VENTURA COUNTY HEALTH CARE 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

>>> Allowed the communicable disease program to launch a multi-faceted initiative to combat transmission of infectious diseases and elevate infection prevention and control practices in medical and non-medical settings.
  - The program introduced enhanced standard precautions in skilled nursing facilities, focusing on resident-centered and activity-based strategies, enhancing socialization and reduced feelings of isolation among vulnerable populations.

>>> Developed the public health response collaborative, consisting of immunization program, communicable disease program, health education, and emergency medical services/emergency preparedness office.
  - The collaborative provided approximately 800 flu vaccines and about 1,000 Tdap vaccines in vulnerable communities.

>>> Funds allowed the public health lab to add three full-time employees, allowing the lab to provide timely and critical services to the community.
  - The lab expanded testing services and participated in new testing methodologies, including gastrointestinal multiplex PCR tests – increasing capacity to test outbreaks and complete CDC-recommended HIV and Hepatitis C testing algorithms in house and a new methodology for tuberculosis testing reducing turnaround times to next-day services.

>>> FoPH has supported the county's mpox testing, treatment, and outbreak management, including administration of over 1,300 doses of mpox vaccine.

#CACantWait
UNTIL THE NEXT CRISIS