

SAN BENITO COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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

- FoPH supported two program managers oversee critical health education programs, including tobacco education, healthy eating/nutrition, community health equity, and emergency preparedness. The funding has enabled an expansion of health education programs to better reach residents with timely and actionable public health information.
- FoPH has been essential in supporting the work of a community health equity team. This team has completed a community health assessment and a community health improvement plan, both of which are being made available in English and Spanish. They are now in the process of implementing improvement plans including the development of a family resource guide, a much-needed comprehensive document designed to help connect families with available resources, essential services, programs, and information.
- FoPH has supported a conversion of physical space dedicated to program collaboration, community outreach and engagement programs, such as educational presentations, car seat education, and community forums.
- FoPH has provided staff support to attend annual meetings and conferences, enabling them to learn about emerging trends, network with experts, and participate in specialized workshops such as disaster preparedness and communication response strategies. Participation was not possible for these activities in the past.