

NAPA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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 enhance emergency preparedness and response, including doubling their epidemiology capacity to investigate, mitigate, and control the public health threats.
- Hired permanent staff to perform communicable disease investigations including reports of suspect measles cases, pertussis outbreaks in school settings, gastrointestinal illnesses in food handlers, and tuberculosis.
- Hired infection preventionists to work with congregate facilities, monitor them for infectious disease outbreaks, and provide regular education and site visits to prevent the transmission of diseases.
- Funds an epidemiologist to support our day-to-day data collection and evaluation for our community, including our data dashboards and work for various community coalitions. For example, recently Napa evaluated deaths due to gun violence and confirmed that older male adults have a higher risk of successfully committing suicide with a gun than other age groups. This work supports the work of the Suicide Prevention Council. As we head into summer, Napa also released an advisory on not mixing alcohol with water activities as the death data also indicated that over 1 in 5 drownings over the past 5 years were associated with alcohol intoxication.
- Additional staff funded by FoPH work to ensure our community is prepared for the next emergency, including a person focused on ensuring health equity and nutrition services.