Finding Aid to the Baby Hygiene Committee Records, 1909-1964 MS 0051

Finding aid prepared by California Historical Society staff.
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Finding Aid to the Baby Hygiene Committee Records, 1909-1964

Title: Baby Hygiene Committee records
Date (inclusive): 1909-1964
Date (bulk): 1909-1958
Collection Number: MS 0051
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678 Mission Street
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415-357-1848
reference@calhist.org
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Physical Location: Collection is stored onsite.
Language of Materials: Collection materials are in English.
Abstract: Consists of administrative records, including constitution and bylaws, minutes (1909-1950), correspondence (1909-1955), annual and monthly reports (1910-1958), financial records (1923-1949), case histories, and membership lists. With these are newspaper clippings and printed materials pertaining to the organization’s activities and scope of interests, particularly child and infant health care and welfare, related health and education of mothers, and public health. Includes records of Community Chest of San Francisco, of which the Baby Hygiene Committee was a member from 1922 to 1943; Children’s Committee of Associated Charities (1919-1922); Certified Milk Fund (1910-1912); Mother’s Milk Bank; and Association of American University Women (1949-1964), San Francisco branch.
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Baby Hygiene Committee Records, MS 51, California Historical Society.
Separated Materials
Photographs have been transferred to the Photography Collection, shelved as MSP 51.
Related Collections
Mothers’ Milk Bank, Inc. Records, 1945-1978, MS 3532
Scope and Contents
Consists of administrative records, including constitution and bylaws, minutes (1909-1950), correspondence (1909-1955), annual and monthly reports (1910-1958), financial records (1923-1949), case histories, and membership lists. With these are newspaper clippings and printed materials pertaining to the organization’s activities and scope of interests, particularly child and infant health care and welfare, related health and education of mothers, and public health. Includes records of Community Chest of San Francisco, of which the Baby Hygiene Committee was a member from 1922 to 1943; Children’s Committee of Associated Charities (1919-1922); Certified Milk Fund (1910-1912); Mother’s Milk Bank; and Association of American University Women (1949-1964), San Francisco branch.

Included in the papers is the history of the committee, as well as communications with doctors and hospitals concerning the various projects. Of particular interest are the case histories and a 1927 survey of mothers and children who attended the health center. There are several articles about child raising, spanning the years 1909 to 1959, as well as photographs of the members and clients.

History
In May of 1909, a group of concerned women formed the Certified Milk Fund Committee of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae in order Francisco's poor." Aided by local dairies, the committee successfully reduced infant mortality through their city-wide drive for uncontaminated milk. In addition to supplying milk, the Milk Fund Committee offered instruction in the care and feeding of foster babies.
They expanded their program in 1917 with the founding of the Childrens' Health Center. Functioning as "an educational center for all mothers," the center provided care for infants, foster children and the "older run about" stage. In the spirit of "initiating projects in the interest of child health," the Committee then developed programs for prenatal and postnatal care for mothers; classes and conferences; and examinations and vaccination clinics. Concerned about family planning, they established the Maternal Health Committee in-1929 to offer instructions in birth control.

In 1918, the committee changed its-name to the Baby Hygiene Committee. From 1922 to 1943, the Baby Hygiene Committee operated as a member of the Community Chest. The committee defined their interest as the "studying, operating and getting projects ready for acceptance by a public or private agency for city-wide application." Among their programs later adopted by the San Francisco Department of Public Health were the Well Baby Centers; Supervision of Private Boarding Homes for Infants and Children; Cardiac Diagnostic Center for Children; and, Hospital-Based Postnatal Care for Mothers.

With the closing of the Childrens' Health Center, the Baby Hygiene Committee embarked on a new project in 1945. They organized the Mother's Milk Bank, whose purFose was to provide milk for sick or premature babies. Included in this program was the promotion of natural child birth, breast feeding and rooming-in, in which the infant stayed with the mother in the hospital. From its inception in 1909, the Baby Hygiene Committee played a major part in the civic reform of San Francisco.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

American Association of University Women. San Francisco Branch.
Children's Certified Milk Fund (San Francisco, Calif.)
Children's Committee of Associated Charities.
Community Chest of San Francisco.
Mothers' Milk Bank, Inc. (San Francisco, Calif.).
Child health services--California--San Francisco.
Child welfare--California--San Francisco.
Children--Health and hygiene--California--San Francisco.
Infants--Care--California--San Francisco.
Maternal and infant welfare--California--San Francisco.
Maternal health services--California--San Francisco.
Membership lists.
Milk hygiene--California--San Francisco.
Minutes.
Parenting--Study and teaching--California--San Francisco.
Public health--California--San Francisco.
Women in charitable work--California--San Francisco.

Box 1, Folder 1  History of the Baby Hygiene Committee (BHC)
Box 1, Folder 2  Constitution, by-laws 1911-1947
Minutes
Box 1, Folder 3  1909-1917
Box 1, Folder 4  1918-1921
Box 1, Folder 5  1925-1931
Box 1, Folder 6  1933-1935
Box 1, Folder 7  Executive Committee minutes 1933-1935
Box 1, Folder 8  1939-1942
Box 1, Folder 9  AAUW minutes about BHC 1942-1947
Box 1, Folder 10  1943-1945
Box 1, Folder 11  1946-1950
Correspondence
Box 1, Folder 12  1909-1910
Box 1, Folder 13  1911-1919
Box 2, Folder 14  Correspondence with the American Association for the Prevention of Infant Mortality 1910-1911

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Mothers’ Milk Bank (MMB)
Mothers’ Milk Bank Minutes 1944-1948
Reports 1945-1947
AAWU Reports on Ads 1942-1947
MMB Correspondence 1945-1953
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MMB Bank Statements 1946-1947
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Newspaper Clippings of MMB 1948-1950
MMB Miscellaneous
Certified Milk Fund clippings 1909-1911
Clippings of the BHC 1920-1959

Photographs
Mrs. Grauper’s Notebook

Miscellaneous
Association of American University Women, Bulletins 1949-1964
Association of American University Women, Miscellaneous
Child Care Publications
Child Welfare
Children’s Health Centers, Nurseries, etc.
Children’s Private School Surveys 1938-1942
Dairy Legislation

Public Health

Social Work and Education

State Board of Health Publications 1914-1926

U.S. Department of Labor Publications 1922-1930

Women’s Suffrage 1911