

# SONOMA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH 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 two full-time staff in the Public Health Emergency Response and Preparedness group, strengthening the county's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies such as wildfires, floods, earthquakes, and infectious disease outbreaks. These staff enhance the county's overall readiness, resilience, and coordination during public health crises.
- ▶▶▶ Supported the Local Emergency Medical Services Authority (LEMSA) by funding one full-time staff position responsible for managing the local EMS agency's operations, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements, and coordinating medical and health response across the operational area.
- ▶▶▶ Expanded the Health Equity Team with three full-time staff to lead the department's initiatives in promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) within the workforce, as well as advancing health equity across county programs and services.
- ▶▶▶ Improved the effectiveness and reach of community outreach, public health programs, and laboratory services by funding five full-time staff, enhancing service delivery, program implementation, and public engagement.
- ▶▶▶ Expanded administrative and operational capacity with three full-time staff, strengthening organizational efficiency, internal support, and the department's ability to manage complex projects and cross-functional initiatives.