfeeding
\*\+\* Miscarriages

qualitative stories we've heard about miscarriages and birth defect stories not just in ca but from other grps in Oregon, washington and maybe from the so cal needs assess. Then go more into detail to just briefly mention cancer (repro related like breast cancer) and the reproductive effects are long term concerns but paucity if research them
There is very limited regulation and review of the chemicals used in cosmetic and personal care products. Of the more than 10,000 chemicals used in personal care and nail products 89 percent have not been tested independently for their safety or impacts on human health before entering the marketplace.

The CA cosmetology industry is the largest professional licensee population in the nation

Nail salons have tripled in number in the last two decades

A growth sector for new immigrants and small business owners

Over 83,000 manicurists, the majority are low-income women of color
$6 Billion industry; # of salons has grown 374%

As first generation immigrants:
1) Lower socioeconomic status
2) Language barrier with respect to English
Lack of knowledge about legal and health care systems

Earn less than $16,000 per year
Estimated 60-70% are Vietnamese
95% are women of reproductive age
Recent immigrants: low-income, limited English
Workforce Context and Complexities

- Employee vs. Independent contractor
  - Lack employee benefits – e.g., health care, calling on OSHA
  - Owners are also workers and hire family and friends

- Workplace hazards
  - Exposures to multiple chemicals over long periods of time
  - Small poorly ventilated salons
  - Limited or lack of product (e.g., MSDS hard to understand)

Immigrant workers in Nail Salons

- Language barriers

- Current regulation focuses on workers not manufacturers
How to address the issue?

I'm concerned about the chemicals I work with...

Workers

Take a comprehensive approach and ban bad chemicals...

Community Orgs

I'm interested in addressing nail salon worker health...

Policy maker
San Francisco Campaign
San Francisco Campaign

“ Toxic Trio” alternatives available...

“TOXIC TRIO”
- Formaldehyde
- Toluene
- Dibutyl phthalate

BAN
Advisory groups-tested products
Community forums
Surveys
CARROT VS the STICK
ASSESSED SUPPORT....
San Francisco Campaign

- Developed educational materials
  - Consumer stand
  - List of three-free polishes, top/base coats
  - Wallet cards (Viet & Eng)

- Conducted surveys with 67 salons in 11 districts

- Assessed local beauty supply store products

200 salons in SF
1800 workers
Over 50 brands available, many at-cost
San Francisco Campaign
Survey results

Out of the 67 salons visited:

- Only two salons use no toxic trio/unknown polishes, top coats, and base coats
- 11 salons use no toxic trio/unknown polishes
- 5 salons use no toxic trio/unknown top coats
- 6 salons use no toxic trio/unknown base coats
Introduced the ordinance
Over 50 organizations, SF residents, workers and students attended the event
Over 16 media hits
Over 30 collaborative members, advocates including 15 students, owners, workers who came out to a morning hearing

Empowered workers and owners—FIRST TIME EVER TO CITY HALL, TALKING WITH LEGISLATOR, VOICING THEIR CONCERNS
San Francisco Nail Salon Recognition Program Ordinance

PASSES UNANIMOUSLY!!!!
Community workshops & Mandatory staff trainings
Salon owners go through a training program run by the city or county, and they commit to adopting the following healthy salon practices (see next slide)
Questions?

www.cahealthynailsalons.org

Lisa Fu
California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative
lfu@cahealthynailsalons.org
213-385-5834

Julia Liou
Asian Health Services
California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative
jliou@ahschc.org
510-986-6830 ext. 267

Collaborative Contacts for
Additional Information
Pretty Shouldn’t Stink:
How a Healthy Nail Salon program can help.

Swati Sharma, Senior Commercial Toxics Reduction Coordinator
Any Deepak, Commercial Toxics Reduction Associate
At the San Francisco Department of the Environment also known as (SF Environment) we aim to create visionary policies and innovative programs that promote social equity, protect human health, and lead the way toward a sustainable future. Within the department of environment, we have several divisions including: zero waste, energy, climate change, transportation and the team my colleague Anya and I are part of -- Toxics reduction -- where we provide environmentally friendly alternatives to toxic products. We help our residents, city staff and SF businesses with information and access to safer alternatives and disposal options.

I head the Commercial toxics section, where we work with the businesses of SF. Since exposure to chemicals at work can be a major health issue, we help businesses implement environmentally responsible practices and recognize them for their efforts.
And one of our programs is the Healthy Nail Salon Program. Anya and I will talk about:
What are the issues – why we started the program
The How and What – the day to day running and obstacles we faced
And a review of the program to see if it is effective.
Let’s start with the why. In the last 20 years, the number of nail salons has tripled. In 2010, there were more than 375,000 nail technicians in the US and more than 57,000 nail salons.

