

INYO COUNTY 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

- Four new positions were created and filled with this funding; and the funding currently covers two FTEs and our Health Officer.
- An infection prevention nurse funded by FoPH provided expert guidance and education on best practices and coordinated with local health facilities, including skilled nursing facilities, rural health clinics, FQHCs, tribal health, and local hospitals. This position also supported disease outbreak responses and communicable disease case investigations and treatment management.
- FoPH has supported the county's first-ever community health assessment (CHA) and first-ever community health improvement plan (CHIP) by funding our Public Health Coordinator. Without this funding, the local health department would not have the capacity to complete the CHIP and would not be able to implement strategies that fostered long-term health improvements and reduced health disparities.
- FoPH funding has been critical in recruiting and training new public health professionals, ensuring that the community has skilled personnel to respond effectively to public health emergencies and events and to provide technical assistance and training to local health facilities.
- This funding has directly impacted our ability to engage directly with the community, supporting outreach efforts, public education, and collaborative partnerships that improved health across Inyo County.