

# 2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Amid an historic year marked by the COVID-19 pandemic, an economic recession, and unprecedented wildfires and weather events, the County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC) provided enhanced support to California's 61 local health departments (LHDs) through legislative and administrative advocacy, increased communications, and robust tools and resources.

## COVID-19 ADVOCACY AND RESOURCES

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged LHDs and the state unlike any other emergency experienced in California. From the beginning upon the arrival of repatriation flights and the first reported COVID-19 cases, CHEAC has supported LHDs in their preparation and response activities, advocacy, and robust communications.

CHEAC curated and distributed daily COVID-19 updates, established regular calls and a virtual community to facilitate best practice sharing and technical assistance efforts, and elevated the role of LHDs in providing input and consultation to state officials.

## ELEVATED STATE PROFILE

This year, CHEAC enhanced strong working partnerships with the Newsom Administration, including with top officials at the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS), California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), on a variety of pressing public health issues.

CHEAC has been recognized as a key party to high-level policy and programmatic matters at the state level. CHEAC's elevated profile has allowed LHDs the opportunity to communicate directly with leaders of state agencies and departments and establish regular forums for feedback and input on state actions.

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**For more information about CHEAC,  
including our organizational priorities  
and latest activities, visit  
[www.cheac.org](http://www.cheac.org).**

## LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET ADVOCACY

Building upon our expanded legislative presence in recent years, CHEAC represented the interests of LHDs in key legislative activities across numerous subject areas. Notably, CHEAC co-sponsored a legislative measure (AB 3224) through a member-driven legislative and budget proposal process related to sexually transmitted disease case management; due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the measure was adapted to assess LHD workforce and resource needs.

CHEAC was a proud supporter and active coalition participant of SB 793, a measure to ban all flavored tobacco products statewide. CHEAC played a key role in advocacy efforts related to environmental health-related issues, including day camp oversight and enforcement. CHEAC additionally hosted its second State Legislative Member Education Day with over 60 meetings with state lawmakers and staff. Importantly, CHEAC played an essential role in advocacy efforts to secure up to \$1 billion in General Fund Realignment backfill to ensure the continuation of critical public health services at the local level amid the COVID-19 economic downturn.

## MEDI-CAL WAIVER PROCESS

CHEAC played an active role in the Department of Health Care Services' (DHCS) California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) proposal to improve the quality of life and health outcomes among California's Medi-Cal population. While the proposal was ultimately delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CHEAC elevated the role and importance of LHDs' efforts in care coordination and population health improvements.