The average salary of nail technicians is less than $18,200 per year

95% of the nail salon work force are women of childbearing age, and most do not speak English

They work around 8 to 10 hours a day and 6 to 7 days a week.
For most people, these are what nail salon chemicals look like. But it is actually a range of products from base coats, top coats, polish removers, thinner, gel polishes, artificial nail building chemicals, strengtheners, and disinfectants, many of which contain chemicals harmful to health and the environment.

Almost all these products contain some Phthalates, solvents, acrylates, formaldehyde and plasticizers.
Many technicians do not have health insurance.

The chemicals in the salon are known to cause health problems ranging from asthma and irritation to possibly cancer.

They can damage the nervous system, cause headaches and dizziness and irritate the skin and nails.

They may also cause miscarriages in women of childbearing age.

Many doctors don’t know or discuss risks that are related to working in a nail salon.

A 2012 by American Congress of OBGYNs found that majority of OBGYNs do not talk to their patients about environmental exposures.

The 1968 exposure limits set by OSHA were designed for industrial settings, a healthy 180 pound man and for 8 hour work days. They also do not account for multiple exposures. Obviously, this is hardly the case in salons.

OSHA is working to change the regulations, but hoping that local regulations will happen.
And that is where we come in. The city of San Francisco adopted the precautionary principle, which implies that there is a social responsibility to protect the public from exposure to harm, when scientific investigation has found a plausible risk. So even when we do not have hundreds of studies to back up the anecdotal evidence we see in this community, we can fall back on the precautionary principle to take anticipatory action to prevent harm to human and environmental health.
In San Francisco, there are about 250 salons that employ around 2500 nail technicians. 95% of the nail technician community is Vietnamese. Being extremely entrepreneurial and enterprising, many open their own salons and work alongside other employees.

The community builds human capital and invests in it.
In the year 2010, San Francisco passed an ordinance that helped the city invest in the community as well.

The ordinance was to provide recognition to salons that choose safer products & train their employees. The task of establishing what this would look like, the criteria, the products, the training was left to the Department of the Environment.

In San Francisco, there was no need to pass an ordinance to develop a voluntary program, but it gave us a solid foundation to work from, as well as a good boost of publicity to start the program.
Until 2011, we conducted some outreach to nail technicians, but there was no recognition program and no incentives given to them to change their products and practices. Then the Department of the Environment held a broad stakeholder meeting that included nail technicians, salon owners, manufacturers and advocacy groups to solicit their input for a successful program. I realize it is not always easy to start a constructive dialogue with manufacturers, but I urge you to do so. In our case we found it very beneficial. It helped us dispel some myths and see the process and timeline for changing out chemicals in products.

Most of these issues are still the same today.

Based on the feedback we received we embarked on a process to research products and create a program

We knew there would be more to do as the program grew. But no one could have warned us how much. Our hope is that what we learned will help remove barriers for other cities that want to implement programs.
So the first thing step was evaluating nail products. There were chemicals in nail product formulations that were toxicants and regulated by other countries. Our product criteria were formed based on questions like these.
We started with a list of 1100 formulations. We identified 450 unique ingredients used in nail polishes. Only 88 could be assessed for their health impacts. 23 out of those were peer reviewed and only 3 had available substitutes.
We did an analysis of the three chemicals in polishes and that formed the basis of our first programmatic criteria: that the products should be free of the toxic trio.
Then we looked at removers. Traditionally, acetone was the bad actor in salons, but the substitutes that had taken its place were even worse. Ethyl and butyl acetate that would have been substitutes are not allowed in removers under California’s air resources board rules.

So, we started recommending acetone or ethyl lactate, which became the second criteria for our program.
Similarly for thinners, we saw a need to reduce the use of thinners as much as possible, and then avoid certain chemicals in the event the salon must use thinner. This formed our third criteria. All this research is available if you want a place to start a similar program in your city. [We will soon be undertaking a new review of ingredients to see if anything has changed.]
Once the research on the products had been done, the next step was to create the program. In February of 2012, we passed our regulations that created the Healthy Nail Salon program. This program is the first of its kind in the nation and SF was the first county in the nation to create an incentive-based recognition approach that encourages salons to apply source reduction strategies to reduce chemical exposures. The program consists of: 10 Criteria the salons must comply with, a training program, and Recognition. Let us first look at the criteria.
This is an overview of the criteria to become a Healthy Nail Salon: products, practices and ventilation. From the stakeholder process, one lesson we learned was that it was not just about having a list of safer products.
The first criteria is: using polishes free of the toxic trio.

