

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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 54 positions including communicable disease investigators, epidemiologists, biostatisticians, community health workers, and microbiologists, and others.
- ▶▶▶ Supports their surveillance and epidemiology team that have a critical role in disease surveillance and outbreak investigations, including focusing on health care associated infection and sexually transmitted infections.
- ▶▶▶ Expanded their data team to better collect, analyze, share, and use data to ensure accurate and efficient response.
- ▶▶▶ Allowed for expansion of the GIS mapping team to make data easier to understand.
- ▶▶▶ Expanded their public health laboratory services.
- ▶▶▶ Hired additional leadership positions, including a Deputy Health Officer, who is a physician trained in infectious disease and is guiding and improving the County's response efforts.
- ▶▶▶ Jurisdiction started an Easy Access Clinic to ensure anyone with an STI can be seen and treated.
- ▶▶▶ Expanded health education on key areas such as fentanyl awareness, chronic diseases, STIs, healthy lifestyles, and partners with communities, community-based organizations, and faith-based partners. They conducted close to 100 health education events.
- ▶▶▶ Hired staff conducted investigations related to a measles case, investigating over 100 contacts.
- ▶▶▶ Hired staff responded to an active tuberculosis case at a local high school where over 200 students were part of the contact tracing efforts.
- ▶▶▶ Additional staffing resources to the Communicable Disease Investigation Team led to a 46% reduction in Congenital Syphilis cases and 31% reduction in pregnant women with syphilis.