

STANISLAUS COUNTY HEALTH 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

- FoPH has provided much-needed resources for the county to establish a solid infrastructure to address ongoing community health needs and concerns. Because of this funding, Stanislaus County is now better prepared and has strengthened its workforce and infrastructure to prepare for, mitigate, and respond to existing and emerging public health threats.
- The funding has increased capacity to provide infectious disease guidance with timely and comprehensive outbreak investigation efforts with an infection preventionist and medical investigators. This team has put systems in place at schools and long-term care facilities to collaborate and quickly respond to disease reports. Partnerships have improved and are thriving with infection preventionists at long-term acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and acute care hospitals throughout the county. The staff are hosting trainings to improve capacity in the medical community for disease reporting and mitigation. Because of these efforts, a recent measles outbreak in the county was fully contained in seven days.
- FoPH has supported increased epidemiological capacities, including increased staff to assist in data analysis and emergency preparedness efforts.

STANISLAUS COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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

- Funding has supported the first-ever full-time communications team, inclusive of a public information officer and social media staff, to improve messaging and engagement with county residents. This has resulted in increased and consistent public-facing messaging, and the team has worked to build back trust in public health messaging by providing professional, quality, factual messaging and information needed to promote and protect health among the community.
- FoPH has supported the county's community health improvement plan (CHIP) and will support a new community health assessment (CHA) which will be published in 2025. This work has included: in-person community convenings and a virtual session to engage community members and partners, coordination of four action workgroups focused on chronic disease, communicable disease, housing and homelessness, and tobacco and substance use, and creation of community-facing scorecards for each of the four focus areas to promote awareness and understanding of key public health issues in the community.
- This funding has supported the development and implementation of a new performance management system as part of the agency's revised performance management and quality improvement plan. This system enables the agency to assess internal and external customer and partner feedback and satisfaction to continuously improve public health programs and services.