

# AMADOR COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## 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 decades of disinvestment. The \$276 million ongoing General Fund investment (roughly \$188 million for local health departments, \$98 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 protect local communities from existing and emerging public health threats.

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

- Expanded community outreach programs by hiring outreach coordinators and public health educators who have been actively engaged with community members, raised awareness about health issues, and provided resources, support, and linkages to care.
- Created new entry level positions and provided career advancement opportunities.
- Updated technology and implemented new software platforms to increase efficiency and provide communities with faster, more robust services than prior to COVID, including communicable disease control, emergency preparedness, and disease surveillance.
- FoPH supported the creation and publication of the county's Community Health Assessment (CHA), providing critical insights into the county's unique health needs, informing targeted interventions to address health disparities, and expanding access to health services. Building on this foundation, FoPH supported the ongoing implementation of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which guides collaborative efforts among community partners that prioritized and advanced strategies that improved overall population health.

- FoPH has enabled the LHD to restructure its department to create pathways for staff growth and retention. FoPH expanded professional development and training opportunities which have boosted expanded professional development and training opportunities, these changes have boosted employee morale, built a more skilled and resilient workforce, and improved overall operations and service delivery to the community.
- FoPH supported an annual community event, such as the Together We Can Health Fair or an open house, that promoted public health programs and services and strengthened community partnerships. In addition, FoPH supported participation in and coordination of outreach events throughout the year to increase awareness and access to essential public health services. These efforts included collaborating with managed care plan partners to host monthly mobile events that provide services such as mammograms, flu shots, health screenings, blood pressure checks, and more. Educational components often included information on tobacco use prevention, communicable disease prevention, bike and pedestrian safety, nutrition, and overall wellness. Through these activities, FoPH demonstrated its ongoing commitment to improving community health, fostering trust, and encouraging collaboration across local partners.
- FoPH supported effective and accurate public health communications through the addition of a Public Information Officer to the LHD. This staff position supported timely, accessible health information for all residents, especially underserved groups.