

# INYO COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

## 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

- ▶▶▶▶ FoPH has supported the county's first-ever community health assessment (CHA) and has the county on track to initiate its first-ever community health improvement plan (CHIP). Without this funding, the local health department would not have capacity to complete the CHIP and would not be able to implement strategies to foster long-term health improvements.
- ▶▶▶▶ FoPH funding has been critical in recruiting and training new public health professionals, ensuring that the community has the skilled personnel necessary to respond effectively to public health emergencies and events and to provide technical assistance and training to local health facilities.
- ▶▶▶▶ Four new positions were created and filled with this funding; if the funding is eliminated, the department would have its staff size reduced by approximately 40 percent, leaving the county vulnerable and less prepared to handle public health threats.
- ▶▶▶▶ An infection prevention nurse funded by FoPH provides expert guidance and education on best practices and coordinates with local health facilities, including skilled nursing facilities, rural health clinics, FQHCs, tribal health, and local hospitals. This position also supports disease outbreak responses and communicable disease case investigations and treatment management.
- ▶▶▶▶ A disaster preparedness program manager supported by FoPH managed and distributed COVID-19 vaccine and treatment inventory, coordinated emergency response efforts to COVID-19, facilitates ongoing training, drills, and interagency collaboration efforts, and supports program planning for future public health disasters.