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<tr>
<td>1 Use Polishes free of:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Toluene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Dibutyl phthalate</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Formaldehyde</td>
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Healthy nail salons use toxic trio free polishes, but they go way beyond that. Safer products include safer top coats, safer removers and safer thinners.
Around the same time when we were developing our program, we wanted to make sure that if a polish was labeled 3 free, they actually were. We reached out to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, where they tested 25 random brands. They found that 10 of the 12 products claiming to be 3 free, actually contained toluene. Since then, many of the brands came out with new formulations that claim they are three free, but unfortunately, we nor DTSC has the funds to continue testing.
The 2nd criteria was to Use safer removers

Removers can be acetone based
Cannot be ethyl acetate or butyl acetate based
Even though acetone is not a desirable nail salon chemical, the non acetone removers used chemicals like Methyl Ethyl Ketone which were even more harmful than acetone. Ethyl lactate based removers are also a good alternative albeit more expensive than acetone.

The 3rd criteria was to avoid using thinners unless absolutely necessary

In case they have to use it, salons have been asked to purchase thinners without toluene or methyl ethyl ketone (MEK)
Apart from the products, there are 7 other criteria. The 4th criteria is to wear gloves. Gloves must be worn whenever handling salon products. We suggest nitrile gloves for all products, except when acetone is used for longer times. For most salon products, nitrile gloves are protective yet tactile enough for the technician to be able to do detailed work. But nitrile disintegrates when exposed to acetone for more than a few minutes. While it is required to dispose the gloves after each client, some treatments require extended exposure to acetone, in which cases nitrile would not be a good option. That is when we recommend technicians wear latex gloves.

Other suggested personal protective equipment include:

- Long Sleeves
- Safety Goggles
- N95 Masks
Healthy Nail Salons wear gloves while handling chemicals. Many of the salon employees would feel odd wearing gloves because the customers would ask them why they were doing it. They also felt they did not get a good grip on polishing nails with gloves on. We train them on how to educate the customers and encourage practicing working with gloves so it becomes second nature. **They are also encouraged to wear N95 masks when sanding down artificial nails.**
The 5th criteria is to have a good ventilation in the salon. General ventilation is discussed during the training to tailor it to the particular salon. Our ordinance only addresses salon ventilation where artificial nail services are provided. Now we are asking our salons to go above and beyond the ordinance requirements by ventilating all areas. A lesson learned here is that having an ordinance-based program is not as flexible as you might need it to be.
In San Francisco, there are some unique challenges and advantages when it comes to ventilation. The temperate climate means there is no need for air conditioning and that salons can keep the salon doors open 6 months out of 12 to have cross ventilation. Many salons are situated in older buildings with no built in ventilation or ability to cross ventilate. Some salons have exhaust fans like these.

We look at each salon individually to determine the types of services they perform, the layout and airflow in the salon, the need for a particular type of general ventilation and suggest where they can place fans to provide some airflow.

Some states, like New York, are looking at their ventilation requirements for nail salons.
The 6th criteria is to install a mechanical ventilation system if the salon is doing artificial nail treatments. Better ventilation means having a portable ventilation unit for doing artificial nails. Working with the monomer, applying artificial nails, sanding the nails, etc exposes the technician and the customer to irritants, asthmagens and toxicants that can be reduced with a source capturing system like the one shown here.

Charcoal filtered air ventilation passes air through activated charcoal and recirculates the clean air in the salon.
What you see here is a portion of our ventilation fact sheet. We give salons a choice of four ventilation units to purchase.

We provided 100% rebates for the ventilation units to the first 15 nail salons that qualified or asked for them as a way to reward the early adopters. We plan to continue this requirement, but have no additional subsidies for salons coming into the program. We are hoping that this will not become a barrier to joining the program.

These cost anywhere from $800 to $1400. So it is a significant investment, that without the rebates, we’re concerned they might find it prohibitive. We will see.

Unfortunately, there has not been a lot of research done on the effectiveness of the ventilation units. This would be a great funding opportunity for those of you who are looking for important projects to fund.
The 7th criteria is to train all salon staff. The criteria makes sure that our hands-on training would provide the salon and the employees with:

- Multilingual training manual
- Eye goggles
- Dust masks
- Box of nitrile and latex gloves

We require every salon employee (owner, receptionist, cosmetologist) to participate in the training for a salon to be recognized.

