

SACRAMENTO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

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

- Sacramento County Public Health has added over 40 FTEs.
- Increased the Deputy Health Officer FTE to increase capacity for the control of communicable diseases and Health Officer coverage.
- Created a Public Health Accreditation Unit to help achieve Public Health Accreditation and sustain Quality Improvement and best practices.
- Increased Epidemiology staffing levels to assist in data collection, analysis, and response to communicable disease outbreaks.
- Increased Public Health Laboratory capacity to serve increasing county and regional needs.
- Increased nurse staffing in the Communicable Disease Unit to improve response time and capacity for outbreak investigation and follow-up.
- Increased nurse staffing in the Immunization Assistance Program to aid in adequately addressing the decreasing vaccination rates in the county and ability for response in vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks.
- Increased staffing in the Sexual Health Promotion Unit and Clinic to improve ability to investigate, link to and provide care to vulnerable populations, ultimately to decrease HIV and STD rates.
- Increased staffing capacity in the Chest Clinic to help with the growing number of TB cases in the county due, in part, to refugee and parolee placement and assist in regionalization of services.
- Created the Community Nursing Unit to provide nursing home visitation to high-risk pregnant and parenting families with children 0-18 years of age and nursing surge capacity for communicable disease outbreaks and public health emergency response.

- FoPH-funded staff, including epidemiologists and racial equity specialists, supported development of a community health assessment (CHA) and community health improvement plan (CHIP) that identifies top health needs and priorities of county residents.
- Sacramento County Public Health utilized FoPH funding to update its strategic plan, and implement a health equity action plan aimed at reducing health disparities in the county.
- FoPH funding has played a role in supporting the public health laboratory's testing of specimens for H5N1 from the broader Sacramento Valley region.
- Six Public Health Nurses in the Communicable Disease Program, some of which are funded with FoPH, successfully passed the Certified in Infection Control (CIC) examination and received their CIC certificate.
- The Sexual Health Promotion Unit, with multiple positions funded by FoPH, worked with the CDPH's STD Control Branch to plan and implement an extensive seven-day Quality Improvement event to improve the HIV Surveillance Program's response to congenital syphilis (CS) cases and improve access and linkage of pregnant women to treatment services in an effort to mitigate CS cases.
- Epi staff supported by FoPH funding have expanded a portfolio of interactive data dashboards to turn complex data into actionable insights for addressing emerging issues and community needs. These include dashboards on suicidal ideation and attempts, respiratory disease, extreme weather-related ED visits, opioid overdoses, and West Nile surveillance.
- Immunization Assistance Program staff, partially funded through FoPH, developed the Unhoused Pediatric Immunization Project wherein they collaborate with schools, shelters and community-based organizations that serve the unhoused to identify children who are missing vaccines, provide mobile vaccine clinics at locations where families are receiving services, follow-up to ensure vaccine series are completed, and provide education and vaccination records to parents/guardians.
- FoPH-funded staff were instrumental to the successful launch, implementation, and ongoing management of a new OCHIN-Epic electronic health record system in SCPH clinics, MCAH home visiting programs, and public health laboratory.