

HUMBOLDT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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

- ▶▶▶ Funded eight positions, including communicable disease investigator, epidemiologist, supervising microbiologist, and public health nurses.
- ▶▶▶ Allowed the local health department to respond rapidly to a local measles exposure with over 100 contacts, as well as a local shigella exposure with over 240 contacts, ensuring no additional community cases.
- ▶▶▶ Hired staff to support various core public health services, including but not limited to communicable disease control, vaccination, and data analysis.
- ▶▶▶ Administrative analyst supported development of the community health assessment (CHA) and advanced community health improvement plan (CHIP) efforts.
- ▶▶▶ Public health nurses funded by FoPH support public health clinical operations, including providing post-exposure prophylaxis for measles and vaccinations. Nurses are additionally cross-trained to support communicable disease prevention and control work.
- ▶▶▶ A program coordinator funded by FoPH lead the county's harm reduction and overdose prevention efforts.