They are also trained on:
Program Criteria
Safer Chemicals
Safety and Protecting Health
Greening their salon with Energy & water efficacy and Waste disposal
At first, many owners wanted to evaluate the trainings before signing on. So we started bilingual centralized trainings that were open to all to come attend.
Once they saw we were helping their employees and their business, they signed up. We offer trainings in the language they are most comfortable in at their salons.
The salons are also given technical assistance on what to buy and what to avoid when they go to their supply stores.
The 8th criteria, we will discuss later in the presentation when we talk about the evaluation of the program.

The 9th criteria was to encourage salons to try safer artificial nail products.
Technicians should not be asked to pay the price of beauty. We educate salon technicians on artificial nail products and how currently there are no safer alternatives to them. When we created the program we thought about restricting the use of artificial nails to be part of the program, but the salons pushed back and told us artificial nails is the bread and butter of many salons, but they were open to taking precautions. The criteria is that if there are safer products, they should use them. Our research thus far shows there are none yet. Until then at least, they must take extra protections to make sure they are being safe around these harmful chemicals. Many salons have reduced the amount of artificial nail services they offer. Some times this can be attributed to the training and some times to the changing consumer demand. Yet in some business corridors, rows of salons offering these services show no signs of slowing down, perhaps due to some salons no longer offering them.
And the last criteria is to use products that the salons have bought themselves. They are trained on answering customer questions and coaching customers to buy better products or use what the salon already has. Now I will turn it over to Anya who will talk about the recognition, evaluation and next steps for the program.

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<tr>
<td>Do not use products brought in by customers unless they meet program criteria</td>
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Thank you Swati. To recruit salons to go through the recognition program, we created multilingual brochures for culturally sensitive door-to-door outreach.
To enroll salons, we conducted a lot of outreach. A team of staff and interns reached out to every salon in the City – all 280 of them – sometimes TWICE.
We went door-to-door to talk to the owners, followed up with them and helped get the salon through the program.
We contacted local community organizations, temples and churches that were already doing good work in the space of health and equity.
Besides going door to door to nail salons, we mailed postcards and brochures about the program to all salons.
It is important to note that this is a free program open for all. This is a very unique environmental justice issue that spans the whole city, because there are nail salons in every neighborhood. We overcame language barriers, we overcame social equality barriers.
Recognized salons have been supplied with a starter kit of gloves, masks, protective eye goggles and resources on buying and disposing products. Even with the training, it is hard for the salon owner to remember all the chemical names while buying products. Factsheets in Vietnamese talk about which chemicals to avoid and what personal protective equipment to stock up on.
Recognition is a key part of our program. Salons that go through our program receive plaques to recognize their efforts in being pioneers in caring for their employees and customers.
And we give all salon employees certificates of completion of the training.
We have held events where the City officially recognizes them.
We recognized the nail salon community
They have been provided window decals, posters and brochures to promote themselves.
Once we had a critical mass of 23 salons, we ran a consumer outreach campaign to reward them for their work. After all this effort to recognize salons, we wanted to let customers know about salons in our program.

We allocated funds for a customer outreach campaign. Our campaign, “Pretty Shouldn’t Stink” included multilingual webpages, Facebook ads and bus shelter ads. The bus shelter ads were placed near recognized salons so local customers would not have to look too far for a recognized salon.
We have listed recognized salons on our website sfenvironment.org/healthynails. So far, we have 26 recognized nail salons in SF. By the end of the quarter, we project there will be 30.
We also encourage customers to nudge their salons to join. Very early on, we realized customers like to stay with their salons and their technician. And we could use this to leverage our program.

Our consumer campaigns not only drive more business to recognized salons, but encourage customers to ask their salons to join. As more salons hear about the program, they call us and enroll.
To run a program like this, we have a small budget and staffing. The ongoing budget for running and maintaining the program are as follows:

Total Budget: $10,000 + 0.25 FTE

A lot of the staff time goes in recruitment, auditing, training and promotion. Moreover, the recognized salons have to be maintained. Penelope on the left does a lot of the day to day maintaining, recruiting and recognizing of the salons.

Not part of this picture but an integral part of our program is our Vietnamese trainer, Minhthu. Minhthu brings three key important areas of expertise: she is Vietnamese and speaks Vietnamese fluently, is a nail salon technician with more than 10 years of experience and works at the Cancer Prevention Institute of California. She helps in all our communication to the salon employees and salon owners who are not comfortable with English.

