**LWVSJ Observer Corps\*: Board of Health December 7, 2022**

The program Coordinator for the Toddler Learning Center which Implements early childhood Education and Assistance program and Complex Needs program updated the Board on what is happening. The Center Covers Island and San Juan Counties and provides in-home and telemedicine services for **children up to three years old who have disability and developmental issues.** They train parents how support their children. They have Feeding Teams who help parents ensure children are getting enough calories and provide behavioral therapy. The Agency will be changing it name to Steps in January 2023.

The Community Health Services manager briefed the Board on Home Visiting and Early Childhood Education, which provides **education and health services for children in lower income households.** A **wellness van** to provide mobile health services will launch in early 2023. The manager advocated **reinstituting a Child Death Review Committee** that will review the unnatural deaths of children up to 18 years and recommend and implement measures and public education.

**Childcare is extremely limited in the county** with San Juan particularly short. There is no licensed infant care on San Juan or Lopez. Training opportunities are available but low pay has created acute staffing shortages. The pre-school on SJI did not open this year due to lack of staff.

The Dental Program and this **visiting dental van was renewed** for another year and make **36 visits in 2023**. Demand for preventive care like cleaning is double the available slots.

\*The **League of Women Voters,** a nonpartisan organization encourages informed participation in government. The Observer Corps attends and takes notes at government meetings to expand public understanding of public policy and decisions. The notes do not necessarily reflect the views of the League or its members.