

LOS ANGELES 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

- Funds supported response of locally acquired dengue cases in Los Angeles County which afforded expanded outreach efforts, including door-to-door education and testing in affected neighborhoods to quickly address threats and limit risk to vulnerable populations. These efforts complemented increased surveillance, case investigations, and laboratory testing for dengue.
- In response to H5N1 Avian Influenza, FoPH-funded staff conducted outreach, targeted testing, and PPE distribution to protect at-risk communities.
- Funded staff also responded to a Hepatitis A outbreak among the homeless, offered vaccinations and handled public inquiries in 12 languages. Environmental health staff investigated food establishments and provided education and referrals for infected food handlers.
- Funds supported improved data systems that provided timely and transparent information to the public on the current status of active dengue and H5N1 cases in the county.
- Priority public health information is translated and interpreted into 12 threshold languages, including sign language, providing linguistically and culturally appropriate messages using FoPH funding.
- Funding supported a public-facing InfoLine, available seven days each week in 12 languages, to answer questions, provide information and referrals, and address public health concerns among the public.