**Staff Time** -
- Recruitment – 0.10 FTE
- Auditing – 0.05 FTE
- Training – 0.05 FTE
- Promotion – 0.05 FTE

**Contractual** -
- Multilingual trainings and coordination in Vietnamese – $7,000/yr

**Materials and Supplies** -
- Printing multilingual materials (awards and training items) – $2,000
- Personal Protective Equipment - $500/yr
- Printing of training binders and SDS binders - $300/yr
And then there are things that are good to have:

**Research and Development- (one time expenses)**

- Research - Contractual – $17,000
- Development of training material – 0.20 FTE
- Staff Time for research, program design, policy – 0.30 FTE
- Air monitoring– $7,000 (one time expense)

**Consumer outreach campaign**– $38,000 (expenses incurred on a per-campaign basis)

**Contractual -**

- Translation and interpretation – $7,000 (one time expense)

**Materials and Supplies-**

- Ventilation units (optional) – $15,000
- Printing multilingual materials (decals, certificates, brochures, posters)– $5,000
Simultaneously, we also wanted to see if our program is effective or not, if the implementation was effective in reducing chemicals that they were exposed to. We thank EPA for their funding. This was a study that EPA and SFE funded and CPIC conducted the study. That way we were blinded from it.

Through the Regional Applied Research Effort (RARE), EPA and SFE funded a study into the air quality in the salons. We were blinded from it. CPIC conducted it. We are very thankful to EPA for funding this crucial study.
There were 2 different groups. We had 11 salons (6 in the intervention and 5 in the control) with 22 employees. The format of the study was to do a pre intervention sampling, then conduct the training and recognition, and conduct a post-intervention sampling and analysis. The pilot study results suggest that the Program may have helped to reduce levels of toluene and TVOCs measured in the salon and increased knowledge regarding healthy workplace practices.
Reduction in:

- toluene (-46% in the intervention group vs. 0% in the control group) *not stat sig
- TVOC (-19% vs. +47%)

Increase in:

- knowledge and awareness of dibutyl phthalates in nail products (+55%)
- increased overall knowledge about chemicals in the salon

Because the number of salons and participants were very small, the numbers were not statically significant.

There was a reduction in the chemicals they were inhaling.

Increase in the knowledge of safety and precaution.

As Swati mentioned earlier, there are many studies in ventilation that need to be undertaken to make sure they are effective, now that we have salons that have been in the program for 2 and a half years, this would be a good time to do the sampling studies.
So all in all, here are a few elements for a successful program:

- Multilingual staff
- Multiple staff members
- Organization
- Flexible hours
- Patience
- And a lot of Passion

We have distilled it all in a whitepaper you can find on http://bit.ly/prettysouldntstink
So what does the future hold for us? Our goal is to continue to recognize salons and affect policy changes.

When we first started, our aim was to affect changes in policy, better products, better disclosure and greener chemistry. The effort became more and more grassroots and we have created a proof of concept. This is proof enough that salons can be safer and survive and even thrive in this competitive market.

The next step is to make sure this proof of concept gets converted in to policy changes. The future is greener products and practices.
This is a great program for anyone who is interested in it. The investment is moderate, but the reach and impact is very large. All our resources are available to share. So please join us.

Here are our contact details.

Swati who you heard from is on maternity leave till November

So if you need anything right away, contact me and I will be happy to help.
Additional Resources

- Healthy Nail Salon White Paper – A summary of the efforts to implement the Healthy Nail Salon Program in San Francisco
- Healthy Nail Salon Kit (includes below items with *)
  - Healthy Nail Salon Registration form - English & Vietnamese *
  - Healthy Nail Salon Application form - English & Vietnamese *
  - Ventilation System Options by brand and function - English *
  - EPA Nail Salon Checklist - English & Vietnamese *
  - Factsheets about choosing safer products, equipment and disposal - English & Vietnamese *
  - Healthy Nail Salon Program Training Presentation - English & Vietnamese *
  - Healthy Nail Salon Program Brief Training Video – Vietnamese with English subtitles
Credits

- For the use of images:
  - Cancer Prevention Institute of California, Berkeley
  - Peter Alexander Photography
  - Salon Belle Linda Nail Salon for staff images
  - MorgueFile.com
Get in Touch with our Presenters:
Lisa Fu – ifu@cahealthynailsalons.org
Julia Liou – jliou@ahschc.org
Swati Sharma - swati.Sharma@sfgov.org
Anya Deepak - anya.deepak@sfgov.org

Thank You for Your Participation!