

BUTTE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH OVERVIEW

Through the 2022 Budget Act, California took a transformational step toward rebuilding our state and local public health workforce and infrastructure that was devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic and years of disinvestment. The \$300 million ongoing General Fund investment (\$200 million for local health departments, \$100 million for CDPH), referred to as the Future of Public Health, is a critical investment in our state's public health readiness and response to existing and emerging public health threats.

FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH INVESTMENTS REBUILD OUR LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Added positions to their Infectious Disease Control Program, including an immunization coordinator to implement campaigns and ensure access to vaccines.
- Hired an infection prevention nurse who supports congregate living facilities.
- In responding to a recent shigella outbreak among an unhoused population, Butte County leveraged a disease intervention specialist, program manager, infection prevention nurse, and epidemiologist to form the county's rapid response and real-time mitigation efforts. The local health department issued timely communications to local partners (e.g., law enforcement, fire/EMS, housing navigators, food facility operators, etc.) and alerted local emergency departments to be on the lookout for shigella symptoms among unhoused residents. The health department mobilized other community resources, including portable showers, laundry services, and handwashing stations, to support the unhoused population and mitigate further infections.